

Coventry

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Organisation Name: Allesley Parish Council, Chairman (Parish or town councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: Boundary of Allesley Parish Council, Bablake Ward

Allesley Parish Council were both surprised and alarmed that such great changes were being proposed by the council and all parties with no consultation at all with ourselves. We were in fact told that there were no proposed changes to Bablake ward in spite of the Eastern Green development.

Allesley Parish Council represent the only sizeable remaining green belt area within the city boundary, and as such are in principle in agreement with plans to cut off the parish at the A45 when Pickford Gate development is built. This will allow the Parish Council to continue the work we do with the rural area.

However, to balance this loss of area we believe that it would be sensible to simplify our boundary in other areas to reflect the residents who we actually look after.

We propose that the parish area should be extended to include the whole of Wall Hill Road and the whole of Hawkesmill Lane. The boundary within the new Bloor Homes development is illogical with some houses in and others outside of the parish. We would propose that the Parish boundary is moved to exclude all of these properties, as they get no benefit from being in the Parish.

By this proposal the boundary would run behind the houses on the west side of Browns Lane as currently, circle the Bloor Homes development and then cut to the intersection of Browns Lane and Hawkesmill Lane. It would then proceed down the middle of Hawkesmill Lane towards Wall

Hill Road, and then along the middle of Wall Hill Road up to Long Lane. This brings in an area including the White Lion pub and Birch Tree Farm. The Parish boundary would then run along the edge of Long Lane until it meets the boundary of Keresley Parish about mid way along Long Lane. It would then follow the Keresley boundary until it meets the existing Allesley Parish boundary. The remainder would be unchanged.

There are three fundamental reasons behind this proposal. Firstly, the properties which would be added to the parish are already being serviced by us, and many residents believe that they are in fact within the parish. We provide services including verge mowing, litter picking and use of our CCTV network for crime prevention, as well as being their first point of contact for many council services and local issues such as fly tipping, flooding, road repairs and fallen trees. We believe that it is fair that the cost of these should be borne by all affected residents, not just those within the boundary line. The Parish Council's precept has been increased quite sharply in recent years to cover the cost of these services which were not previously provided. By increasing the number of properties within the parish the cost per resident will be lowered.

Secondly, the loss of income from losing the area south of the A45 needs to be balanced by an increase in area to the north.

Finally, Allesley Parish Council are currently consulting residents on a change of principal authority upon the conclusion of this boundary review, with extremely positive feedback to date. As an entirely rural area we are undervalued and extremely poorly served by the City Council, and believe that moving to a neighbouring principal authority with existing rural areas would be better for the Parish and it's residents. Coventry is an almost entirely urban authority, Allesley Parish currently accounts for some 10% of the land area but only 0.15% of the population. It makes sense that the parish boundary be 'tidied up' within this boundary review, to give a clear boundary line between the city and Allesley Parish.

The attached document includes a map summarising this proposal.

Attached Documents:

- Boundary Change Proposal.pdf

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A diagram summarising this alteration is shown on the following page. Taken from the City Council's online planning map, the Blue Lines indicate the existing boundaries of Allesley and Keresley Parishes, the Red Line indicates the proposed alteration to Allesley's boundary.

