

Middlesbrough

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Comment text:

Related subject: Central, Trimdon and Stainton

I have included the Middlesbrough Labour Group of Councillors proposed new ward maps and narrative. I am happy to discuss further should you so wish.

Cllr Matt Storey- 07793274203

Attached Documents:

- ward-boundary-narrative.docx
- central-middlesbrough-wards.pdf
- west-middlesbrough-wards.pdf
- east-middlesbrough-wards.pdf

Ward Boundary Narrative

West Middlesbrough

- The Stainton and Stainsby Hall Farm ward addresses the increase in population due to new build and expected new build properties by taking the new estate at Jack Simon Way to make a 2 member ward. We do not think that the extra electors required should be taken from the Hemlington or Coulby Newham Wards. Both of those wards are almost exactly the correct size in terms of population and they are ideal in terms of community connections as they both include the entire communities of Hemlington and Coulby Newham and their shopping centres and amenities. It does not seem appropriate to break either of those wards up to make the Stainton numbers add up.
- Despite the fact that the ward has to cross the A174 there is a natural boundary to the North constituted by the beck, treeline/green space and the road at Low Lane which we believe shows a clear divide between the traditional 'Brookfield' area which is the Earlsdon Avenue and Trimdon Avenue area that is not linked in any way to the new build estate at Stainsby Hall Farm.
- The new Brookfield and Trimdon Ward is much closer to the traditional community of Brookfield including as it does the areas around Earlsdon and Trimdon Avenue and The Oval. It includes the church, schools and Parish Hall as well as the local shops which serve the area.
- The new Kader Ward has a more natural and solid Western boundary following as it does the beck all the way from the A19 to the A174. It also includes the Heythrop Drive area which does not belong in a Ward spliced together with Whinney Banks. The residents in that area do not consider themselves linked to the Whinney Banks area and sit more comfortably in a Kader or Acklam-adjacent ward. This is also highlighted by the fact that the existing Ayresome Ward has a name that residents and elected members do not recognise, has no relevance to the local community and has had to be used as a compromise due to the Ward having two distinct areas of Whinney Banks and the Heythrop Drive area.
- The new Whinney Banks and West Lane Ward is co-terminus with the community as so-named. The A66 split the West Lane area from Whinney Banks in the 1980s but there are still walkways across the A66 and significant road and pedestrian crossings which link Whinney Banks to West Lane. This is a much more appropriate way to link those communities than having the West lane/Stockton Road area in the Newport Ward when there are no community links to Newport and the Newport area cleaves more to the Town Centre than the West of the Town.
- The new Newport Ward also makes more sense as it no longer contains the West Lane/Stockton Road area which did not have any reference to Newport in any event.

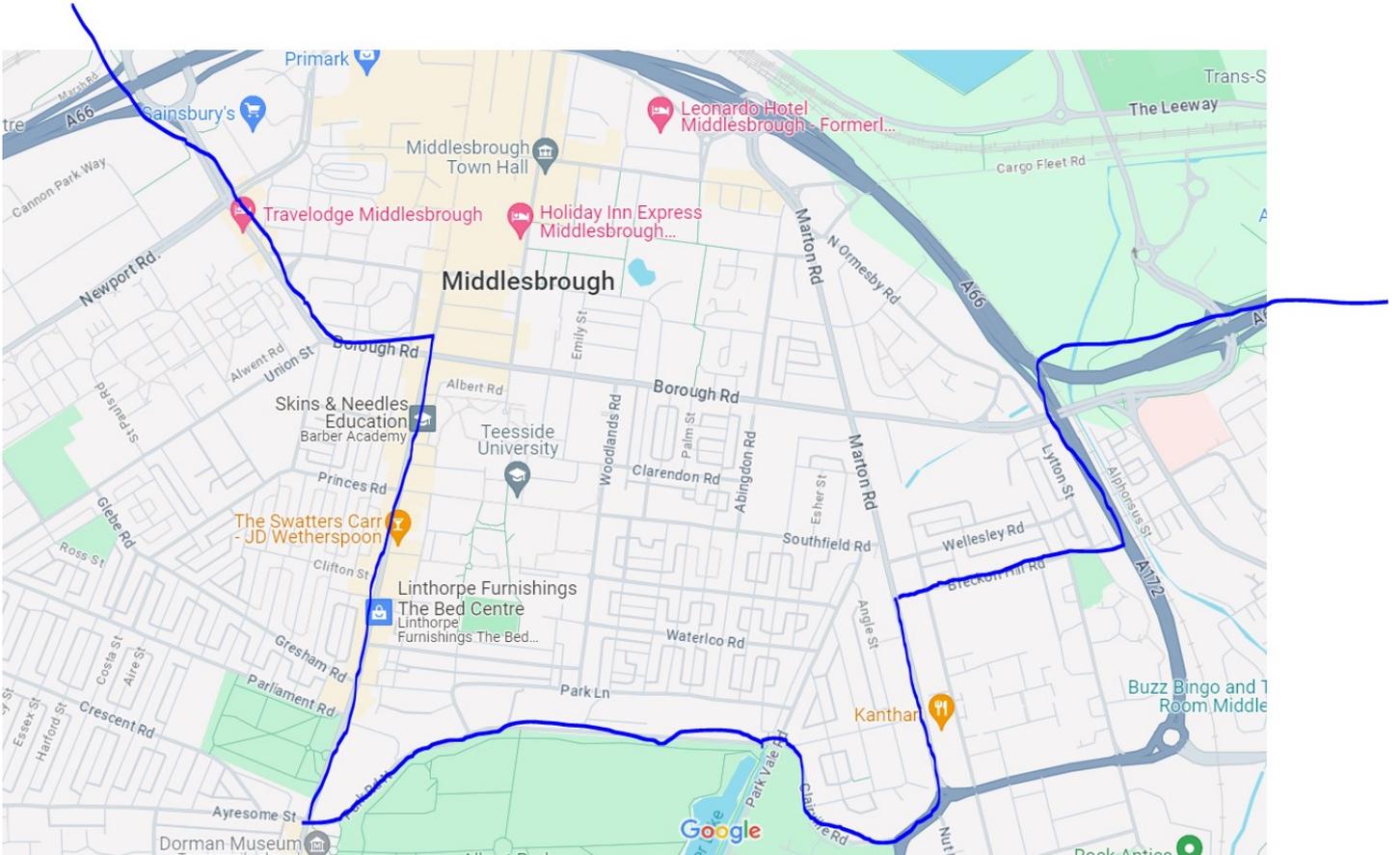
Central Wards

- The new Central Ward is reduced in number making it closer to the exact elector count for a 3 member ward. The reduction leaves the whole of the Town Centre within the Ward as well as the University area including the University itself, all the relevant community centres and amenities that relate to residents of the Town Centre. The reduction comes by creating a new boundary on Breckon Hill Road.
- The new Longlands and Grove Hill Ward therefore includes the Douglas Street/Blenheim Road/Saltwells Road area south of Breckon Hill Road and the road and Saltwells Park forms a natural boundary. That whole area would consider themselves Longlands rather than the Town Centre and as such have closer links to the Longlands area in the 'Little Canada' and Highfield Road area. Many of the newer properties in the Douglas/Blenheim/Saltwells area were built on the former Longlands College site showing that they sit well with both the name and community of Longlands. Linking Longlands to the Grove Hill area makes more geographical sense and includes the Community Hub, Grove Hill Shopping parade and local pubs and amenities accessed by residents.
- By removing the Grove Hill area from Beechwood we end up with the whole of what residents would consider Beechwood standing alone with the Sutton Trust area and former Council estate together separate from Grove Hill. To ensure the elector numbers are correct we have added the Easterside estate to the Beechwood estate to form a Beechwood and Easterside Ward. There is a well-used social club between the two estates called the Beechwood and Easterside Club which show the links between the two estates. Saltersgill Avenue runs through Beechwood into Easterside and there are schools along the road that serve both communities. Linking these two estates together is no less appropriate than linking Beechwood and Grove Hill as the Longlands and Beechwood ward is currently constituted.
- We have then added the Marton Manor section of the current Ladgate Ward to the Marton West Ward to make Marton West a three member ward. This makes sense as everything South of Ladgate Lane in Ladgate Ward is Marton proper. They do not belong in a Ward with Easterside and it has always been a ward splicing together two very distinct communities that doesn't make community or geographical sense.

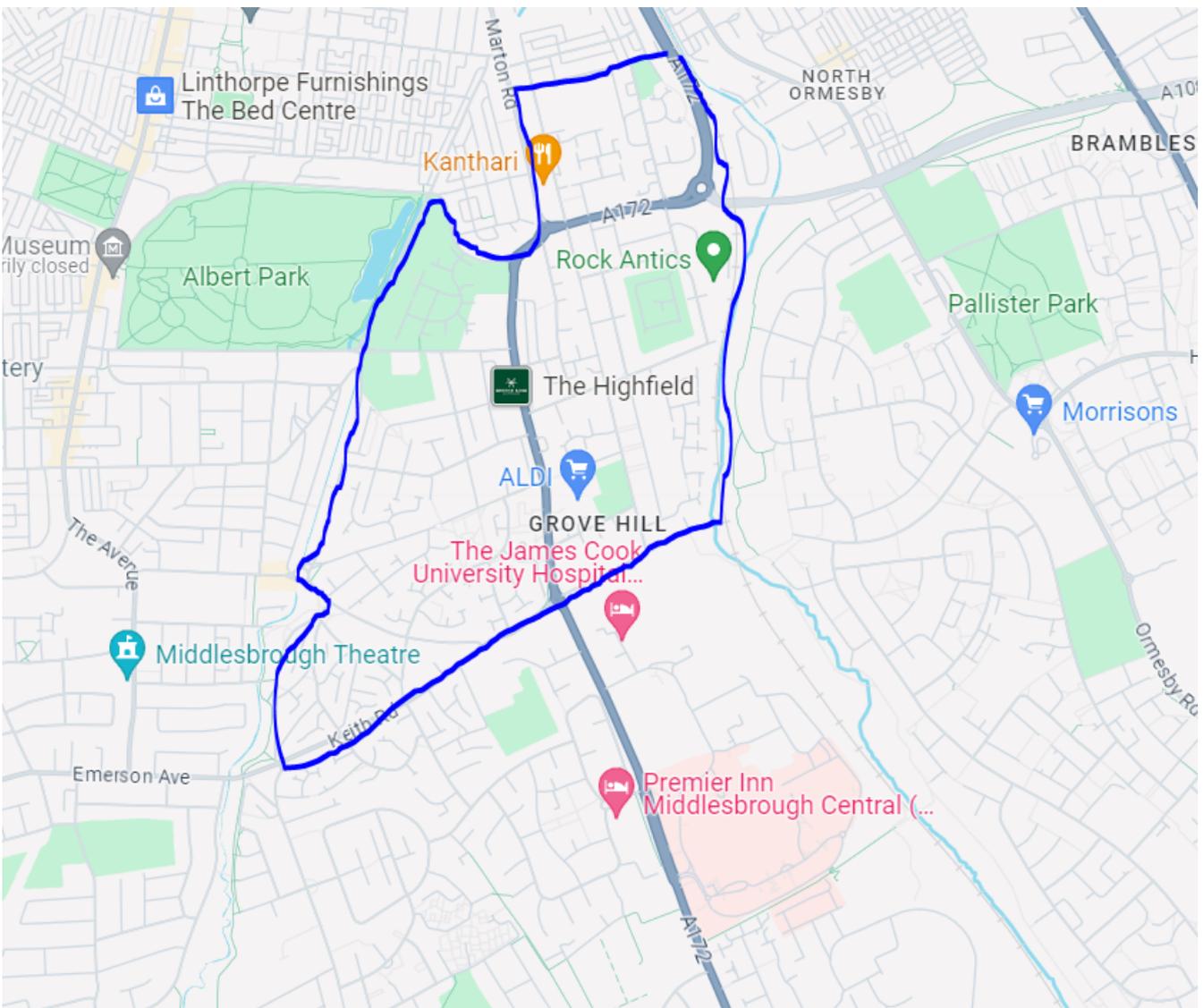
East Middlesbrough

- As a Labour Group we broadly support the Council's submission in terms of East Middlesbrough. As it provides a perfect set of boundaries in terms of community connections. However, we also appreciate that in doing so the variances in the Council's submission are significant. There fore we have redrawn the boundaries as you can see in our East Middlesbrough map. Our boundaries do work in terms of the data and elector numbers but have less fidelity to community links whilst we have done our best to retain distinct community links where possible.
- The North Ormesby, Brambles and Pallister Ward includes the whole of the communities of Brambles Farm and North Ormesby and all the relevant amenities, shopping centres and schools therein. In order to make the elector numbers correct for a two-member ward we have also included the Northernmost section of the community of Pallister Park. The boundaries are clear and distinct using the existing Northern boundary in North Ormesby, the Trunk Road and Ormesby Road in the West and the Easternmost Borough Boundary in the East. The Southern boundary goes from College Road along Homerton Road and is a strong, straight, main road. It also takes the Elvington Green section of the current Brambles and Thorntree Ward back into a 'Pallister' ward which is where it belongs as residents there would consider themselves living in Pallister not Brambles or Thorntree.
- The Berwick Hills and Pallister Ward takes in the southernmost section of Pallister Park and links it to the whole of Berwick Hills area. The two areas of Berwick Hills and Pallister Park have often been split in different ways in previous iterations of ward boundaries and they do both access the same schools, the leisure centre and the shopping parade and supermarket which sit in the new ward.
- The new Thorntree and Town Farm ward includes the whole of the Thorntree estate as well as the distinct community of Town Farm which runs from Homerton Road down to Town Farm Allotments. As we have already stated the Elvington Green area which never belonged in a Thorntree Ward has been moved into the North Ormesby, Brambles and Pallister Ward. This ward therefore is a perfect marriage of those two communities in their entirety and includes the shopping parades and amenities of the Thorntree Hub, Shelton Court and Beresfords Building shops which residents will access.
- The final ward is the new Park End and Beckfield Ward. Residents and elected members all agree that the southernmost boundary in Berwick Hills is flexible and many people towards the South of Berwick Hills would consider they lived in Park End and others would say Berwick Hills. Therefore we consider the southernmost boundary to be fluid and movable. As such, to make the Park End and Beckfield Ward appropriate in terms of elector numbers, we have moved the Park End boundary slightly North taking it along Langridge Crescent and Tanhill Walk across the recreation Ground on Penrith Road. The boundary is therefore clearer than the current jagged line which snakes through Park End seemingly at random. We have also retained the clear and distinct communities of Priestfields and Netherfields in this ward in their entirety.

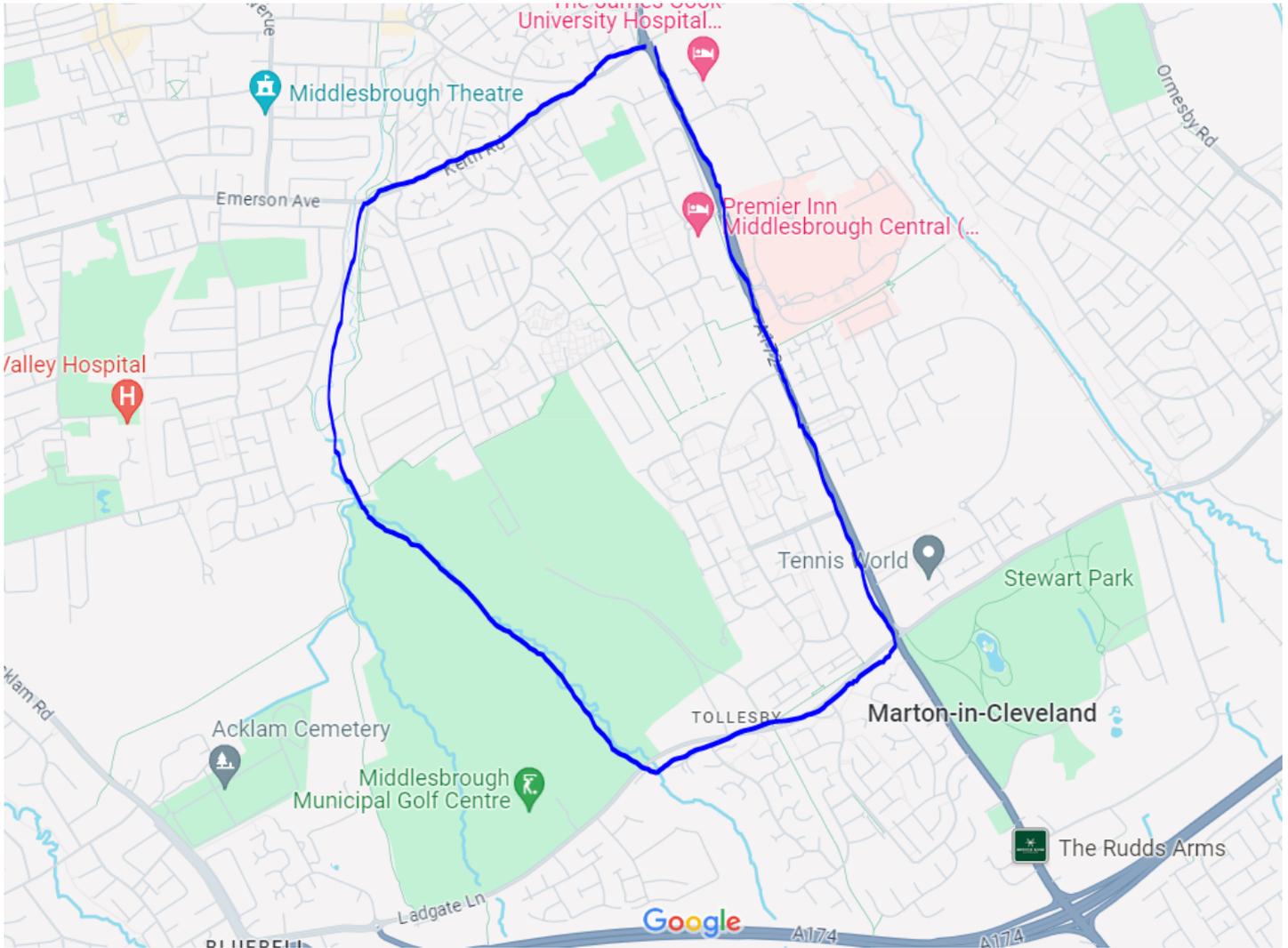
Central Ward, 3 Members, 6599 Electors



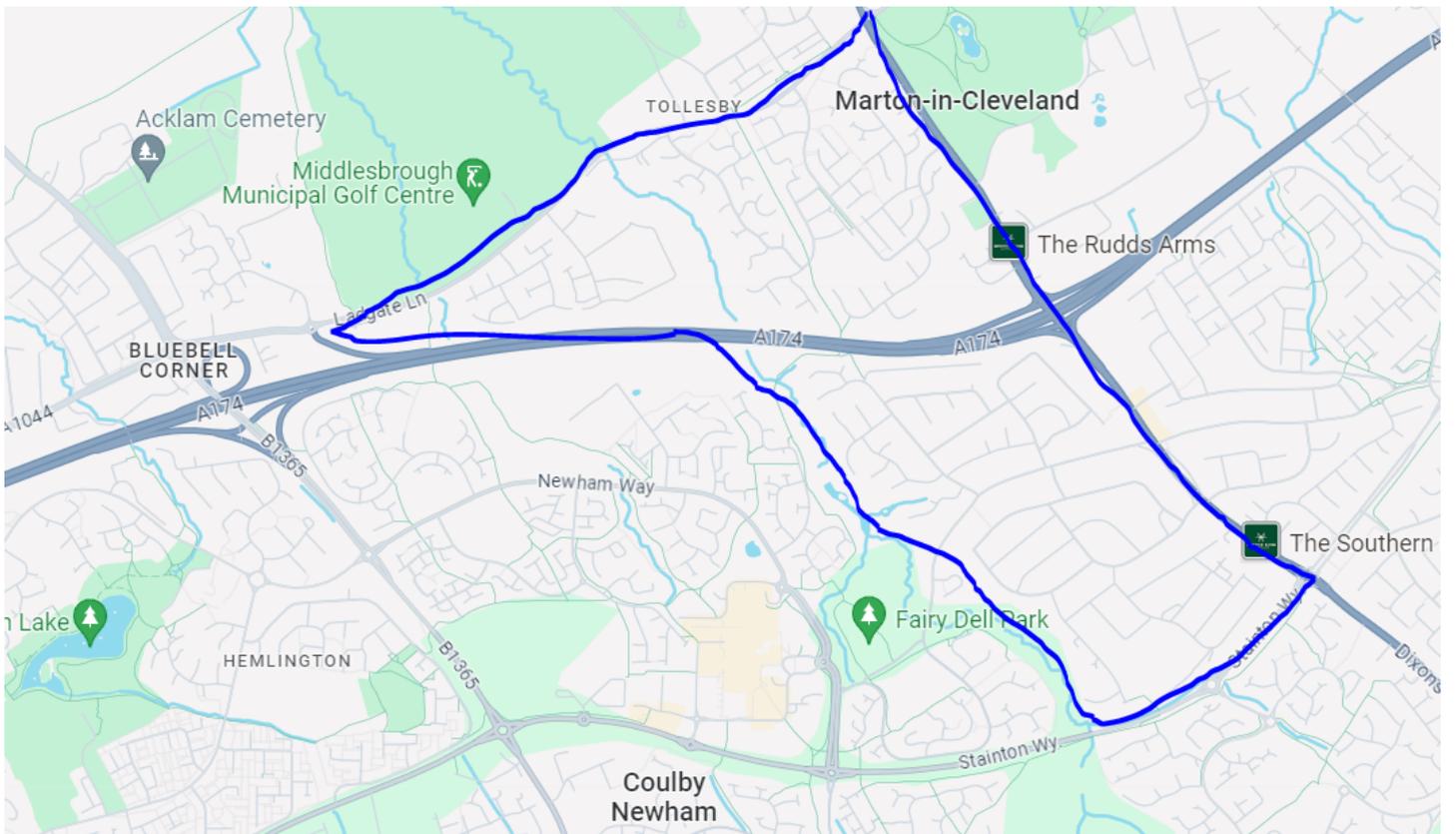
Longlands and Grove Hill Ward, 2 Members, 4558 Electors



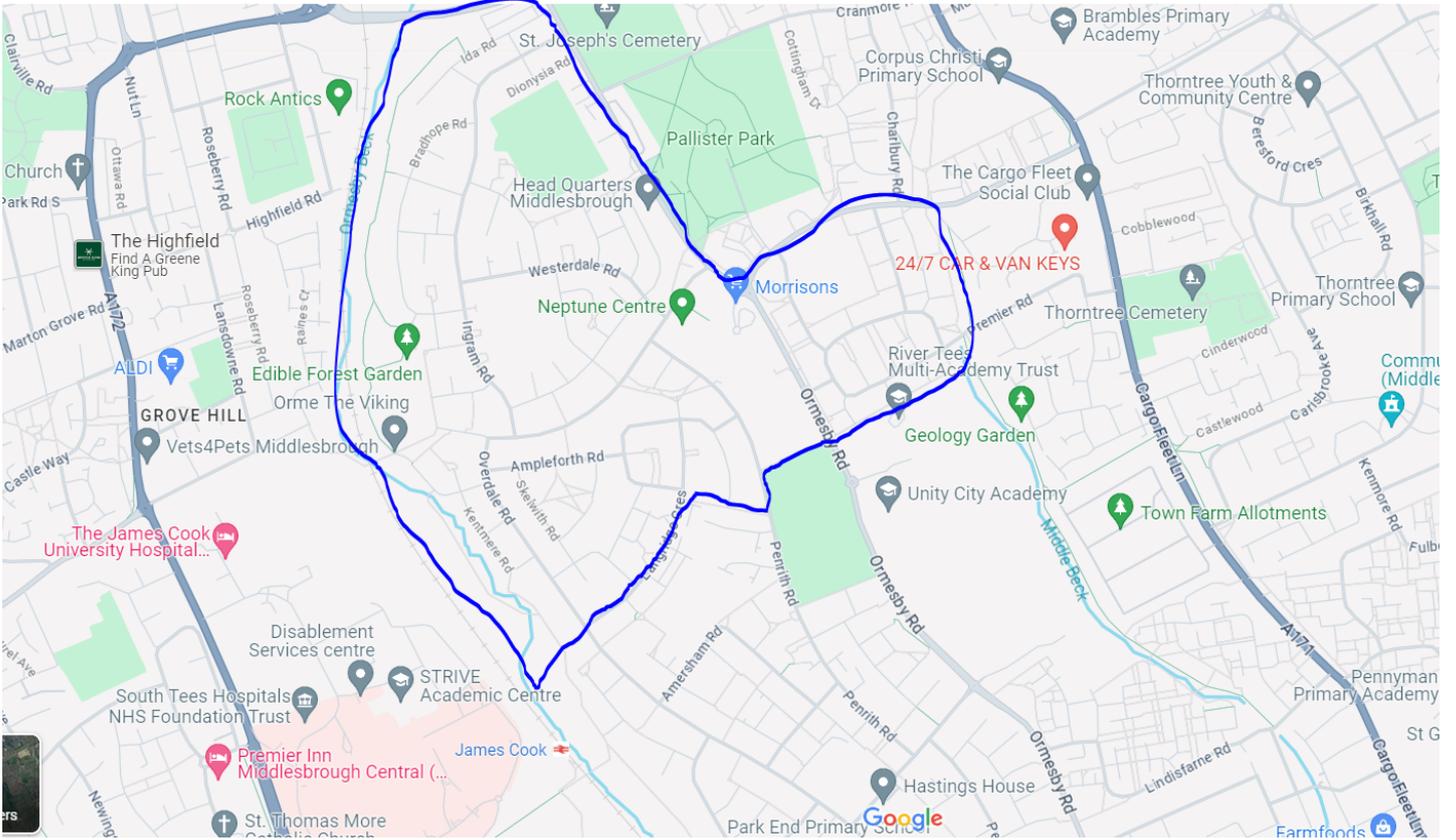
Beechwood and Easterside Ward, 2 Members, 4711 Electors



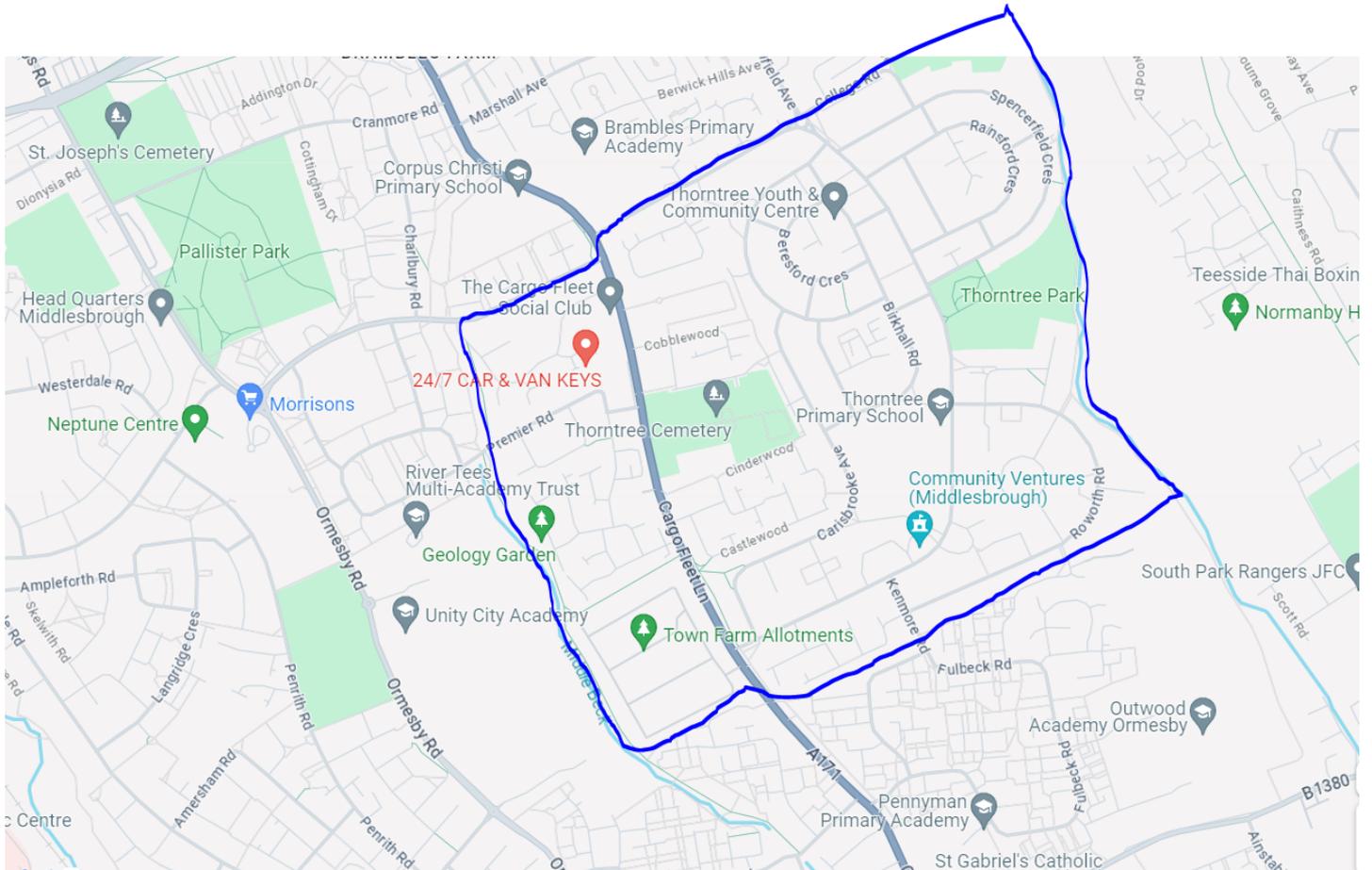
Marton West Ward, 3 Members, 6811 Electors



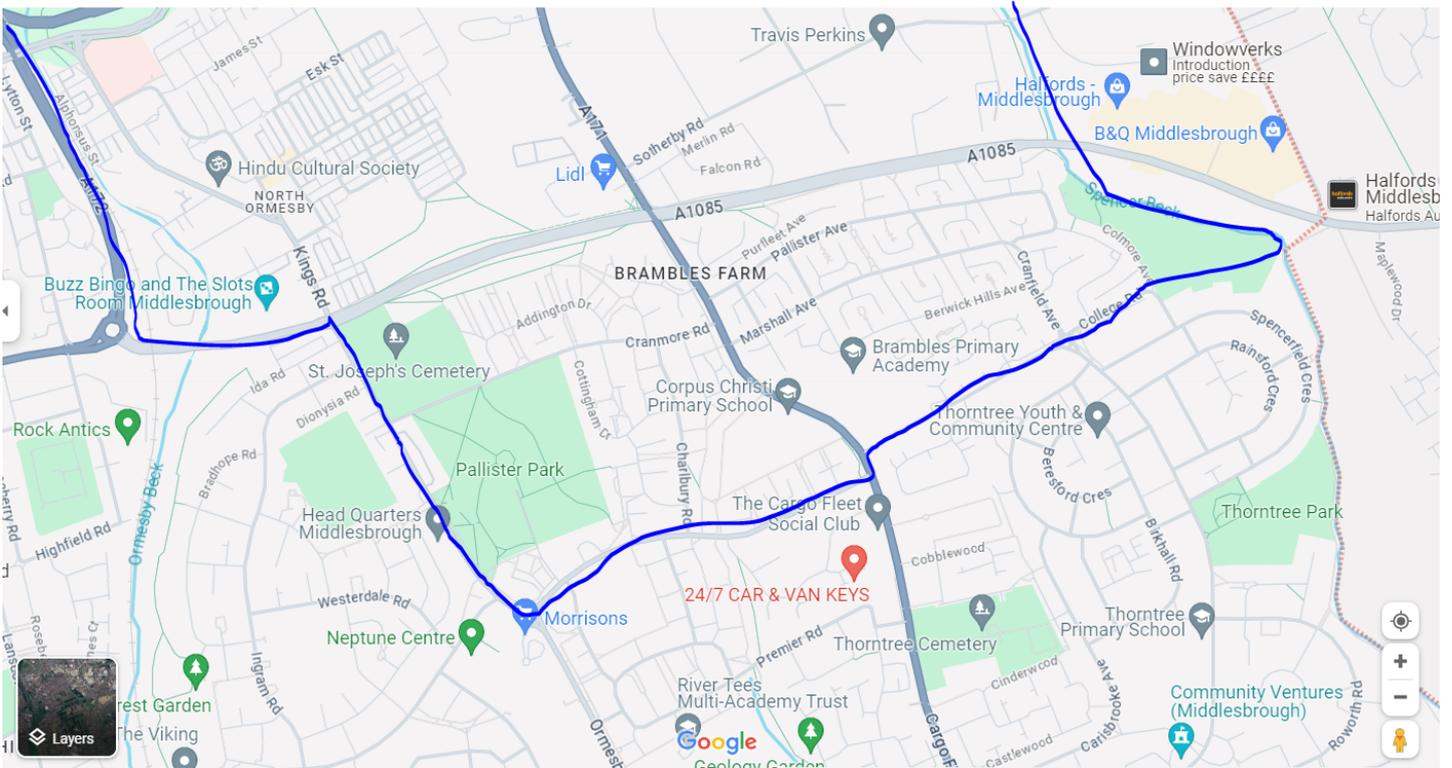
Berwick Hills and Pallister Ward, 2 Members, 4517 Electors



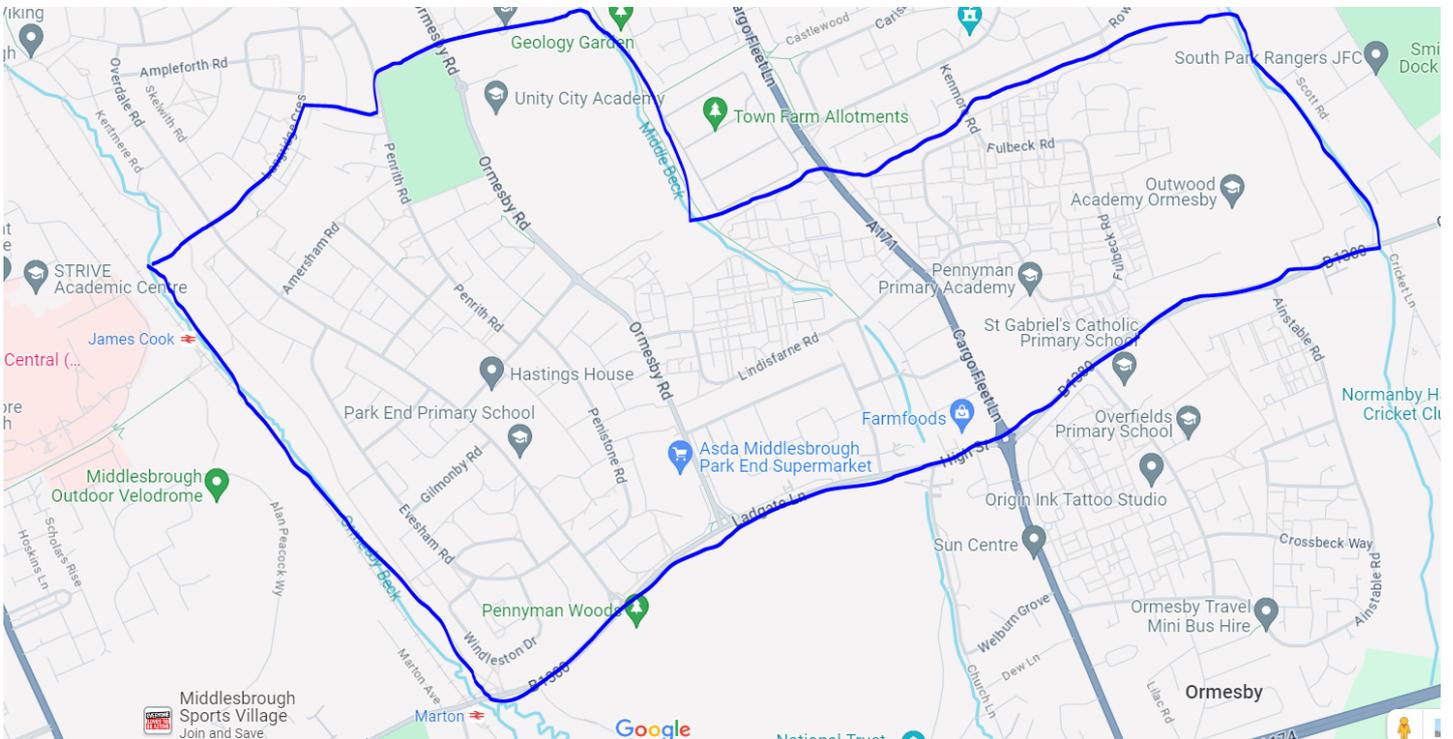
Thorntree and Town Farm Ward, 2 Members, 4281 Electors



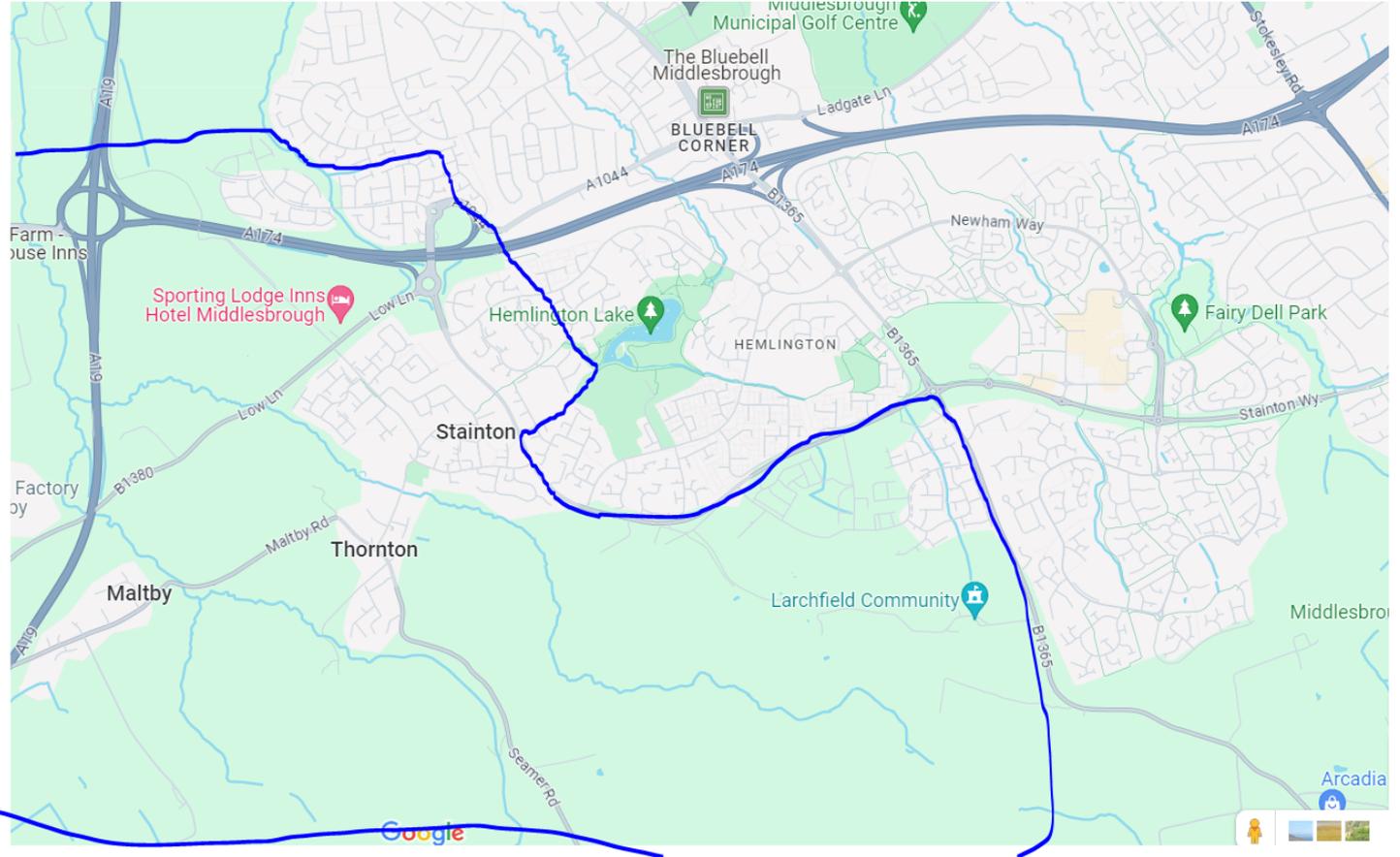
North Ormesby, Brambles and Pallister Ward, 2 Members, 4155 Electors



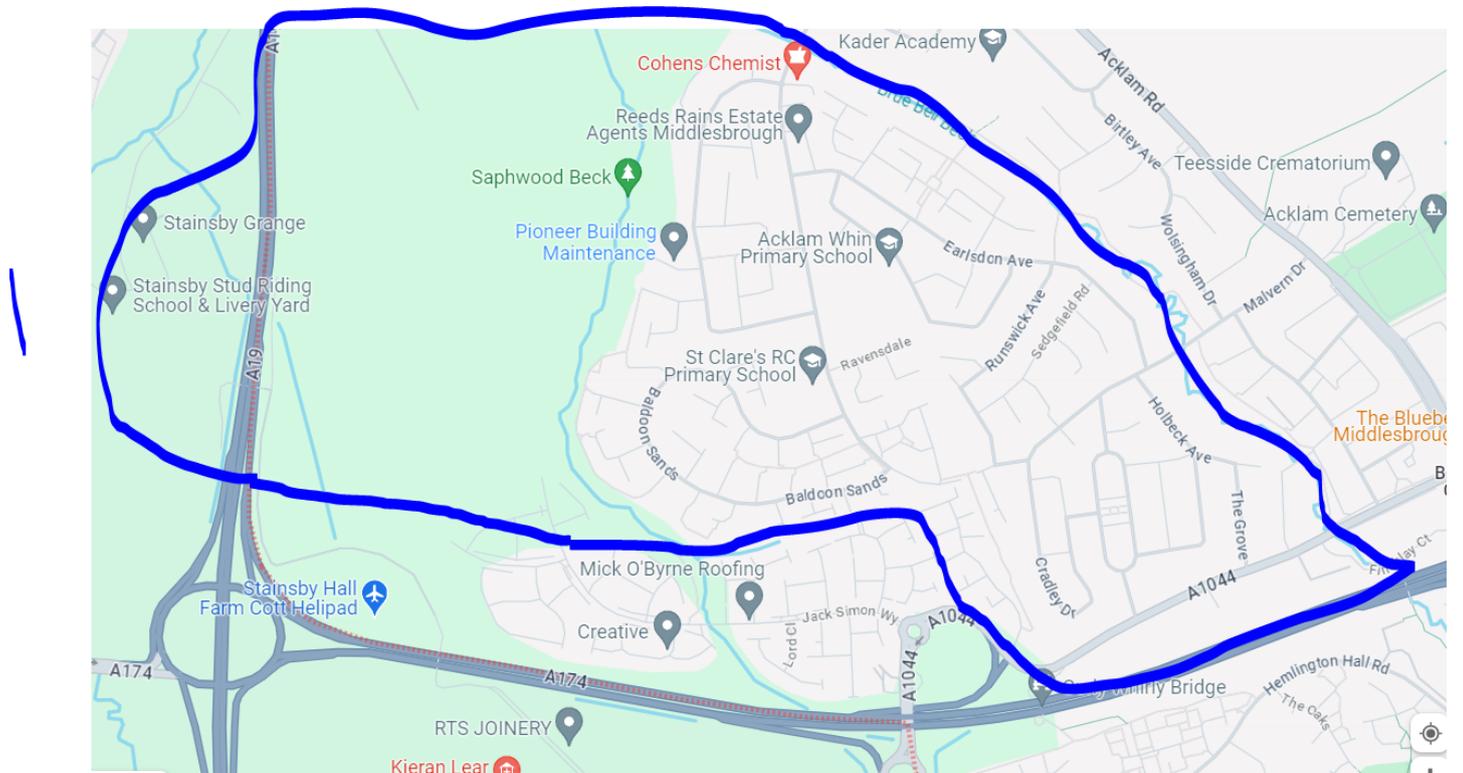
Park End and Beckfield Ward, 3 Members, 6245 Electors



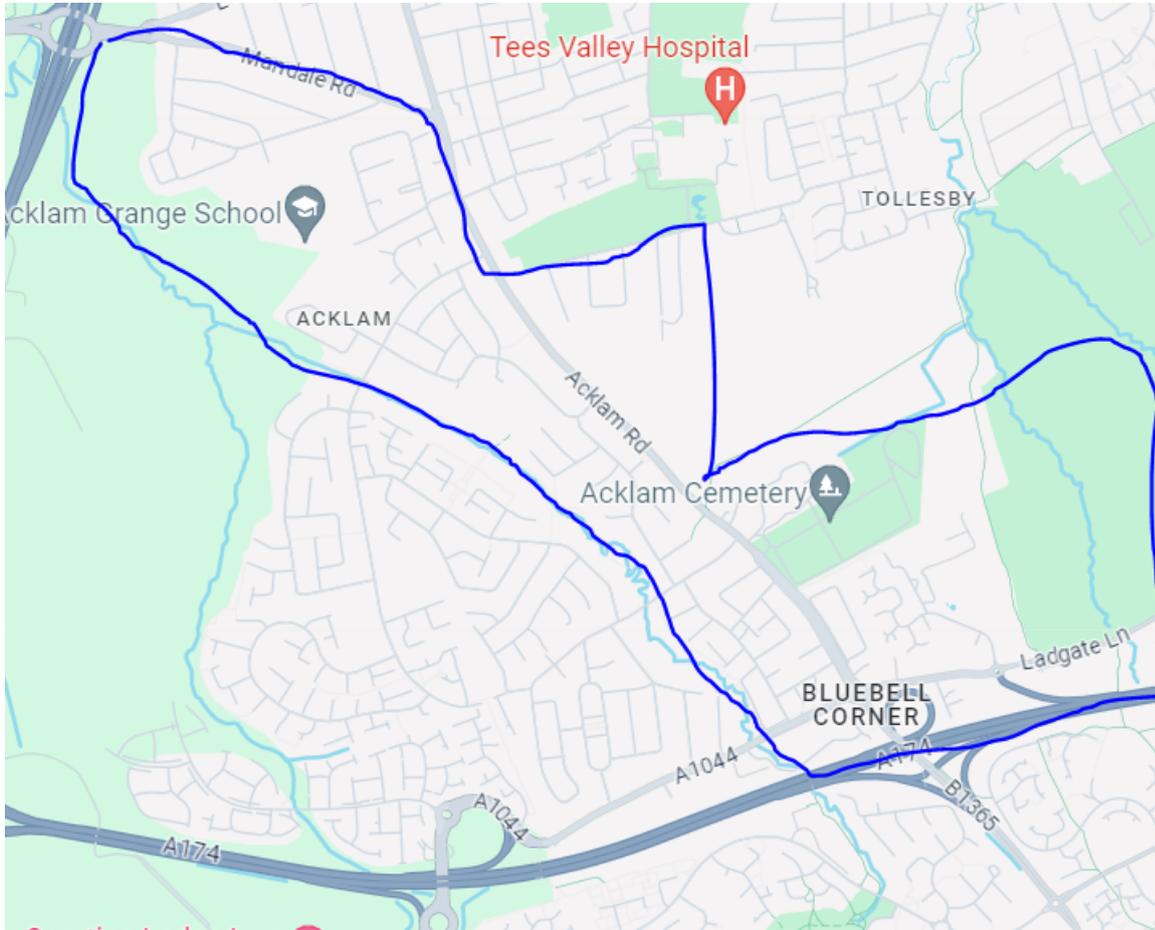
Stainton and Stainsby Hall Farm Ward, 2 Members, 4647 Electors



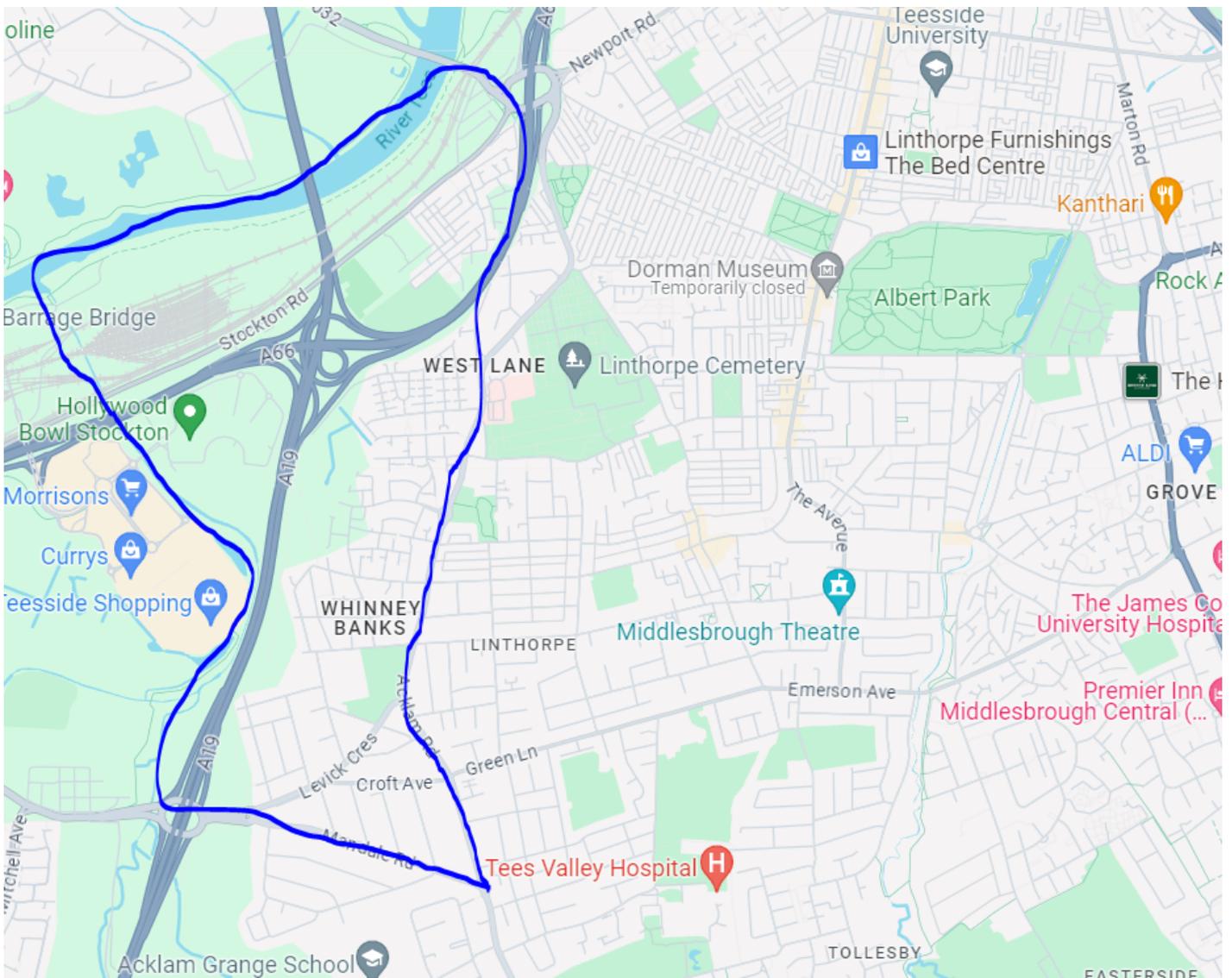
Brookfield and Trimdon Ward, 2 Members, 4293 Electors



Kader Ward, 2 Members, 4133 Electors



Whinney Banks and West Lane Ward, 2 Members, 4295 Electors



Newport Ward, 3 Members, 6103 Electors

