

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 August 2022 15:30
To: reviews
Subject: Proposed New Political Map for Malvern Hills District Council

Categories: [REDACTED]

Proposed New Political Map for Malvern Hills District Council

Malvern Wells and Upper Welland

As a resident of Upper Welland, I strongly object to the proposal by MHDC to "move" the village to form part of a ward with Welland.

Point number 25 in your consultation document states the following: *We would also note that Little Malvern and Welland Parish Council, as well as a resident (of where?) expressed their support for the combination of Welland and Upper Welland, noting similarities between the two.* It would be interesting to have a list of these "similarities" – apart from the obvious one of sharing the name Welland. Whereas, Upper Welland does share a number of similarities and, perhaps more importantly, facilities with Malvern Wells, including the following:

- both villages are situated in the Malvern Hills AONB and are part of the same conservation area – thereby benefitting from Malvern Hills Trust voting rights and carparking passes.
- Both share local facilities, such as the nearest shop and petrol garage; St Wulstans Nature Reserve; children's play area; the village green and village hall.

Upper Welland and Welland are not particularly close geographically. It takes several minutes to drive between the two. Walking obviously takes much longer, and has to be done along a narrow footpath on a busy road with fast-driving traffic. Malvern Wells, on the other hand, is a very close neighbour (I believe that at least two roads – Assarts Lane and St Wulstans Avenue – are actually divided between the two villages), with easy access on foot.

Since moving here over eight years ago I've already seen Upper Welland struggle to retain its identity on at least two occasions, when threatened by unsuitable, badly researched, applications to build large new residential estates on what is originally farm land. It would be tragic if this small village disappears into a much larger ward and, among other things, loses it's status with the Malvern Hills Trust.

I do hope that this proposal will be abandoned

[REDACTED]