

Bradford

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Comment text:

Related subject: Bingley

Opposition to split of Cottingley between Bingley and Shipley (15.7.24)

I oppose the proposed splitting of Cottingley into two separate and distinct electoral wards.

I have lived in Cottingley for 48 years and see myself as both a resident of Cottingley and Bingley. I visit Bingley at least once a week, I do not visit Shipley. If I travel by train I travel from Bingley station, not Shipley.

If the part of Cottingley where I live was to be part of Shipley who would safeguard my interests? I would be in a small, self-limited area with no connections to wider Shipley. Decisions made for the benefit of Cottingley and Bingley residents by Bingley Council would be arbitrarily withheld from my area of Cottingley by these new boundaries. Conversely, Shipley decisions would affect only part of Cottingley. Cottingley could become a divided community with haves and have-nots. Now, decisions taken by Bingley Council affect all the area of Cottingley.

Cottingley Community Centre serves all of the residents in Cottingley not just half of the residents. The centre works closely with Bingley not Shipley. I believe St Michaels and All Angels church is part of Bingley parish not Shipley.

Cottingley and Bingley merge at Cottingley Bridge and the majority of children from Cottingley attend either Beckfoot or Bingley Grammar from the age of 11. They do not attend Salts Grammar or Dixons Cottingley Academy . There is no such merging in any area between Cottingley and

Shipley.
Cottingley has long been a unit. An arbitrary division to equalise voting is divisive and this equalisation can be achieved in the ways proposed by Bingley Council without the detrimental effect of splitting a community.

Attached Documents:

None attached