

Potential Whyteleafe Village Boundary changes

The Boundary Commission has proposed changes to the Whyteleafe Village that would seriously disadvantage our community.

Essentially, the new proposed boundaries would extend Warlingham Parish all the way down the hill to the Whyteleafe Tavern and then north along Godstone Road towards Jewson's and include the Whyteleafe Recreation Park as well as Downsway, Maple Road, Maple Close, Hillview, and the bottom of Hillbury Road.

- Whyteleafe is one of the fastest growing Parishes in Tandridge with increasing numbers of residents living in flats without gardens and sufficient recreation facilities. To remove the Rec from Whyteleafe as proposed would deprive residents and particularly children of the only recreation facility in Whyteleafe. This also contravenes the main tenets of the Joint Neighbourhood Plan which was approved by referendum in 2021 and adopted by Tandridge District. The plan prioritises the health and wellbeing of the community and states “Any proposal that would result in the loss of community and leisure facilities will only be supported if alternative and equivalent facilities are available (*reference “Policy CCW14: Community Hubs”*)”
- 1. Assigning Downsway, Maple Road, Maple Close, Hillview and the bottom of Hillbury Road all of which are naturally within the Whyteleafe Valley to Warlingham which is predominantly on the hill, is unnatural and not logical. It also splits the Whyteleafe Valley with residents on two sides of the Godstone road belonging to two different parishes.
- 2. Furthermore, the residents of Downsway, maple Close and neighbouring roads are an integral part of Whyteleafe Village, both geographically and culturally. Many residents here are active volunteers at the Whyteleafe Community Hub's food bank and other hub groups. This therefore contravenes the Boundary Commission's own rules about keeping communities together and not fragmenting them.
- 3. There are a number of other commitments in the Neighbourhood Plan that would be compromised by the proposed boundary changes.

Tandridge

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

1. The Whyteleafe Recreation ground is the only such leisure and recreation facility in Whyteleafe where many residents with children live in flats without gardens.
2. The proposed boundary changes contradict many of the tenets of the Neighbourhood Plan including the stated priority to protect green open spaces within the Neighbourhood Plan area. To this end, Whyteleafe Recreation Ground is designated as a Local Green Space having been identified by the Whyteleafe community as being of significant value to them and needing to be safeguarded for future generations. The proposed boundary changes would remove the responsibility for its protection (and any future enhancements) away from the community's elected representatives..
3. The proposed changes compromises many commitments that were made in the joint neighbourhood plan which was approved by referendum in 2021 and adopted by Tandridge.
4. Please see additional comments in attached document.

Attached Documents:

- Submission to Boundary Commission on Whyteleafe Village Boundary changes.docx