

## Boundary of Bayston Hill electoral division

There is a strong case for Bayston Hill to now resume its former place, under old SCC, as a single member division; with its boundary coterminous with that of local Bayston Hill PC.

On the map of Shrewsbury's wider hinterland Bayston Hill is clearly shown as a separate and distinctive individual urban settlement sited in an otherwise rural area. Although still defined as a "village", Bayston Hill's size and facilities are quite comparable to many of the market "towns" across our County, such as Wem and Church Stretton.

The settlement has central parade of shops, with a supermarket, two takeaways, a Post Office and a busy chemist's dispensary. The local SC branch library is now part funded by our PC, after polling all residents. There are three public houses, two churches, a large modern school and a well-appointed community hall with ambitious plans for a second extension.

This hall is in use most days and every evening and hosts the annual pantomime, regular drama productions and monthly cinema shows. The busy hall is base for the many diverse clubs and societies attended and supported by our large and active local community.

The Parish Council manage large playing fields and a comprehensive range of sport and leisure facilities including separate tennis, net ball, 3G Astro courts and a bowling green. The PC maintain a youth activities area with an impressive BMX track, skateboard park & MUGA. The very active Bayston Hill Juniors football club have teams across all the age groups

There is waiting list for the vegetable allotments site managed by the local gardening club.

All in all, most BH residents are very proactive, sharing a strong sense of place & community. The settlement has effective, accountable and convenient local governance arrangements. Any divisional transfer of BH resident voters would confuse, discourage and inconvenience those affected; particularly having to travel much longer distances to cast their votes.

Part reallocation of our long established close and cohesive settlement, to satisfy Boundary Commission electoral targets, would be very inappropriate. The Common area on eastern edge is site of our Saxon hill fort and of the old church and school and the village green.

Transfer only of the distant Bestune Way housing development (directly r/o Meole estate) and perhaps of the cul-de-sac opposite, with its 8 terraced Pulley farm cottages now entirely separated from the main BH settlement by the A5 dual carriageway, *might* be acceptable.

As the local Councillor, I respectfully submit that Bayston Hill has a clear case that merits some variance in the latest targets for uniformity of all the County's electoral divisions.

Thank you for your patience . . .

tc

22/01/23

