

Wychavon District Council

Personal Details:

Name:

E-mail:

Postcode:

Organisation Name: None

Comment text:

As a resident of Bricklehampton I would urge reconsideration of the continued placement of our village within the Fladbury ward. The village shares no links with Fladbury at all. Our parish council is the Elmley Castle, Bricklehampton & Netherton Council with 3 councillors representing our village. But our District Councillor represents Fladbury, whereas a different councillor represents the rest of the parish of Elmley Castle resulting in duplication at parish council meetings. Our MP is Nigel Huddleston, while Harriet Baldwin represents E.C. In order to vote, we have to drive to Pershore College (3.5 miles away), whereas there are polling stations at Lt Comberton and Elmley Castle, both less than a mile away! This is NOT joined up government. The parish church of Bricklehampton is part of the Benefice of Elmley Castle and the Combertons, with the same priest and services held on a shared rota at the different villages. All 4 parishes share a monthly news magazine delivered to each household free of charge, and used as an important means of communication. We have no communication with Fladbury or Cropthorne - they could easily be on the other side of Worcester for the amount of interaction that takes place. The school catchment area for Bricklehampton is Elmley Castle First School & then Bredon Hill School & Evesham, but Fladbury is within the Pershore Area for senior schools. Apart from the church, our village has no community facilities. These are located in Elmley Castle, at the Bricklehampton, Elmley Castle & Netherton Village Hall, the primary school, the Queen Elizabeth pub and the Elmley Castle Cricket Club. I note the in response to earlier consultations you mention that, were the Combertons to be joined with Elmley Castle, "of necessity" Bricklehampton would have to be included. So why not now? The proposal to include Wick with Pershore shows no consideration of the needs of a small rural village compared to those of a rapidly expanding town. People rightly feel that decisions are being made on the basis of lines drawn on a map for convenience, rather than for shared social and community characteristics. In the past, I was told that boundaries were based on geographical features such as rivers or roads and that because the more northern fields of Bricklehampton reached the River Avon, it was appropriate to use that as the boundary. Yet now the proposal is to cross the River Avon by including Wick with Pershore. Some years ago, one of our parish councillors visited the Boundary Commission head office in a final attempt to try to make someone see sense and not separate Bricklehampton from Elmley Castle but to no avail - he was told it was too late. Please do not continue with this error of judgement and use some common sense. I would propose that Wick remains within the Fladbury ward and Bricklehampton is returned to Elmley Castle.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded