

Northumberland

Personal Details:

Name: Lisa Hamlin
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: Thirston Parish (Representative of parish/town council)

Comment text:

Thirston Parish Council are writing to strongly support the proposals for Thirston and Felton Parish to be within the same ward.

The parishes of Felton and Thirston sit astride of the river Coquet and are intrinsically linked, it is recognised by Northumberland County Council as one community in the Northumberland Local Plan. The plaque on the middle of the bridge over the River Coquet sums up the feeling of the villages. It states "in celebration of the longstanding friendship between the villages of Felton and Thirston 2000".

The villages share the responsibility for the Cemetery and recreation field along with support for more formal celebrations and events. This is also reflected in the shared community newsletter and the joint annual Felton and Thirston Fair. Both communities share the shop, post office, café, public houses, garage, village hall and art gallery. This community involvement and spirit of working together includes the annual joint Christmas tree placed on the central point of the bridge along with community carols.

There is an extremely strong sense of one community by all those living in the area and to have the two villages in the same ward is eminently sensible and fully supported by Thirston Parish Councillors.

However Thirston Parish Council is still not in agreement with the proposals to be moved into Hexham Constituency, having Felton and Thirston in the same ward it would make sense for Longhorsley to remain in the Berwick Constituency.

Regards

Lisa Hamlin
Thirston Parish Clerk

Attached Documents:

None attached