Walsall

Personal Details:

Name: Mr Brad Allen

Email: ███████████████

Postcode: ██████

Organisation Name: Walsall MBC (District or county councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: Walsall MBC

I am a councillor in Bloxwich and I am writing to oppose the proposed moving of the west of Stafford Road from Bloxwich West into Bloxwich East, and the proposed addition of Irvine Road and surrounding roads out of Bloxwich East into Bloxwich West.

As the description of "west of Stafford Road" suggests, it belongs in Bloxwich West ward.

I have spoken to residents on Stafford Road, Lydford, Enderley and Dukes Grove who do not want this change to happen and want to stay as part of the ward that includes Bell Lane, Turnberry and Bealey's Lane. They use the shops and transport links like Bloxwich Train Station, all in Bloxwich West and see proposals submitted by other members to break their ward and communities up as quite obvious political point scoring.

The change seems to have only been suggested to increase the number of electors in Bloxwich East, without consideration for the community that exists around King George V Playing Fields.

An increased electorate in Bloxwich East can more naturally be found elsewhere, for example in Blakenall Heath, north of Harden Road and in the new developments which are being built. There is also the possibility for Bloxwich East ward to increase its electorate by including the Goscote area up to Slacky Lane, following a natural boundary with Pelsall.

The proposed addition of Irvine Road, Nursery Road, Somerfield Road, Reeves Street, Stuart Street and Stokes Street could be retained by

Bloxwich East as it has already been a part of that community for many years. The idea that these streets would be removed from Bloxwich East would decrease the Bloxwich East electorate. Removing one part of the ward and in favour of adding in another feels a lot like gerrymandering.

In terms of both Community Identity and Electorate Equality, Bloxwich West meets all requirements in its current, unchanged form.

Attached Documents:

None attached