

Worcestershire

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

Comment text:

Related subject: Bromsgrove East and Bromsgrove South

Fininstall Parish Council is wholly contained within Bromsgrove East county division. A quirk of the boundary that has occurred with new building development on what was the Garringtons estate, now sees a block of flats known as Field View House in Railway Walk separated from its close neighbours within the same estate by dint of the electoral boundary shared by county, district and parish councils.

The current number of electors affected is 21.

It is the only part of the parish boundary that crosses the Birmingham/Worcester railway line and Field View House is the only residence sited to the north-west of the parish. To vote, Field View House residents currently must pass the polling station used by their neighbours on all sides, to access the polling station in Fininstall. Their immediate community is within the estate which is a key part of Bromsgrove South; there is no obvious communication link with Fininstall or Bromsgrove East.

The parish council is therefore recommending to redraw the boundary currently lying to the north west of Field View House, to the south-east of Field View House to be contiguous with the railway line.

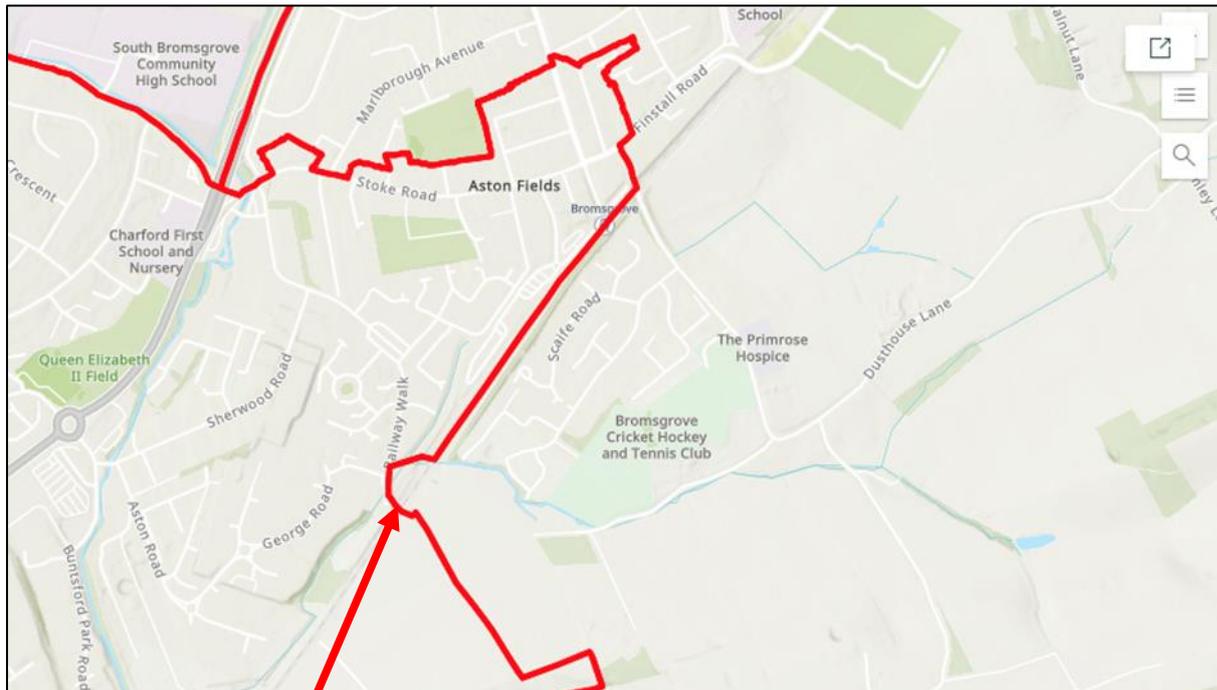
Attached Documents:

- bromsgrove-east-anomaly-at-fininstall-parish.pdf

Proposal to redraw the electoral boundary affecting county, district and parish boundaries re Bromsgrove East division, Tardebigge ward, Finstall parish.

There is a boundary anomaly whereby only one small area of Finstall parish is north of the railway line. This is the building known as Field View House, Railway Walk which lies within the 'Garringtons' estate at the most westerly part of the parish boundary and due to lack of easy access to the centre of Finstall, could be considered remote from the Finstall parish community.

Apart from Field View House, Garrington's estate lies within Bromsgrove South division. The red line below outlines the division boundary between Bromsgrove East division (to the right), and the un-parished area of Aston Fields / Bromsgrove town in Bromsgrove South.



The majority of the 'Garringtons' estate is currently un-parished except for the parished Railway Walk area, to the north-west of the railway, which consists of only one block of housing known as 1 - 18 Field View House, with 21 electors listed on the electoral roll.

Out of all the houses on the estate, only the Field View House residents will contribute to the Finstall parish council precept each year. Yet, to access their polling station to vote, Field View House residents currently must pass the polling station used by all their neighbours, to reach the Finstall polling station another 1+ mile away.

There is no direct road link or obvious connection between Field View House and any of its electoral representatives. The railway line forms a clear barrier.

From the whole of this estate, only Field View House is marked out as separate from the county division and district ward that cater to its surrounding neighbours and Field View House residents will not be entitled to enjoy the same representation provided to their neighbours by the respective county and district representatives.

It is believed there will be a closer community allegiance to Aston Fields / Bromsgrove Town ie Bromsgrove South division, rather than to the parished Finstall community within Bromsgrove East division, due to their remoteness from the centre of Finstall parish.

For these reasons, the parish council suggests the boundary is redrawn to be contiguous with the railway line, ie moved from north-west of Field View House to south-east of it.