

# West Northamptonshire

## Personal Details:

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**Organisation Name:** Yardley Hastings Parish Council (Parish or town clerk or officer)

## Comment text:

**Related subject:** Proposed Cogenhoe and The Houghtons Ward

The Yardley Hastings Parish Council considered the draft recommendations for boundary changes at its meeting on 13th April. The Council supports the proposal to create the new "Cogenhoe and the Houghtons" Ward, to be represented by a single Councillor. It is noted that this proposed ward is almost identical in scope to the ward in the South Northamptonshire district which existed before the recent reorganisation, the only change being the addition of the Parish of Great Houghton. This previous arrangement worked well, and there is no reason to suppose that a return to this previous arrangement will not be beneficial. The current arrangement, with three Councillors representing a much larger ward, has not not worked well. In practice what has happened is that the three elected members have divided up the constituent parishes between them. The parishes in the new Cogenhoe and the Houghtons ward are grouped along the A428 corridor and have much in common, being essentially rural in character. Another factor tending to favour the proposed grouping of parishes is that the area is dominated by two large landowners, the Compton Estate, and the Little Houghton & Brafield Estate. Being at the extreme edge of the West Northamptonshire District, in practice Yardley Hastings has little choice about which other parishes it is grouped with. However the proposed grouping with other parishes along the A428 corridor is definitely preferable to being grouped with other parishes to the south and south west, with whom Yardley Hastings has little in common.

## Attached Documents:

*None attached*