

Wolverhampton City Council

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Dear Sir/ Madam, I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed boundary changes to Penn Ward. I am a resident of Marlbrook Drive, which will be directly affected by the change, proposing to move our street into Blakenhall Ward. As you may well know if you have visited the area, this makes little sense. There is and always has been a natural boundary - geographic and community - across the top of Goldthorn Hill. Please also consider these additional points when you make your decisions: - Penn ward boundaries should be maintained as they currently are. Penn Ward has similarities with Merry Hill, Tettenhall Regis, and Tettenhall Wightwick, and these three Wards are already recommended by LGBCE and local council to remain as they are. - The test around clear boundaries is definitely compromised as relinquishing both sides of the Coalway Rd to Graiseley, and taking both sides of Goldthorn Hill and Coton Rd to Blakenhall, leaves Penn Ward with no strong, clearly identifiable boundaries. - The other test around 'reflecting community identity' has been ignored. Penn Ward will lose its well-loved Catholic Church in our community. St. Michaels Church at the moment comes under Penn Ward and a lot of Penn Residents are proud of this local community church. For our family, as a family with strong Irish Catholic links, this church is where we have worshipped, celebrated confirmations, wedding, christenings and our immediate family's funeral services have all been held here. - The average number of electors in a Ward per Councillor is 3,175. So the proposal to maintain Penn Ward as it is will still leave Councillors with electors over the forecast period of 2026. - Penn Ward has some lovely shops and services which are a central part of our community lifestyle. Whether this be Tantasic, the local post office, weekly trips to the Starting Gate pub or as members of the Penn bowling club, the social focus of our community is down the hill into Penn. It never has, and never will be Blakenhall. Let's face it. This boundary change makes no sense. It could only be proposed by people who do not live in the area, for whatever statistical or political purpose being proposed. 90% of community life from these roads are focused down in Penn, and occasional trips to Aldi being the only reason to turn the other way down the hill. I hope you take into consideration the social linkages, community affiliation, and geographical landmarks that all suggest there's no reason to support the proposed changes and keep Marlbrook Dr and the other roads where they are, under Penn Ward. Many thanks, [REDACTED].

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded