

South Staffordshire District Council

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Organisation Name: Pattingham and Patshull Parish Council

Comment text:

Comments from Pattingham Parish Council

Uploaded Documents:

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Pattingham & Patshull Parish Submission guide to the Boundary Commission

With the forecasted electorate maps in mind and the following overview:

- Council Size = **41**
- Forecast electorate: **87,472**
- Optimum councillor: elector ratio = **2,133**

Please also answer the following evidence base:

- a. Highlight clear boundaries i.e. there may be boundaries that you might know that are locally recognised (Parishes/Localities), or there might be physical boundaries that are obvious on a map (roads, railways or other features that people believe form strong boundaries between neighbourhoods)

Pattingham & Patshull is a largely rural ward forming its own natural boundaries from the semi urban village of Perton, and neighbouring Shropshire villages. The communities of Pattingham & Patsull have historic identities and Pattingham is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086. There are road boundaries of the A454 to the South and A464 to the North. Open farmland is a two and a quarter mile feature of its boundary with Perton to the East. There is a reasonable argument that the historic *Staffordshire Way* should be the Eastern boundary, which would then encompass part of the rural community of Trescott (currently part of Perton ward that is covered by 5 councillors). We accept there are historic links between Trescott and the village of Perton and road links to services there are obvious. Our first choice would be to keep the status quo. There are established boundaries between our ward and those of Perton and we feel the interests of the Pattingham & Patshull communities are best served by it having its own dedicated councillor.

- b. Which communities should be part of the same ward?

Pattingham & Patshull incorporates the main village of Pattingham and the smaller communities of Patshull and Burnhill Green with significant areas of farmland and the former Crown Estate land within its boundaries. Both communities saw high levels of sacrifice in two worlds wars with 30 fallen in Pattingham and 15 fallen in Patshull. The ward is bounded on three sides by the Shropshire border. Geographically, the rural community of Trescott would fit the spatial distribution of population, and achieve the required electorate numbers – if that is a deciding criteria.

- c. What facilities do people share, such as parks, leisure centres or schools and shopping areas?

Pattingham & Patshull both have good recreation areas, with Pattingham being particularly well equipped with a Play Park, Tennis & Netball Courts, Football Pitch (including changing rooms), Multi Use Games Arena (MUGA) and Skate Park.

Pattingham is home to St Chads Church and St Chads Church of England First School, with middle and high schools served by Codsall and Perton. GP services are served by Claverley, Albrighton and Perton.

The village of Pattingham does have its own extensive shopping centre with convenience store, award winning butchers, pharmacy, hairdressers, café and a number of other specialist shops. There are two well established public houses and a thriving community club (providing live music and other events on a regular basis). There is another public house in Burnhill Green. Pattingham also has its own village hall which is operated by an independent committee and hold events such as Live and Local, put on its own shows through the village drama society. It also allows a number of local groups and services to use the facilities. Parish Council meetings, playgroups, music classes and yoga are just examples of the services. Through the auspices of the church the village also holds monthly get togethers for elderly or isolated members of the parish, runs an annual village fete and bi annual scarecrow festival. There is a strong emphasis on community and it is felt that this should not be disrupted.

The only public transport links are by bus, providing a service into Wolverhampton and Codsall via Perton shopping centre.

Due to the extensive geographic area covered by our parish and the requirements for it to be represented in a different manner from the neighbouring wards due to its rural nature, we firmly believe that the communities should continue to be represented by their own ward councillor.

Cllr Rob Lines

Chairman Pattingham & Patshull Parish Council