

York

Personal Details:

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

Comment text:

Related subject: Changes to Rural West and Acomb West Ward boundaries

I would like to register my strong objection to the proposed amendments of the York ward boundaries which would see my property move from Rural York West (Upper Poppleton) to Acomb West Ward (Acomb). I have outlined the reasons for my objection below which you have a statutory obligation to consider in full as part of the consultation process.

The proposed amendment is contrary to long standing historic boundaries. Land within the ring road has long formed part of Upper Poppleton, prior to the creation of the York Outer Ring Road in the late 20th century (a relatively recent addition when considering York's historic development). On the First Edition Ordnance Survey map published 1853 that the land on which Langley Gate now occupies was enclosed agricultural land associated with Poppleton Lodge, an early 19th century Postmedieval Farm complex which is recorded as a non-designated heritage asset on the City of York Historic Environment Record. It remains so on the Second Edition of the OS in 1892. By 1907, the OS map shows amalgamation of field boundaries and a direct functional relationship between the land which now comprises Langley Gate and Poppleton Villa on Low Poppleton Lane. This relationship remains evident on successive map updates well into the Postwar period. The amendments claim that encroachment from Acomb in the Postwar period has defaced the boundary between the two areas, but this claim is unsubstantiated and inaccurate. The current boundary north of Low Poppleton Lane continues to function well. When travelling along the A59 Boroughbridge Road, the shift in townscape character is evident changing from suburban south of the boundary to more rural and leafier north of the boundary. Langley Gate is set back from the A59 behind a landscape boundary with a shelter belt of mature trees which perpetuates the more rural village character of Upper Poppleton.

I am a lifelong resident, born and raised in York. I decided to purchase my property in Upper Poppleton just a year ago due to a fondness for the area and relationship with the community. I did not chose to purchase a property in Acomb, an area which I have no affiliation with or fondness for as naturally, I do not live there. I paid a premium to live in Upper Poppleton and the personal cost of the amendments to the ward boundaries would be that my property decreases in value and my car and home insurance increase. Should I go on to have children, it is my desire that they attend the local school Poppleton Ousebank and not Carr Lane School which this amendment would put in question. I very much consider myself an active part of the Upper Poppleton community; I commute from the Poppleton rail station, use the local pubs and sports club, attend and enter the Village Fayre and local events. As such I identify much more strongly as part of the rural community and ward. I do not feel I would be fairly represented as part of West Acomb Ward.

I understand that the principal reason for the amendments is to balance elector numbers across the wards. However, this would not be achieved by the amendments as Rural West York would be left significantly below the average.

In summary, the proposed amendments are in direct conflict with historic property boundaries (which remain apparent today); the distinct and well-established local character and identity; the wishes and desires of residents and lastly but perhaps most importantly; the objective behind the revisions. I strongly urge you not to proceed with the amendments, to the people who will be affected it is not a simple democratic 'balancing exercise' but a decision which could have deep emotional and financial implications for residents.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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----- Forwarded message -----

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Attached Documents:

None attached