Worcestershire

Personal Details:

Name: [redacted]
Email: [redacted]
Postcode: [redacted]
Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Related subject: Proposed electoral boundary changes- Belbroughton Parish (Bromsgrove Disctrict)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to object to the proposed electoral boundary changes that are going to see an area of Belbroughton Parish (incorporating Bell End, Bell Heath, Newtown and Madeley Heath) moved from the Clent Hills area and added to the Woodvale Area to the south. I have attached a plan with this area hatched in yellow.

I note that the online information says there is currently a public consultation. No one in our area was aware that this was planned. There has been no consultation. We have found out a few days ago just two weeks before the deadline to object to it.

Our close knit rural community has been part of Belbroughton Parish for as long as Belbroughton has existed. The land having originally been common and heathland belonging to the Manor of Belbroughton (Bell Hall). Many of the properties in the area are historic farm houses and workers cottages which have been here for hundreds of years. Their residents having played an active part in village life and having been baptised, married and buried in Belbroughton Church. The area also includes Moor Hall another ancient listed property that played an important role in the history of the Parish and was also part of the Bell Hall estate. Belne Brook (from which Belbroughton gets its name) flows from the Clent Hills, through this area and down to the village.

Our area has also played an integral part in the rich history of Belbroughton and the Clent Hills. The first Scythe mill run by Issac Nash is located

in this area at Newtown and he lived at Bay Tree Cottage on Gorse Green Lane. He was responsible for Belbroughton becoming a world renowned Scythe manufacturer and is buried in Belbroughton Churchyard.

Our geographical position is on the southern side of the Clent Hills with the land being either agricultural or used as pasture for horses. We have the North Worcestershire Equestrian Centre on Woodfield Lane and many residents own or ride horses up in the Clent Hills. This landscape is very distinct from the lower land to the south in Catshill.

We are very closely connected with Belbroughton and Clent in terms of our community. Our son went to Clent Nursery School and now attends Belbroughton primary school. Children then go on to Haybridge High as part of the Hagley two tier pyramid system. The rest of the Woodvale area has a completely different three tier school system. The children in that area going to first, middle and upper schools. The upper schools being within Bromsgrove quite some distance to the south.

We use and support all of the facilities in Belbroughton village including the primary school, doctors surgery, working men's club, pubs, shop, hairdressers and deli. For further facilities we go to Hagley to the north not Bromsgrove. Our area also takes part in the Belbroughton Scarecrow festival each year. Two of the village pubs are within our rural area (The Holly Bush and The Bell) both pubs being historic establishments that have always played an active role in village life.

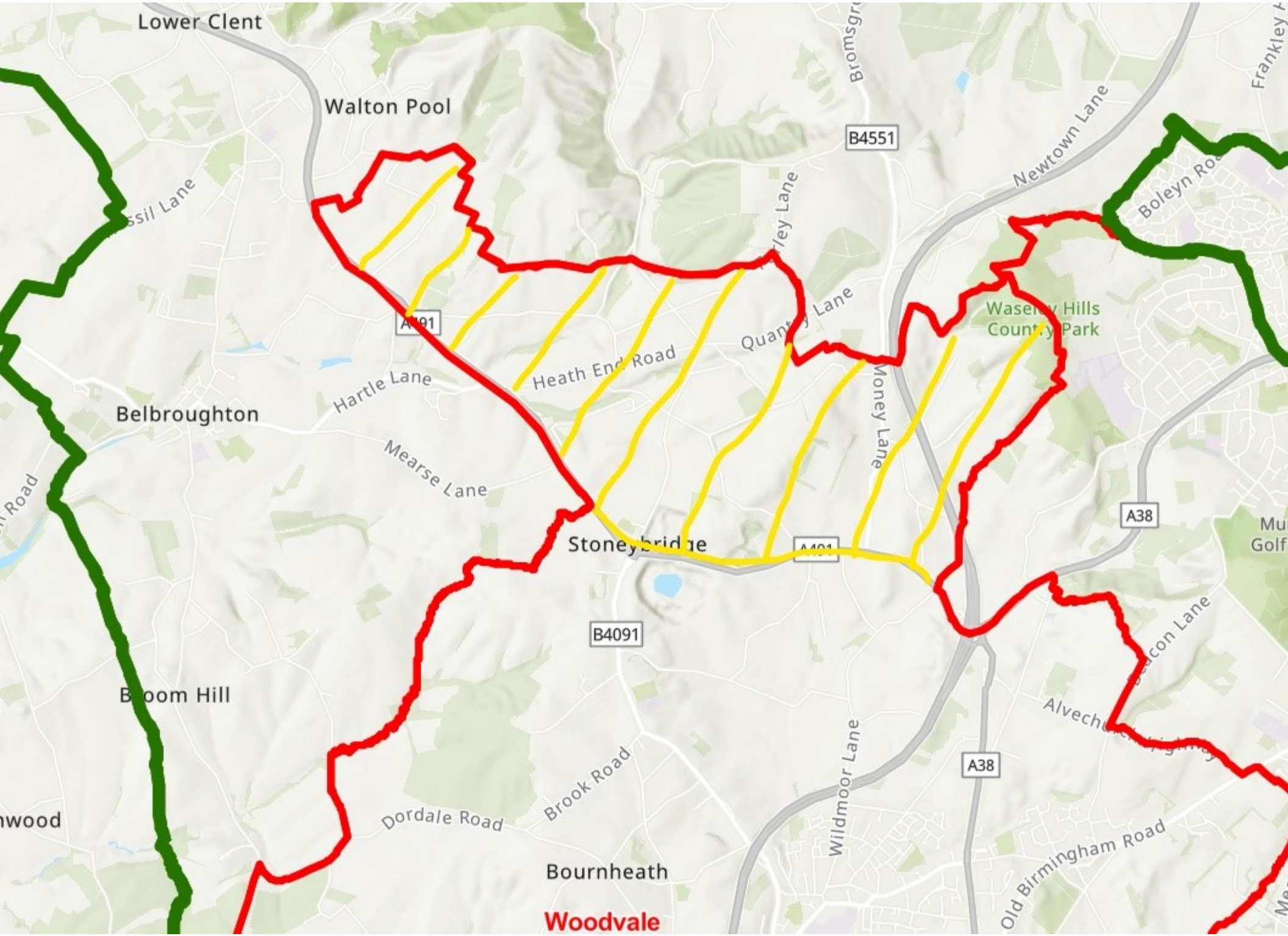
We are very much part of the cultural, historical, social and geographic makeup of the Clent Hills area. To take us out of the Clent Hills electoral area would be to isolate our community from its parish and environment. We have no connection with the Woodvale area to the south and do not wish to be a part of it.

Kind regards

Gorse Green Lane resident (Belbroughton)

Attached Documents:

- electoral-boundary-changes_li.jpg



Lower Clent
Walton Pool
B4551
Newtown Lane
Boleyn Road
Frankley
Quantry Lane
Heath End Road
Hartle Lane
Belbroughton
Mearse Lane
Money Lane
Stoneybridge
A38
B4091
Broom Hill
Brook Road
Dordale Road
Wildmoor Lane
Old Birmingham Road
Bournheath
Woodvale