

## Rossendale Borough Council

### Personal Details:

Name:

E-mail:

Postcode:

Organisation Name:

### Comment text:

I Think Whitworth should be one ward with three councillors which should include the whole of Shawforth, the people of Shawforth have no connections to Irwell and Bacup and never have had, there is a natural geographical boundary. I have taken some time to research the historic and up to date details as below. The River-Spodden which starts up at Billygate Gander Brow Farm and Shackleton Farm in Shawforth OL12 8BS which flows through Facit, Whitworth, Healey Wards down to under the Healey Dell Viaduct onto Rochdale in Great Manchester, I note with interest where there is a natural boundaries such as Motorways or a River which provides a clear defining boundary Whitworth currently has a population of 7,500, of which 7,200 are currently registered with Whitworth Medical Centre. Whitworth Dental Practice currently has over 4,500 residents registered with them. We have a great bus service which runs every 20 mins Monday to Saturday from the Shawforth Boundary down to Healey Corner then into Rochdale, over 85% of our local residents who travel to their place of work and many of our students who attend Hopwood Hall College in Rochdale also use the local bus services or local hospital appointments, must of our communities' travel southwards into Rochdale and beyond. Whitworth in Bloom Working Group and their volunteers, all of whom carryout a number of local environmental projects from the Shawforth Boundary down to Healey Corner across the whole of Whitworth, undertaking planting and tending a number of Public open spaces, to taking care of the local Memorial Gardens and Cenotaph, they are able to obtain small amounts of grant-funding from the Town Council and the local Community Partnership which enables their wonderful volunteers to keep Whitworth looking wonderful across all area's. The Tourism and Leisure Committee organise many local events all year round solely for the communities benefit from the Shawforth Morris Men and women Dancers along with many other Morris Dancers host the Rushcart which starts up at the Shawforth Boundary, which as now been running since 1975, the original Rushcart Event started in the 1850s, at this year's event, was very successful with over 500 visitors plus local residents and their families. We have the following groups and local organisations starting with. The Scouting Movement, which made up of Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Scout Leaders, with over 80 members in total. The Girl Guiding Movement, which is made up of Rainbows, Brownies, Guild's, Guidleaders with over 70 members in total. Whitworth Valley Football Club who has 18 teams age range from 9 to 35 years of age plus coaching staff, total membership of 260 all of whom live within the Whitworth Valley from the Shawforth Boundary down to Healey Corner. The Friends of Whitworth Library and their wonderful volunteers, who provided after school clubs and activities for our local school, of which there are four primary school and a local Community High School, starting with St John's with St Michael's in Shawforth, St Anselm's RC in Facit, St Bart's Church of England in Whitworth and Tonacliffe County Primary School in the Healey Ward, finally Whitworth Community High School, there are 1,500 local school children with 99.9% attending from the Shawforth Boundary down to Healey Corner. Whitworth Historical Society who provided a valuable resource which very well used by local residents, children and many of their families who undertaking local history projects or tracing their family tree's, with over 250 members and supporters. Whitworth Swimming Club with over 100 members with an age ranging from four-year-old up to many of our senior residents 80 plus Men in Sheds along with their wonderful volunteers who help with any males over the age of fifty with Mental Health concerns or issues, which in my humble opinion is needed now more than ever before they provide any additional help and support for people who live within the Shawforth Boundary down to Healey Corner in Whitworth. We have the Lighthouse Food-share Project who have many volunteers they are currently providing help and support to over 250 families and elderly residents across the whole of Whitworth five days per week. We currently have a number of Life Opportunity Centres the first of which is based on Market Street in Shawforth, the second is the Gateway Centre on Oak Street in Shawforth both provide day-care services for residents with long term care with both Mental Health and Disability issues. There is a long-term care home for elderly residents who need extra

care and support for elderly residents with dementia which is called Barley View on Market Street in Facit. We then have Healey Care on Lloyd Street in Whitworth who provide day care for those who are in need of long-term care for residents' disability care, they also have three other residential Homes across the Healey Ward Healey House, Oakenshaw House along with a bungalow within the grounds which provides a halfway home before residents are provided with supportive living accommodation to provide for their needs. We also have Greenbrook House which provides sheltered accommodation scheme for our elderly residents who need extra care, on Cowm Park Way South in Whitworth. We have Riddiough Court which as an onsite Warden should residents need extra support. We have Masseycroft comprising of Seven Bungalows and Six One Apartments with more the One Hundred and Twenty Residents age range of 55 to 90 years of age. We also have two vital online information website newsletters Making Whitworth a Great Place to Live and the History of Whitworth both of which are an excellent resource for the whole community. We also have the Whitworth Valley News which is hand delivered by Whitworth Sports Council four times a year to over 4,000 homes from the Shawforth Boundary down to Healey Corner in Whitworth. My response to the Boundary Commission Review of Rossendale Borough Council's Ten Wards with Three Members per ward will provide some sort of clarification as to why, I feel we have a well-balanced approach to what makes our community from the Shawforth Boundary down to Healey Corner in Whitworth such a very special place to live.

**Uploaded Documents:**

None Uploaded