

Bassetlaw

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: North and South Wheatley PC (Representative of parish/town council)

Comment text:

Related subject: Sturton Ward

North and South Wheatley Parish Council is very concerned about the proposal to move the Parish of North & South Wheatley from Sturton Ward to Clayworth Ward.

In geographical terms, the other villages in the proposed ward, i.e. Clayworth, Hayton, Wiseton, Clarborough and Welham are separated from Wheatley by a natural hill (see attached topographical map). Those villages have a similar feel in terms of housing design etc. North & South Wheatley are much more similar to Sturton-le Steeple and North and South Leverton all of which lie on the same road.

Nth & Sth Wheatley has strong links within its current ward, particularly with Sturton le Steeple and North Leverton. The Clays Gardening Club has a combined “Open Gardens” event with Sturton. Clays Cloggers, a walking group, has members from both villages. The Wheatley and Leverton Cricket Club is a very strong team and the Leverton Ladies Rounders Club is training, recruiting members and playing matches in Wheatley. This illustrates the social links within villages in the current Ward, which would almost certainly be affected by a change to the Ward structure.

There has been excellent collaboration between the Parish Councils within Sturton Ward - with Sturton le Steeple in particular - in recent consultations about the STEP project, the National Grid changes and Solar farm developments. One of the Solar projects covers agricultural land located equidistantly between Sturton and South Wheatley and will be seen by residents of South Wheatley. Having acknowledged this, Sturton PC would be prepared to cooperate on joint initiatives, using any CIL money which would be awarded as a result – for the benefit of both

parishes.

The proposed STEP project will have a massive effect on local people. Nth & Sth Wheatley is located 3km from the West Burton power station site and will certainly be impacted by this development. Nth & Sth Wheatley Parish Council needs to maintain a strong voice in the consultation around this project on behalf of residents and this will undoubtedly be lost if it is no longer in the same ward as the site.

The movement of Nth & Sth Wheatley into a different ward, separated from parishes with similar concerns and facing upcoming significant change (both positive and negative) will surely negatively affect the democratic voice of the community.

To this end the Parish Council would like to suggest two alternatives for the Commission to consider. The first is that that Clayworth Ward extends North to include Gringley on the Hill, rather than East to include North and South Wheatley. Gringley on the Hill and Clayworth have land between them that was highlighted for Solar farm development and have worked together on this so there is already a close relationship between these villages.

The second option would be to consider a two-Councillor ward for the whole area impacted by the very significant power station developments - Cottam Power Station and West Burton Power Station - situated within a few kilometres of each other. There will be two very large redevelopment sites - with various NSIPs (STEP plus solar farms plus anything on the Cottam power station) - with strategic significance for the area offering a strong justification for a dual councillor ward offering a coordinated approach across a wider area than normal.

Attached Documents:

- [topographical-map-of-wheatley.png](#)

