Shropshire Council

Date: Thursday, 18 July 2024

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Council Chamber, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND

Contact: Tim Ward, Committee Officer
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COUNCIL

TO FOLLOW REPORT (S)

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COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE AGENDA

Albrighton/Donington/Boscobel

Representation received from Sylvia Pledger

I am a Cllr in Albrighton, possibly the longest serving Cllr, a member of the Working Group who discussed the proposed merger of Albrighton, Boscobel and Donington, and a resident for 46 years.

I have seen many changes.

A number of years ago, it was decided to discontinue having two Wards in Albrighton, because, a) residents wanted to vote for Cllrs who lived in the other Ward because they felt these were better Cllrs, b) residents thought they could only contact 'their Cllr', c) it divided the Village for no reason, d) we as Cllrs could see no benefit in having two Wards.

Donington has always been a separate Council. This also causes discord within the Village.

I have advocated for one combined Council for years, and was very pleased when the suggestion of the Boundary changes, seemed to be heading in this direction.

Both Councils met together twice and instantly rejected the idea of three Wards.

This has never been something any of us wanted.

I, and others do not want two Wards.

Our recommendation was for ONE Council with no Wards.

I was very disappointed to read the Final recommendations last week. Especially the Three ward suggestion.

By implementing your suggestions, this will take us back several years. It will divide the Village again, for no good reason. Donington will remain as Donington, electing their 'own' Cllrs, as some residents have already said, and Albrighton will have separate Cllrs.

If your suggestions are implemented, why did we bother to do this?

We will have achieved nothing , other than to revert back about 15 years

What I was hoping this review would achieve, is one Village Council covering all of Albrighton, Boscobel and Donington, with x number of Cllrs working for the whole area.

Some Donington residents are already saying that they will have their own Cllrs.

Please can you reconsider your proposal and if we have to have Wards, please only two.

One Parish Council for the whole Albrighton and Donington area makes far more sense

Your proposal has implications for all our staff. We have a Clerk at each Council and employ seven staff in total. Even more difficulties for us to resolve.

Ludlow/Ludford

Representation from Ludlow Town Council

Ludlow Town Council believes that the decision not to expand the parish of Ludlow by creating Ludford ward (the whole of the existing parish becoming the ward) is a poor decision that will undermine the effectiveness and development of Ludlow.

The council also makes the following statement for consideration by Shropshire Council:

'The Government housing targets for the country are growth led.

 The parish of Ludford is constricting the growth of Ludlow.

 Ludlow has a strong identity and people want to be part of it. Residents settling in Ludford are told by the housing developers that they are moving to Ludlow. The newest housing development is called 'Ludlow Green'.

How can Ludlow maintain a coherent community when it is denied growth.   Ludlow receives no contribution from Ludford residents for amenities and local services – placing an unfair burden on Ludlow ratepayers.   Ludford ward will strengthen the town of Ludlow.

The artificial constriction of Ludlow's boundary is unworkable. The Ludlow boundary being sold by Ludford housing developers needs to become Ludlow's true boundary so that Ludlow can grow with integrity.'