

Worcestershire

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Comment text:

Related subject: District B4 currently in St Peter Division and proposed to move to Nunnery Division

I strongly disagree with your proposal to move District B4 from the St. Peter Division to the Nunnery Division. This is the same proposal as you put forward for the revision of the city seats and fortunately in that instance you recognised the strength of community feeling that attaches this area to Battenhall and not to Nunnery. The fact that you would differentiate between the City Ward and the Divisional Boundary will just add to confusion. More pertinently, there is no historic or current community connection between District B4 and Nunnery. The A44 London Road is more of a physical dividing line than the railway line you are purporting to see as a physical obstacle detaching us from the rest of Battenhall/St. Peter Division, I give you three examples:

Firstly, our local Primary School is Red Hill Primary School not Nunnerywood Primary School. I had the pleasure of serving as a Governor there until the start of this year and I can assure you that it is a significant hub in the life of our area. It is of course also one of the principal services provided by the County Council to its residents. It therefore seems illogical to remove us from the Division which covers our local primary school and moves us into a Division which does not.

Secondly, practically all of District B4 overlooks Middle Battenhall Farm, indeed the boundary of the District B4 includes some of the farmland and former Pale Park of the Scheduled Monument there. Middle Battenhall, not edge of Battenhall and certainly not Middle of Nunnerywood. The whole of the historic site of Middle Battenhall is actually shared between St. Peter's Ward and Battenhall Ward and thus encompassed totally within the County's St. Peter Division. Residents have long campaigned (including many in District B4) to preserve this historic site and it has helped us to have a single County Councillor able to bring focus on this. It has been a community campaign lasting over two decades and shows the strength of attachment to Battenhall and its environment. There is no such connection with Nunnerywood.

Thirdly, historically District of B4 was in the Parish of St. Peter the Great and the Western half was in St. Peter the Great County Parish when that

was separated from the City in 1894. It remained part of that parish until the second world war. Thus, being part of the St. Peter Division is a recognition of this area's history, community and culture. District B4 still abuts the boundary of the Parish of St. Peter the Great County, local residents within District B4 have served on its Parish Council over the last decade because of the community of interest that exists across the two areas. To now artificially separate the two parts to reach some statutory requirement. just because you think a railway line is an easy boundary on the map would be to fly in the face of the reality on the ground. Many other areas of Worcester are artificial communities as far as the maps are concerned but District B4 and its place in St. Peter Division is not one of them.

I urge you to reconsider this misplaced proposal and to follow the logic of your own decision making in respect of the City Wards and keep District B4 in the St. Peter Division where it rightly belongs.

Attached Documents:

None attached