

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 August 2022 09:38
To: reviews
Subject: Upper Welland

Categories: [REDACTED]

Dear Review Officer

I am writing in response to the report "New Electoral Arrangements for Malvern Hills District Council".

As a resident of Upper Welland I am concerned by the suggestion that the village could be lumped together with Welland, and separated from Malvern Wells. By simply looking at your maps it must be obvious that Upper Welland is more closely associated with Malvern Wells. It is a 5 minute walk from my home to Malvern Wells and a 20 minute walk to Welland (along an A road rather than quiet residential streets).

In the introduction to the report it says *"They detail how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory criteria of: • Equality of representation • Reflecting community interests and identities • Providing for effective and convenient local government"*.

And in Section 25 of the document it states: *"Our assessment is that the matters raised do not override our considerations of community identities and interests that led us to propose a Welland ward containing the Upper Welland part of Malvern Wells parish. We would also note that Little Malvern and Welland Parish Council, as well as a resident, expressed their support for the combination of Welland and Upper Welland, noting similarities between the two"*. I would dispute this, and suggest that community identity and interest will not be benefitted by aligning Upper Welland with communities with whom we do not share facilities. Apart from the name 'Welland' there are few similarities between the two communities.

I admit that I'm not sure about the first and third of the statutory criteria, but certainly my community interest is satisfied by the facilities in Malvern Wells much more comprehensively than by trekking to Welland.

I would very much appreciate it if you could rethink this idea, as I do not feel that the proposed electoral boundary changes will best represent the interests of the residents of Upper Welland.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]