

**Malvern Hills District Council****Personal Details:****Name:** Lisa Stevens**E-mail:** [REDACTED]**Postcode:** [REDACTED]**Organisation Name:** Mrs Lisa Stevens**Comment text:**

Apologies for the delay. Cllr comments attached

**Uploaded Documents:**

**Download ([https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download\\_document?file=draft%2F1632135781\\_Hallow+ward+reconfiguration+Grimley+response+1\\_2+09092021.docx](https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download_document?file=draft%2F1632135781_Hallow+ward+reconfiguration+Grimley+response+1_2+09092021.docx))**

Grimley Parish Council is pleased to note that rather than proposing changes, the Local Government Boundary Commission is willing to hear from parish councils what they think of the current wards and where new ones should be.

The current ward boundaries already excellently serve Grimley Parish. If change is prescribed however, then Parish Councillors would prefer it to be accomplished without splitting the current well-suited and frankly much treasured match of Grimley with Hallow. Cllrs have considered two seemingly obvious options for change, as below. Cllrs have not looked at population numbers in their deliberations. Cllrs similarly have no knowledge of how the below proposals would impact Wards further afield. Instead, Cllrs simply indicate what changes they would welcome and what they believe would work for the local communities.

### **Option 1 – Grimley and Hallow with Holt Parish**

Residents of Grimley parish have extremely close historical and present days ties with both Hallow and Holt parishes. All three communities share Church of England facilities and pastoral ministry services and have worked hard to preserve these. The River Severn, from Holt in the north, to Hallow in the south, provides a north south page margin along which run (without exaggeration) family ties, business and agricultural connections, all transport links and the school catchments.

At present, there are no planning policy authorisations for the number of properties in Grimley parish to increase – a contentious matter which contributes to the children of the parish being forced to move away in order to find their own homes. Hallow parish is being permitted to expand and it is to this area that both Grimley and Holt families are looking for the future. For the foreseeable future all three parishes are inexorably tied.

### **Option 2 – Grimley and Hallow with Wichenford and Kenswick**

To the west, Grimley has good historical and ongoing ties with Wichenford parish. That community provides in particular an invaluable service to Grimley by offering key social and elderly care facilities (an excellent example being the Nora Parsons Day Centre). However the unusually elongated and semi-split shape of Wichenford also would make integration with Hallow a difficult one. Therefore, whilst a reorganisation of Martley ward, (with for example Wichenford and Kenswick parishes joined with Hallow and Grimley) would be very welcome to Grimley, it is felt that this would impact on the ability of the representing district council to effectively represent all.

### **Options that Cllrs feel would not work.**

- Cllrs do not feel that Broadheath could not be sensibly divided in order to be joined to Hallow and Grimley.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our submission