

Cheshire East

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Comment text:

Please find attached Sutton Parish Council contribution to the consultation.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me

Attached Documents:

- the-local-government-boundary-commission-rev4.pdf

The Local Government Boundary Commission - Electoral Review Consultation

This response is sent on behalf of Sutton Parish Council (SPC) for the community we serve.

There are four distinct areas within the parish of Sutton, Lyme Green, Sutton Lane Ends, Langley and the rural expanse of Higher Sutton. The Higher Sutton ward being part of the rural community boundary to the Peak District.

In former times the area was closely associated with silk printing and fabric 'finishing'. Silk products from the community were distributed throughout the whole world and textiles from Langley in particular were regarded as some of the best to have ever been produced. It is good to note that there is one silk printing works still operating in Langley which continues to supply to many leading international fashion houses and silk buyers.

Lyme Green

Lyme Green is a post war development on the outskirts of Macclesfield, separated from the town by the Macclesfield canal and by protected green belt land. Increasing urban sprawl to the west of the London Road is seen as a major concern by local residents, who are keen to protect their village community. The community has its own allotment and there are lots of local community events, often focused around the Lyme Green community park. The village will almost double in size when two major developments west of the London Road are completed.

Langley

Langley is a largely Victorian village in the foothills of the national park, Macclesfield Forest and Teggs Nose country park. It has a village pub, a village hall, cricket club, and is growing in size because of a housing development on a previous business park.

Sutton

Sutton Lane Ends is the largest of the three villages. It has a Victorian core, with later post-ward social housing development and 1970s executive homes development. The village is home to an ex-Serviceman's club, a popular primary school and pre-school, a village pub, a post office, local shop and café.

These communities are known locally as 'The three villages' and is covered by a single parish council Sutton Parish Council (SPC). The communities of Lyme Green, Langley, Sutton Lane Ends and the Rural area share many well- developed connections including school, pre-school, churches, shops, public houses, café and scouting groups. 'The Three villages' are connected by a bus route (No.14) and have been parished together for many years.

Community Ties

These communities are interlinked and care deeply about the significant community ties between 'The three villages' and work together on events. Evidenced by:

- The recent boundary review where residents sent in a significant number of responses to the consultation.
- The jubilees, where there was a float through the villages starting at Langley. Last year, this was part of Hollinhey School fair, and again, it included all groups within the villages and will be happening again this year.
- The Langley fete includes again all three villages, the sheepdog trials, the vegetable flower and garden show, competitions like the pumpkin and onion (SLOPS) which is held in each village each year.

- Christmas tree lighting events held in each village and open to all residents to attend and encouraged to join in.
- The CIC Community Group who looks after the green villages across the whole area and makes sure that our daffodils and other green areas are maintained.
- The “3 Villages Open Gardens” event is held every three years with gardens open throughout the Parish.
- By the defibrillators situated in every village and rural area supported by the Parish Council and checked by volunteers.

We have close relationships with neighbouring rural parishes, including sharing a Parish Clerk, Ward Councillor and PCSO with Rainow Parish Council. The specialist rural policing team operate across many of the rural parishes along the Peak Park fringe area. Our local Police Community Support Officer, who attends most SPC meetings and holds regular local surgeries across the parish, covers this and is able to coordinate responses to the common issues affecting these parishes.

SPC has found the current arrangement to work very well, and we have received excellent support from our Sutton Ward Councillor focusing on the rural issues that face Sutton and the other parishes within the ward and ensuring that these are represented effectively at the CEC level.

They may be borders on paper, but in reality, village life flows across borders and builds a community. Any proposed warding arrangements should ensure the integrity of the parish council boundaries and should also recognise the semi-rural nature of this community.