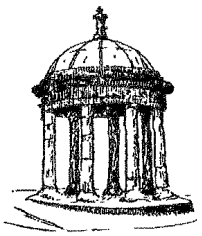
MOUNTSORREL PARISH COUNCIL



Mrs J E Broughton
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11 June 2003

Mr D O Pitt
Leics County Council
County Hall
Glenfield
Leicester LE3 8RA

Dear Mr Pitt

PERIODIC ELECTORAL REVIEW OF LEICS COUNTY COUNCIL

At the Parish Council meeting on Monday June 9th, I advised Parish Councillors of the draft proposals.

Councillors do not want to have the Parish of Mountsorrel split between 2 County Councillors which it appears will happen if the draft proposals go ahead.

It was thought that Mountsorrel Ward could be joined with Quorn and Mountsorrel Castle to make sufficient for 1 County Councillor. Alternatively, the Mountsorrel Castle element of the Quorn/ Mountsorrel Castle Ward could be put with Mountsorrel Ward and Rothley.

Both of these revisions ensure that the Parish of Mountsorrel is not divided between 2 County Councillors.

The proposal appears to be based purely on numerical grounds whereas this important matter of representation of the people should be above simple mathematical considerations. The integrity of the Parish is of primary importance.

Please put forward the objections of Mountsorrel Parish Council to the draft proposals to split the Parish between 2 County Councillors, as this will cause administrative difficulties as well as confusion to the parishioners.

Yours sincerely

J E Broughton (Mrs)
Clerk

Borough of Oadby & Wigston

Chief Executive's Office

Internet:
Chief Executive@oadby-wigston.gov.uk

Please ask for: Mrs R Hyde
Extension: 609/Direct Line 2572609
Our ref: JWW/gh
Your ref: DOP/CC/1/C

Mr J Sinnott
Chief Executive
Leicestershire County Council
County Hall
Glenfield
Leicester
LE3 8RA

For the Attention of Mr D O Pitt

Letter also faxed

17th June 2003

Dear John

Re: Periodic Electoral Review of Leicestershire County Council

At last week's meeting of Policy and Resources Committee, Members examined the initial draft proposal in respect of electoral divisions in Oadby and Wigston Borough.

Members asked that I forward the following comments to you:-

1. Oadby become a single electoral division, electing two Members.
2. South Wigston be joined with the old part of Central Ward (now part of Wigston Fields) to form a single division.
3. The remainder of Wigston Fields be joined similarly with the new Wigston St Wolstans Ward.
4. All Saints Ward be joined with Wigston Meadowcourt.

On behalf of the Council, I should be grateful if you would take the above proposals into consideration within the Electoral Review, as far as it effects Oadby and Wigston.

Thank you for your help

Yours sincerely

R W E Hyde

Mr R Hyde
Chief Executive

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

		Electorate 2002	% Difference Based on average **8863** voters	Projected Electorate 2007	% Difference Based on average **9166** voters
1	Oadby Grange	5117		5087	
	Oadby St Peters	3176		3350	
	Oadby Woodlands	3077		3271	
	Oadby Uplands	3389		3365	
	Oadby Brocks Hill	3121		3099	
	Total	17880	0.87	18172	-0.87
2	South Wigston	5677		6019	
	Wigston Fields (part)	2014		2005	
	Total	7691	-13.22	8024	-12.46
3	Wigston Fields (part)	3045		3036	
	Wigston St Wolstans	4992		5251	
	Total	8037	-9.32	8287	-9.59
4	Wigston All Saints	4917		4938	
	Wigston Meadowcourt	4788		4759	
	Total	9705	9.50	9697	5.79
		43313		44180	
	Total Electorate	43313		44180	

FAX

For the attention of David Pitt
From: Simon Galton CC
Date: 15th June 2003

David

I have just read your report to the Constitution Committee and wish to place on record my strong objection to your revised recommendation for the present Billesdon Division, which seems to be largely based on the comments of Kevin Feltham.

As you will recall, this proposal is similar to the one drawn up by John Ward which you gave me right at the beginning of the process. However it was not proposed during the initial draft proposals for good reasons in my opinion and I am disappointed to see it is being recommended for acceptance now.

My main objections to the proposal can be summarised as follows:

The village of Billesdon is the heart of the existing division. The recent Review of Rural Services carried out by the County Council concluded that Billeson is a rural centre serving the surrounding smaller villages. Local ties would be lost as a consequence of removing Billesdon from the Division. It is vital that the links between these smaller villages and Billesdon are maintained and that one local member is able to represent the interests of the whole area when decisions about service provision are being made. Conversely, Billesdon has virtually no links with Kibworth or Great Glen.

The proposed new division would have extremely poor community identity and would be difficult to represent due to its size and distance from one end to the other. The Division would stretch from the City boundary at Scraptoft to the Northamptonshire boundary at Bringhurst!

In my view the problem arises because of the recent review of district boundaries which resulted in the creation of the current Billesdon District Ward. This ward was opposed by local residents and others on the grounds of poor community identity, but was accepted because of the numbers game. Not splitting the district ward will only compound the problem and in this instance I would argue that the importance of retaining community identity and existing local ties, far outweighs coterminosity.

I shall be pursing these points on Wednesday. We have a group meeting on Monday evening and I shall be reporting the Group's views on all the revised draft proposals to the Constitution Committee.

Regards

Simon Galton.

David Pitt

From: David Taylor [david.taylor42@virgin.net]
Sent: 15 June 2003 23:31
To: David Pitt
Cc: Simon Galton
Subject: RE: Periodic Electoral Review of Leicestershire County Council

Dear Mr Pitt

Further to my comments regarding the above, I understand a report has now been written. Could I just clarify that I feel that the Nevil District Ward should be removed from the proposed division containing Kibworth and placing into the division with Thurnby & Billesdon for electoral equality reasons only.

I understand that County Councillor Feltham and Mr Garnier MP also support this move. However I understand that they wish the Billesdon District Ward to be wholly in the division with Kibworth. This is something I would not support for the following reasons:

1. This would negate some of the electoral equality benefits of moving Nevil ward into the Billesdon Division.
2. Billesdon District Ward was disputed at the District ward review because it was felt that Billesdon did not have a natural affinity with the villages to south.
3. Billesdon should clearly remain with the villages of Houghton, Skeffington, Thurnby and Tilton.
4. The A47 runs through all of these areas and it very sensible that it remains within one division.

I would appreciate it if you make it clear that my representations strongly favour the continued split of Billesdon District Ward and the moving of Nevil Ward into the proposed Division containing Billesdon Village and Thurnby.

Regards

David Taylor
District Councillor for Market Harborough Logan Ward.

-----Original Message-----
From: David Pitt [mailto:DPitt@leics.gov.uk]
Sent: 10 June 2003 12:35
To: 'david.taylor42@virgin.net'
Subject: Periodic Electoral Review of Leicestershire County Council

Dear Councillor Taylor,

Thank you for your message. I will see that its contents are drawn to the attention of members of the County Council.

David Pitt,
Head of Democratic Services