Worcestershire

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: Alvechurch Parish Council (Representative of parish/town council)

Comment text:

Related subject: The whole Parish of Alvechurch (Alevchurch, Rowney Green, Bordesley, Weatheroak & Hopwood)

Alvechurch Parish Council wish to submit the following comments:

We have read with interest the proposed new Worcestershire County electoral boundaries defined by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England and we wish to express the following concerns;

Alvechurch and Barnt Green are two unique / historic rural villages surrounded by green belt, both have their own distinct characteristics and focus. They are roughly one mile from each other. In contrast Wythall is an urban area, physically joined to Birmingham and it has reasonable links into the Birmingham City transport system. It is some 5/6 miles from Alvechurch and Barnt Green. The two areas have little in common, sadly crime is much higher in Wythall being joined to Birmingham, and the priorities of the parish councillors, representing the residents' priorities, are also quite different.

If the two areas were combined as proposed, almost certainly the two councillors would have to split their responsibility along the lines of one being responsible for Alvechurch/ Barnt Green and the other one focusing on Wythall,(i.e. actually reflecting the existing successful parish and district councillor arrangements!). The A456 makes an automatic / natural boundary.

Whilst understanding your wish to reflect population density in your proposals we would respectfully suggest that the current historic successful existing boundaries we believe our residents are happy with should, nevertheless be reflected in the creation of two, one councillor districts.

We would hope our views will be taken into account as part of the consultation process since we feel strongly that the proposed change should be rejected.

Attached Documents:

None attached