

From: [REDACTED]
To: [reviews](#)
Cc: [County Councillor Scott Smith](#); [BERRY, Jake](#)
Subject: Boundaries Commission Consultation
Date: 22 November 2022 16:03:12

Further to the proposed boundary changes affecting Whitworth, I understand that the Conservative councillors on Rossendale Borough Council are proposing that Shawforth be split off from the rest of Whitworth to be joined to the Bacup Irwell ward. I do not agree with this for the following reasons.

Whitworth, including its townships of Healey, Broadley, Facit and Shawforth is one homogeneous entity.

We have one road running through the valley and one bus service, which all residents use to go south or north.

There are no natural boundaries which separate the townships and all residents are served by one Town Council.

We have one doctors surgery, one chemist, one butcher, one library, one High school one Civic Hall, one Cemetary and one Memorial Gardens with Cenotaph. These are used by all residents.

Most people in Whitworth are members of a number of different organisations including scouts, brownies, football clubs, youth clubs and a band, which cover the whole of the village and are open to all.

I myself belong to Whitworth Historical Society, the U3A, two Reading Groups, the Community Partnership Group as well as volunteering at the Museum and Foodbank. These groups use the library, the Civic Hall and other communal buildings for their meetings.

We have a number of churches of different denominations in the valley and they come together for shared events.

One of the main fundraising events for the Tourism and Leisure Committee is the Rushcart which takes place every September and brings all residents together as well as people from outside the valley. The main organiser for the Rushcart is from Shawforth.

In Whitworth we operate very much as a community, more so perhaps than other parts of Rossendale, and it would not be right to break up that community.

We want our Rossendale councillors to represent the whole of Whitworth, Shawforth, Facit, Broadley and Healey, and not just part of it.

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