

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [reviews](#)  
**Subject:** Boundary Commission Review of Rossendale Borough Council  
**Date:** 02 December 2022 14:14:02

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Good Afternoon,

Having read the proposal advising the Borough Council to annexe the ward of Shawforth with Irwell ward Bacup please find my submission as to why i believe that the Whitworth ward should be kept together as it is now.

Whitworth valley encompasses Shawforth, Facit, Whitworth and Healey and Shawforth is an important part of the valleys' culture and identity.

I understand that when boundaries are defined between different communities/areas then natural boundaries are taken into consideration.

Whitworth valley is also known as Spodden valley, the river Spodden starts in Shawforth providing a clear, defining boundary, it flows through the valley onto Healey and into Rochdale.

We are fortunate to have many groups and organisations within the valley supporting residents of all ages.

The scout group with over eighty members.

Girl guides with seventy members

Whitworth Historical Society provides a wealth of information about our valleys heritage and is extremely well used by local residents and the local school children.

Whitworth in Bloom, a working group who carry out numerous projects throughout the year starting at the Shawforth boundary right down to Healey keeping the valley well tended and blooming throughout.

Tourism and Leisure Committee organise many events one of which is the Rushcart procession started many years ago in Shawforth, with Shawforth Morris Men and Women leading the procession through the valley starting at the Shawforth boundary.

Whitworth Swimming Club with members ranging in age from four to eighty.

We also have some great care facilities:

Men in Sheds

Lighthouse Project

Healey Care

Barley View

Greenbrook House provides sheltered accomodation

Riddiough Court with onsite warden

Whitworth valley also benefits from online information newsletters and Whitworth Valley News delivered by volunteers to over four thousand homes, starting at the Shawforth boundary.

Residents of Shawforth are proud of their village and community, proud of their heritage, many of the residents have ancestors who worked in the local quarries, these quarries define Whitworth and Shawforth.

West Pennine Commoners Association, members include local farmers, some of them fifth generation, farming the surrounding moorland, working hard along side community groups, local councillors and police to protect the valleys' moorland environment for future generations.

I firmly believe that Shawforth should remain part of the Whitworth ward and that Whitworth should be kept together and classed as a single ward.

Regards

