

Middlesbrough

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Comment text:

Related subject: Trimdon Ward, Central Ward, Newport Ward and Park Ward

Thank you for letting me to have the opportunity to submit comments regarding Warding arrangements for Middlesbrough.

My submission is in two parts, one in relation to the area in which I live (currently known as Trimdon Ward) and the other in relation to more general issues.

TRIMDON WARD

Trimdon Ward is currently consists of Thornhill Estate, which is essentially a 1960's and 1970's development, and the more recent Stainsby Hall development. Due to the difference in the nature of these developments and also the fact that the two areas are not linked by a road but actually separated by a beck I do not think that they share the community ties and identities that you are looking for. On the other hand Polling Districts JB and JC do have much in common with Polling District KC of Kader Ward (based around The Oval). Indeed, this combination of Polling Districts was one Ward prior to the last review.

I would therefore suggest that these 3 Polling Districts be combined in one Ward.

I would also suggest that, whatever the outcome of the review, the Ward known as Trimdon Ward be renamed "Thornhill Ward". Whilst the road

running through Polling Districts JB and JC is known as Trimdon Avenue the housing development is known as “Thornhill Estate”. In fact Trimdon Avenue also runs through Kader Ward. If my suggestion regarding the incorporation of Polling District KC is adopted the new Ward could perhaps be known as “Brookfield and Thornhill Ward”.

OTHER COMMENTS

I generally do not favour multi-Member Wards unless they accurately reflect local community identities. This is especially so in the case of Wards which have 3 Councillors. The current Central and Newport Wards are one such example. They are based in the main upon the Town Centre area and the Ward boundaries are essentially created to try to balance the number of electors rather than to reflect any local community identity. In my view this is also the case in Park Ward.

I have noted that Central Ward is forecast to be 15% above the target for the number of electors so some change is obviously justified here.

I would therefore suggest that some or all of these areas be adjusted to create Wards with 2 Councillors.

Thank you

Attached Documents:

None attached