

York

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Comment text:

Please find attached submission.

Kind Regards

Nigel

Nigel Ayre
Leader of City of York Liberal Democrat Group
Ward Member Heworth Without City of York Council

Attached Documents:

- boundary-commission.pdf

I am making this submission on behalf of the many residents that have contacted me disappointed at the suggested changes that would remove huge sections of the existing Heworth Without Ward and create an artificial distinction between communities who have lived together for over 60 years. This represents my views but predominantly summarises the many views that have been presented to me as ward councillor.

While there is currently an administrative separation between the parished and unparished areas of Heworth Without this is a historical anomaly. Hempland School and Christ Church have for 6 decades served as the beating heart of the community of Heworth Without. They were developed together specifically to serve the houses of the Elm Park and Woodlands housing areas and in doing so forever tied the two communities together and made them distinct from the original Heworth area. A division crystalised with these streets being severed from the Holy Trinity parish and added to the new Christ Church parish.

History of area

1951 – Woodlands (part)/Westlands/Elmlands Only



1962 – Addition of Ashley Park area and Elm Park area/completion of Woodlands/Straylands. Creation of Greenfield Park Drive



*Also added added in York's 'first' supermarket Northern opened in 1958 to serve the new housing developments until 1987

[The 'lost' supermarkets of York remembered - in pictures | York Press](#)



1971 Completion of build out – Bramley Garth/Allington Drive area. Greenfield Estate

Christ Church constructed and Hempland School constructed to cater for additional demand of community added from 1960 onwards

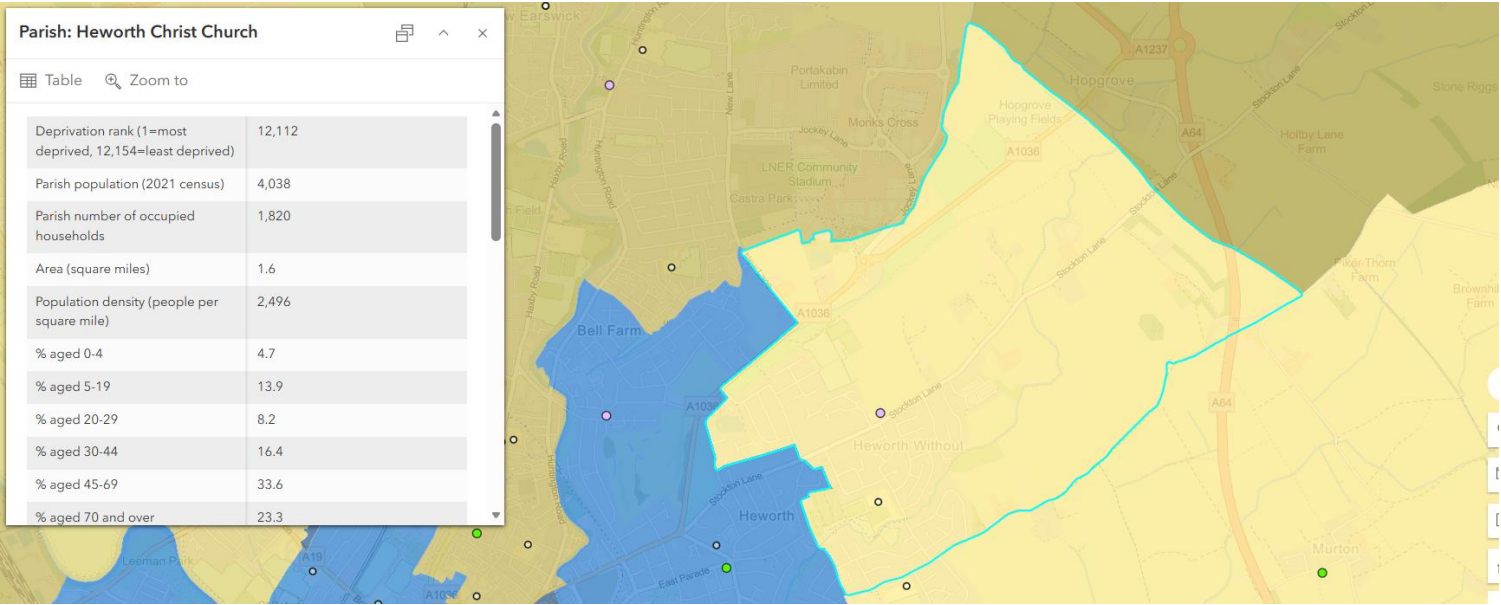


Wider community boundaries

Hempland School catchment area



Christ Church parish boundary



Christ Church originally formed as a daughter church to Heworth Holy Trinity, however in 1998 order in council created the new ecclesiastical boundary.

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Identity area

Type of entity	Corporate body
Authorized form of name	Church of England, York, Christ Church, Stockton Lane, parish
Other form(s) of name	• Christ Church, Heworth parish

Description area

Dates of existence	1964-
History	Christ Church, Stockton Lane was originally a daughter church of Heworth, Holy Trinity, and it is from this earlier period that the records currently in the Borthwick date. However, in 1998 an Order in Council created the new benefice and ecclesiastical parish of Heworth, Christ Church which exists today as an independent parish.

Relationships area

Related entity	Church of England, York, Holy Trinity, Heworth, parish (1870-)
	Category of the relationship: associative

Control area

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Summary

The existing boundary of Heworth Without represents a distinct community. It follows the original Heworth Without Parish council boundary incorporating the wider development that occurred in the 1960s and 1970s. These developments formed a distinct community based around the new school, new church and new supermarket created to serve the new communities built in Ashley Park, Greenfield Park Drive and the Elm Park estate.

While there could be a suggestion that Woodlands Grove/Westlands Grove/Elmlands Grove predate this expansion and are part of the original 'Heworth' area – this boundary is entirely artificial and would make no sense. The creation of the Christ Church Parish outside of the 'Heworth Holy Trinity' parish in 1998 established the newly formed community of 'Heworth Without.' Similarly the building of the new school ties these houses firmly into the Heworth Without area serving as a community facility for both the parished area and the area outside of the civil parish but within the 1998 ecclesiastical parish.

Taking the civil parish boundary, the Christ Church boundary and the school catchment boundary there are clear synergies. These strongly reinforce the current ward boundaries and place the area North of Stockton Lane firmly within the Heworth Without community.

I would argue that were there to be a governance review the areas within the Christ Church parish would be included in an expanded Heworth Without civil parish. Had such a review been undertaken any time following housing expansion in the 60s it is likely there would be a single member ward coterminous with the parish. Any attempts to sever those streets from the Heworth Without ward are therefore not inline with the boundary commission criteria.

In contrast there are however no community links with the Derwenthorpe area. This area is recently constructed, distinctly in Osbaldwick and wholly contained within Osbaldwick Parish. It is not part of the civil or ecclesiastical parish and not part of the Hempland School area. Notwithstanding the error in dividing that area into three wards there are simply no community connections between Heworth Without and Derwenthorpe. Bad Bargain Lane serves as a clear dividing line between Heworth Without and Osbaldwick and also represents the parish boundary. This boundary continues further into the greenbelt where it also serves as the boundary between Heworth Without and Osbaldwick across the development of ST7 strategic site. The ST7 site is in split ownership with the two halves to be developed separately. It is sensible therefore that the northern section remains in Heworth Without and the Southern section in Osbaldwick. There is no sensible reason for not continuing this natural, and parish boundary the entirety of Bad Bargain Lane. Children of Derwenthorpe attend Osbaldwick Primary School not Hempland Primary School. They have their own distinct community centre and their own play and recreation areas. The community focuses

South not North. Transport links from Derwenthorpe are via Osbaldwick Lane/Temple Avenue/Fifth Avenue. There is no vehicular access from Derwenthorpe to Heworth Without. The bus routes from Derwenthorpe (funded by land owner contributions for the whole site) are via Osbaldwick Lane and do not at any point enter the rest of the proposed Heworth Without ward.

Christ Church parish boundaries show 1800 dwellings. ST7 offers potential for 370 new homes bringing the total to 2170 well within the agreed boundary commission range. This boundary covers both the civil parish boundary and the school catchment boundary reflecting the expanded community of Heworth without post 1962.

The following community groups held at Christ Church cater for the church parish community reflecting the wider Heworth Without city boundary.

- Monday 9:30 am to 12:30 pm Coffee Shop in the Church
- Monday 13:30 pm to 14:45 pm Toddlers in the Church Hall (NOT ON 25th May)
- Tuesday (2nd and 4th each month) 10:00 am to 11:30 pm Tuesday Fellowship in the Church Lounge
- Wednesday 10:00 am to 11:00 am Prayer at the Vicarage 2nd/3rd/4th/5th Wednesday of each month
- Wednesday 18:00 pm to 19:00 pm Prayer at the Church 1st Wednesday of each month
- Thursday (1st and 3rd each month) 13:45 pm to 15:30 pm Senior Friends in the Church Hall
- Craft Group Occurring Monthly. Every Third Tuesday at 7 p.m. for 1 hour, 30 mins
- Friday 10:00 am Men's Bible Study at 45 Greenfield Park Drive YO31 1JB
- Home Groups: There are five home groups that meet on various days and at different times.

Christ Church vicarage sits on Lawnway one of the streets proposed to be severed from the ward and church by the new boundary

"The Hut" is an auxiliary building to the church. It was donated to the church by a resident of Straylands Grove and through a combination of church and Heworth Without Ward funding was originally fitted out as a youth centre for children in the ward operating as such for nearly a decade. It continues to provide auxiliary community use to the ward for example the craft group mentioned above. It is a perfect example of the synergy and community between the houses north and south of Stockton lane covered by the existing ward boundary

The existing ward boundary is therefore the only reasonable alternative. Any suggestion to sever the northern part from its community roots in the church, school and play facilities would be counter to boundary commission objectives. If the ward was deemed too large then reduction could and should focus on the areas at the periphery of these conflagrations.

- Polling District YFC. School catchment, Christ Church Parish. Not part of the ward prior to 2011. Pre 1962 Build. Not part of civil parish.
- Hempland Lane/Drive. School catchment. Pre 1962 Build. Not part of Christ Church parish. Not part of Civil Parish

Additional Response to Labour submission to Corporate Scrutiny 06/07/26

I note the suggestion from York Labour party that was presented to scrutiny on 6th July 2026. This suggestion shows a fundamental lack of understanding of the community of Heworth Without. The arbitrary line between Greenfield Park Drive and Elm Park Way does not exist physically or as a community division. Both Elm Park Way, Elm Park View and Greenfield Park Drive share a common border with the playing field. This has been used as cricket pitch for several decades and more latterly as a rugby pitch. As such it is used as a communal space and many properties have direct access to the field as a shared community space. As noted above the streets on Elm Park Way, View and Vale, were built at the same time as the streets around Greenfield and are part of the same community centred around the school and the church. I also note the proposed suggestion falls outside the ten percent tolerance and is therefore not practical nor reflective of the local community.