

## Malvern Hills District Council

### Personal Details:

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### Comment text:

I think the overall layout of the North of the district, being the area I know best, is an improvement on the current layout whilst cutting the number of councillors at the point at which the public are still best served. This is a job well done. As I said in my initial submission Hallow and Holt should always have been together, Broadwas is geographically better suited to be with Martley and the size of this ward has to be fine because it is so sparsely populated but with good centres of population which can be serviced by two councillors. The new Baldwin seat makes far more sense and works well - bringing together places that are geographically linked and linked as communities. Lower Broadheath, given the building prior to 2027 and then beyond needs to be a separate and so, as I said before, this makes sense and I'm pleased for residents in Lower Broadheath that this gives them a dedicated councillor. This is the same as having Hallow and Holy together and looked after by one Councillor - it just works far better in terms of the links between the two communities with Grimley between them. In the North of the district this leaves Rushwick - which through growth will acquire many more voters so is almost worth its own ward. I believe it works perfectly well putting Rushwick together with its neighbour and established village of Bransford. There is a clear road link and shared facilities between the two places. The argument from some will be that it splits a Parish Council but I believe: A) The District Council requirements should determine this boundary review first and foremost and whilst the Parishes are important it shouldn't that existing structures stop any changes from happening, especially sensible ones like this. The argument that Parish Councils should determine this outcome means that change is never likely to happen. I know it was stated at the outside that existing Parishes would bear influence but not be a determining factor if a solution was found. B) Leigh and Bransford Parish Council will have the same number of District Councillors visiting their Parish Council meetings as before. Nothing will change here. As opposed to having two District Councillors for Leigh and Bransford they will have one for Leigh and one for Bransford. This is better and more focused for residents and makes no difference to the Parish Council. Because both Councillors are still District Councillors, regardless of ward, both will work in the best interests of supporting the Parish through the District Council. I know there will be a thought suggested, for political reasons, that Parishes should not be split. This case clearly shows this should not be a barrier. Rather than suffering everyone will benefit. As I currently stand in the ward of Lower Broadheath, which covers Broadheath, Rushwick, Broadwas and Cotheridge this consultation rips my ward into three. I would rather it didn't but knowing the wards very very well I believe the proposed solution is a good one. I believe some of the potential arguments against it are not valid and despite losing my ward I'm happy to see the proposals for the benefit of the electorate. Thank you, Daniel Walton Councillor Daniel Walton Malvern Hills District Council

### Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded