

Middlesbrough

Personal Details:

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

Comment text:

I have been an inhabitant of Middlesbrough for over 60 years and currently live in the Marton West ward.

Here is my response to the draft proposals by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to redraw the boundaries between Middlesbrough's wards. I am concerned that, after The Overview and Security Board Members had worked diligently in a non-partisan effort on a joint Council submission led by the Labour Party, it transpired that the Labour Party had submitted their own alternative proposal.

Turning to to the boundaries themselves:

1) Nunthorpe Ward

Grey Towers Village

As this development is accessed from the A172, Dixons Bank it seems sensible for this estate to remain within Nunthorpe ward and include Borrowby Rise and Plantation View within the ward as well.

This is also the position of Nunthorpe Parish Council after consultation with residents.

2) Marton West Ward

Debrus Park

This development has no particular affiliation with Nunthorpe and is closer to Marton West. It would seem sensible for it to remain within the Marton West ward.

This is also the position of Marton West Community Council and Nunthorpe Parish Council. Both organisations represent the views of residents in both wards.

Marton Manor

Marton West has limited facilities, there are only a few shops (including a garage) a public house and no Church or Community Centre.

Marton Manor is located on the West side of the A172, Stokesley Road. There is no logical reason why the Marton West Ward should stop at The A174, Parkway. Marton Manor has a Cricket Club and a Church with a large Church Hall that is available to the whole community. There are also a couple of public houses.

It would seem sensible that Marton Manor is brought into Marton West to provide some community facilities for residents in Marton West. Residents of Marton Manor live on the west side of Marton and by definition already have that connection with Marton West, they are only separated by the Parkway. Conversely they have no connection with Marton East.

This is also the position of Marton West Community Council.

The Community Council meetings could be held in the Church Hall instead of the basement of a pub. St Cuthberts Church is also the Anglican Church used by residents of Marton West. I was christened and confirmed there many years ago and my children both attended Sunday School. We have since taken the grandchildren to play groups there.

Stainton and Stainsby Hall Farm (New Ward)

As a former resident of Thornton, I would like to object to the following green spaces being removed from their current wards and placed into the newly proposed ward name of Stainton and Stainsby Hall Farm.

A. Mandale Field/Meadows currently in Ayresome Ward. Access is via Mandale Road.

B. The field next to Acklam Grange Secondary School and currently in Kader Ward. Direct access from residents living in Trimdon and Kader Ward and within 10 minutes walking distance from Mandale Road.

C. Newfield Village Green currently in Trimdon Ward. Direct access from residents living in Trimdon and Kader Ward, within 15 minutes walking distance from Mandale Road.

In this instance the A174, Parkway should be the cut off point for the Stainton & Stainsby Hall Farm Ward. There are currently no plans to build houses in any of the green spaces mentioned above A,B & C, therefore there would be no change to electoral numbers now or in the future. The ward arrangements for this area have worked well for decades and should remain unchanged.

Ayresome Ward

My grandparents and father lived in Acklam.

This name does not accurately reflect the area and creates confusion as to where the ward is. The short and simple name of Acklam North would be a much better one for this ward.

It is important that the new electoral arrangements reflect the views of communities who live in them and their elected councillors irrespective of their political persuasion. They need to be logical as well as convenient for local people.

The interests and identities of communities must be maintained and any changes supported by evidence of community links rather than the political preference of the current administration.

I would be grateful if the Boundary Commission would take my comments into consideration when moving boundaries and changing names.

Attached Documents:

None attached