

Middlesbrough

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Organisation Name: (Parish or town councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: Ayresome Ward and Acklam Ward

The size of the ward works well with 2 councillors. The ward currently has a primary school, church, shops and dentist, use of green spaces on Mandale Meadows, back of downside road, end of Stainsby Road and designated local wildlife site at the end of Northern Road. Ayresome Ward is split into 3 polling districts but serves 4 communities. 1. South of Mandale Road and North of Mandale Road up to Levick Crescent noted as Acklam. 2. Whinney Banks Estate which starts from Downside road along to the new housing estate known as Acklam Gardens, Acklam. 3. The new housing estate named Acklam Gardens which has new houses on the Whinney Banks Estate and extra houses being built north to the Whinney Banks estate but all with the address Acklam Gardens, Acklam. 4. Northern Road which is not identified as being part of the Acklam Gardens housing development or the Whinney Banks Estate and is referred to as West Lane and in previous years would have been part of the Gresham Ward before the houses there were demolished to make way for construction of the new road on Acklam Road. Residents living within the Northern Road estate would exit onto Acklam Road and would not be confused with a name change to Acklam North Ward.

The recommendation to change the ward name from Ayresome to Acklam North is simply because the current ward name has no bearing on the area in which we live and is not associated by residents as somewhere we live. The word Ayresome means houses by the river and there are no houses near the river. To serve constituents a simple ward name should exist and Acklam North would be more suitable and easier for residents to decide who they need to contact for issues or advice. Currently residents living around Ayresome Street, Ayresome Green Lane, Ayresome Gardens and Ayresome Primary School. Ayresome Park, former home of Middlesbrough F.C. which was on Ayresome Street just east of its junction with Ayresome Green Lane would be inclined to contact the Ayresome Ward Cllrs rather than the cllrs in Newport Ward. During 2023 elections residents were unaware they were part of Ayresome Ward and asked why they were being asked to vote when Ayresome

is nowhere near them. Residents residing in points 1. 3. and 4. above when looking to contact their ward councillor will look at Middlesbrough Council website and contact one of the two councillors in Acklam Ward rather than the Ayresome Ward cllrs which is why I also propose the current Acklam Ward be renamed to Acklam East Ward as it sits east to Acklam Road. As Acklam Ward also includes the Tollesby Estate a name change of Acklam East & Tollesby Ward would also be appropriate and reduce the amount of case work sent to cllrs in error. I attach maps for the current Ayresome Ward which highlights that within the ward boundary no areas can be identified as Ayresome.

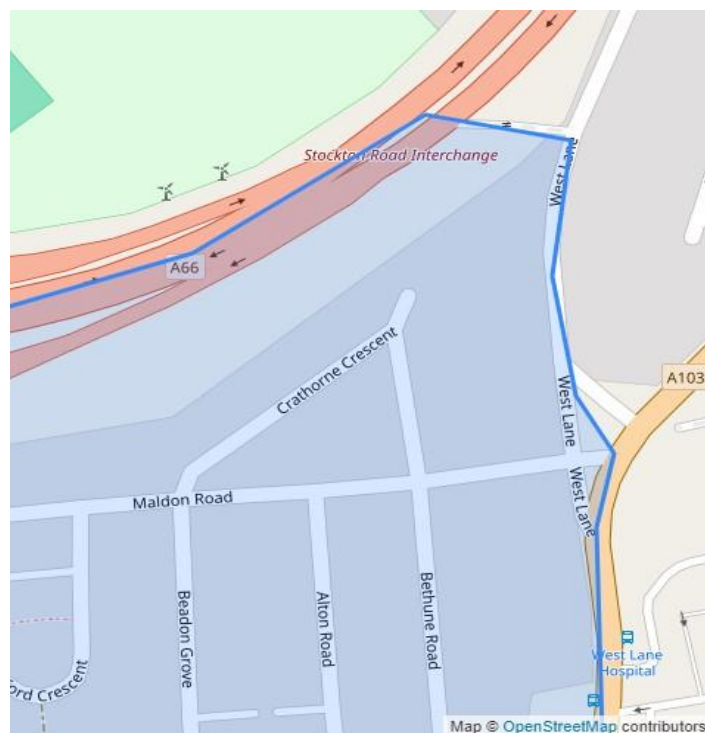
Attached Documents:

- ayresome-ward.pdf

The first map clip (from the MapIt UK web site) shows the whole of the current Ayresome Ward, the eastern boundary running along Acklam Road and terminating so far along West Lane, where it meets Newport Ward.



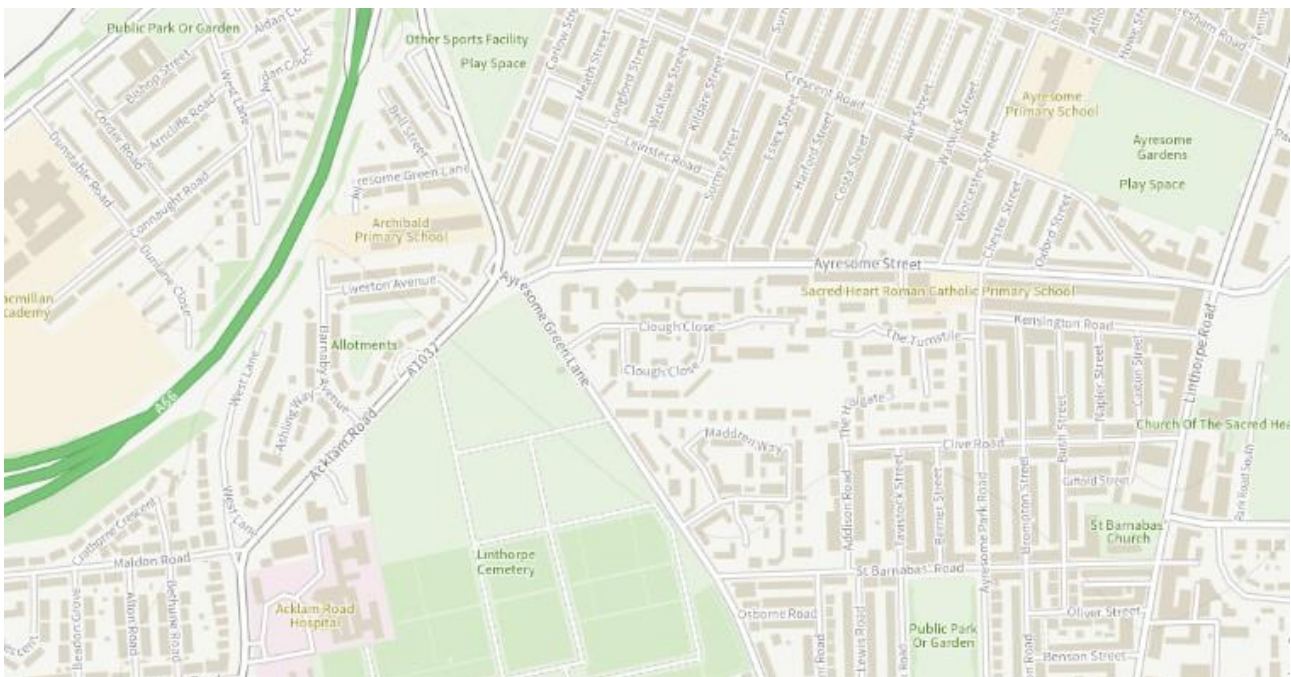
Zooming in to the north east corner enables the street names at the north east corner to be seen clearly.



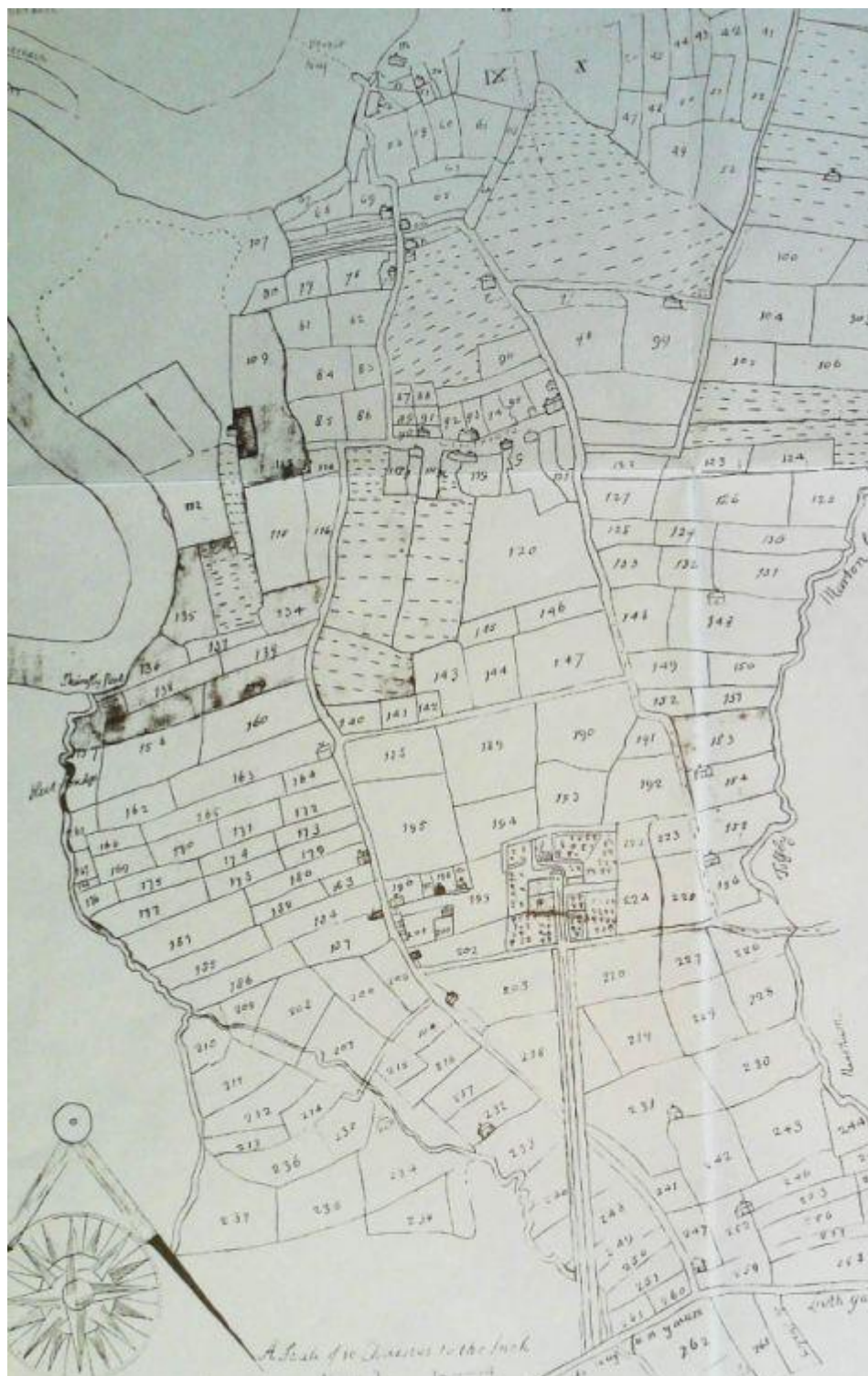
The next map clip is taken from the Side-by-side facility on the National Library of Scotland web site. It enables the north east corner of Ayresome Ward today (bottom left hand corner) to be compared with the same area in the OS survey of 1853. This clip also includes the area some distance to the east of Ayresome Ward and it can clearly be seen that Ayresome (now under the A66) and Ayresome Grange (top right hand corner) are both well outside of the Ayresome Ward boundary.



Widening out the same present day mapping eastwards enables us to see the parts of Middlesbrough which people associate with Ayresome now – Ayresome Street, Ayresome Green Lane, Ayresome Gardens and Ayresome Primary School. Ayresome Park, former home of Middlesbrough F.C. was on Ayresome Street just east of its junction with Ayresome Green Lane. All of these places are to the north east of Ayresome Ward, clearly demonstrating that the ward name is inappropriate and confusing to people.



The map clip below is of the western part of William Hustler's estate in about 1730. Acklam Hall can clearly be seen. At the bottom right corner is the road from Yarm to Guisborough "Lath gate", now Ladgate Lane with the building which is now the Blue Bell Hotel in the field number 247. The lower half of the map, therefore, covers the current wards of Trimdon, Kader and Acklam whilst the upper half covers Ayresome, Linthorpe and Park wards.



Zooming in on the upper half, Acklam Hall is in the lower right corner. Fleet Bridge (now the A19 Mandale Interchange) is marked. Annotations have been added for West Lane/Acklam Road running north to south and Green Lane. The original map legend "Linthorpe" is approximately along the route of Burlam Road and Chipchase Road. Ayresome would be the fields marked 66 and K, above the added annotation indicating the approximate route of West Lane.



Given the location of the current Ayresome Ward being the northern part of the historical Acklam Estate to the west of Linthorpe, the appropriate name for the ward is Acklam North.