

The Nedge

Email responses - 321

At its meeting 12 May 2025, the Boundary Review Committee agreed a series of draft proposals for future arrangements of town and parish council anangements that were to be the subject of the second phase of consultation of the Community Governance Review process. The proposed mrrngements for consultation, including the rationale for the draft proposal affecting both Hollinswood & ,Randlay and Stirchley & Brookside Parish Council is: THE NEDGE PARISH COUNCIL It is proposed that the two existing parish council ofHollinswood & Randlay and Stirchley & Brookside are merged to form The Nedge Parish Council. This would make the Parish Council co-terminous with the Borough boundaries, The area of The Nedge has, historically, had some movement in boundaries which suggests that the anangements that have been in place historically have not necessarily best reflected the local community. The geography of this area is ve1y diverse and it is difficult to create community governance arrangements predicated solely on the geography but they all have connections to the A442 as a common transport link. The proposed Nedge Parish Council will have an electorate of 1 l ,324 and be served by 18 parish councillors across 3 parish wards.TF3 2LY - the lack of any information makes this un-supportable.

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I write as a long time resident of Hollinswood and Randlay, but with connections to Stirchley and Brookside and I OPPOSE the proposed merger of the current parish councils to form a single parish of the Nedge. The whole purpose of a parish council is to represent the needs and interests of the community it serves at a local level, whereas the Borough Councillor represent the community at a higher, slightly more distant & less neighbourly level. It therefore doesn't make sense for the Parish and Borough Councils to cover the same area. The information pack admits that the geography of the proposed parish "is very diverse and it is difficult to create community governance arrangements predicated solely on the geography", and the only commonality the proposal can find is that "they all have connections to the A442 as a common transport link". This appears to be a desperate attempt to manufacture a connection and shows that there is no practical reason to combine the parishes of Hollinswood and Randlay, Stirchley, Brookside and Holmer Lake. This reasoning could be used to create a parish spanning all of North and East Telford along the A442 from Leegomery and Hadley through to Sutton Hill! The commonality of a parish should logically be geographical (this proposal covers an impractical distance/area) but also based around the community it serves. The parish of Hollinswood & Randlay is well run, and through the ongoing work of its parish council has created a strong, sustainable community which reflects the needs and make up of the community. Similarly, the Stirchley and Brookside parish councils are focussed on the needs and composition of their own communities. As someone with friends in both parishes, I know that the 2 communities have different needs, so a merger would dilute the focus on the communities which the parish is intended to serve. The councillors/ staff in Hollinswood and Randlay are also very active in their roles and are already busy supporting the community, so the proposed reduction in councillors would mean that the council would be unable to provide the same community service that they do at the moment. I am [REDACTED] and when I am out doing things like litter picks or other volunteering with members of the H&R Parish council, local residents know the Parish Council members and are comfortable approaching them with local issues, concerns or just to engage with their councillors. I have seen the same at the Sambrook Centre in Stirchley where local residents come in to talk to the staff and the staff know many of the residents and their families. Similarly councillors know their area and can target initiatives at specific parts of the community. There's no way this local knowledge, understanding and community focus could be maintained over around 3 times the area and with treble the population, especially as the area is continuing to expand (eg the large estate currently being built at Halesfield/ the Nedge on the east of the A442. The same applies to Stirchley, Brookside (and I assume Holmer lake), where councillors know which areas need particular focus for certain issues. When people attend any of the excellent community events that the parish councils put on (such as fun days), they can always be located so that they are in walking distance for most people in the parish, which fosters the sense of community as residents and families meet up with people who live around them. If the current parishes were merged, residents from Brookside or Holmer Lake can't get to Hollinswood or vice versa without a car. As council which is aiming for net zero, residents should be able to attend local events without car use (especially as many people in the area don't have a car) The community facilities in Hollinswood and Randlay are very good, well run and provide excellent support to

the community. The parish has also taken huge steps to make its facilities as low carbon, low cost as possible. However I acknowledge that some minor changes would make sense. It may possibly make sense to merge Brookside & Holmer Lake as they are geographically intertwined (though the residents/ councils may feel differently as I don't really know Holmer Lake). Some minor adjustments to the existing parish boundaries to fit estate boundaries would also make sense where estates have expanded since the existing boundaries were set, so that there are bits of an estate that are split between parishes (this is difficult to see on the existing parish maps in the info document as the existing parishes – presumably because they are already so large compared to some parishes.) – It would also make sense to incorporate the new Station Quarter into Hollinswood & Randlay, as Hollinswood is the nearest residential area to it on a practical level and it's completely isolated from Lawley and Overdale (5 mins walk to the centre of Hollinswood, half an hour or more to get to the Rock – and I suspect over an hour to get to the main local centres!). As mainly social / affordable housing it also fits with the Hollinswood demographic. There is no valid reason to merge the existing parishes into the Nedge, and a merger would be detrimental to the communities that the parishes currently serve. As I am submitting this quite close to the deadline I have also submitted it through the pro forma in case there is any delay in the email being processed

Survey Responses – 47

Absolutely ridiculous to lump Brookside, Stirchley, Randlay and Hollinswood together.

I totally disagree with joining Randlay and Hollinswood parish council with Brookside and Stirchley to put all under one umbrella of the Nedge. As a resident of Randlay we have totally different issues to Brookside, we are a good community and generally rally together as a community, Brookside is nowhere near Hollinswood and have no common factors with either Randlay or Hollinswood. It is working as it is now and Hollinswood and Randlay have a good community relationship that we would like to keep the way it is. After speaking to several people on the estate about this matter we are all of the same opinion

I feel that this is an ill advised proposal, the amalgamation of Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Council with Stirchley & Brookside to form the new proposed Nedge PC will be unworkable. The two areas proposed for the merger are completely different, both socially & geographically; they are completely different demographics & the issues with certain sections of the proposed area could & would be problematic. The needs of the population in these areas are widely diverse; Brookside has for decades proven to be an area of deprivation and has a need for more intensive social, financial & family community assistance. Whereas Hollinswood & Randlay and to a certain extent Stirchley have less problems or needs for Social services and community help. To stretch the existing Parish of Hollinswood & Randlay to encompass Stirchley & the enormous needs of Brookside, would be a grave mistake in my opinion and totally unviable. To use as you have, in your Proposed Town & Parish Council Boundaries information Pack, the argument that they all have connections to the A442 as a common transport link is rather a lame & flimsy one. Also I would like to know under this proposed merger how much would it effect Randlay and Hollinswood funding for our local area, where would we stand with regards our local Nature Reserve area ~ "Randlay Valley" we have worked long and hard as a Parish to nurture this area, how does this stand with your 'plans' and come to that Stirchley & Homer residents have campaigned long and hard for Homer Lake and the Madbrook ~ where does all these restructuring plans leave these? It doesn't make any sense; apart from the fact that the amalgamation is probably a 'money saving exercise' for Telford & Wrekin Council inline with Government. directives as laid out in their December 2024 White Paper.

I support the merger of Hollinswood & Randlay with Stirchley & Brookside to form a "Nedge" council.

I do not approve of the proposed changed to the Nedge ward. Hollinswood and Randlay are completely different demographics to Brookside. The issues that the community of Brookside face and being the ward with the most deprivation according to the index with Madeley & Sutton Hill second there are many similarities of unemployment, crime issues etc which could be tackled under one Parish plan for future funding applications.

[REDACTED] I strongly support the proposal to merge Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Council with Stirchley & Brookside Parish Council. This merger reflects the shared identity, services & aspirations of our communities. It offers a route to more efficient governance, improved service delivery and a stronger collective voice for our residents. I urge you to recognise the natural synergy between these areas & support the proposal as a vital step toward more effective local government in Telford.

I am not proposing for this to go ahead i have lived in telford (Hollinswood) all my life for 50 years im still a resident know I think it is disgusting and disappointing that this merge could possibly happen both parish councils have different prospects and joining them could ruin what my parish council are about

I fully support the proposals to merge 2 Councils to create The Nedge Parish Council. For a number of years Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council has often filled vacancies via co-option, the same family have chaired this Council for over 15 years and as a resident it feels like we have very little oversight over the democratic process for this Parish Council. Often decisions have been made to invest significant funds into projects which have not been consulted upon or felt necessary by residents. However, this Parish Council does act with respect and due-diligence to ensure good governance. Stirchley & Brookside PC has been blindsided with many political and poor governance for many years. It has only serviced by the employment of a locum clerk for some 3 years and has had been unable to serve its residents effectively for this time, this is however mostly due to the ongoing conflict between Councillors who appear to have only their ego as the gold to feed rather than public interests. I feel that a larger council, with resources pooled together can better serve these communities. The communities of Stirchley, Randlay, Hollinswood and Brookside are of a similar creed. Their demographics and health data are very similar to one and other, their local property, assets and services are often shared and with a larger council with wider oversight I see that this offers a great deal more opportunity, flexibility, political stability and efficiency to residents.

I believe its in the best interest that all four parishes become one . Brookside joining the nedge ward i fully support the recommendations put forward .

I live in Randlay I feel that the parish council currently is fantastic. I feel that there is a real community spirit, the areas are well kept. The residents manage litter picking and street tidying , they look out for one another and enjoy. Community events . Volunteers manage Randlay valley with litter picking cop picking and hedge laying etc. I frequently visit Stirchley and Brookside through my work , I feel that the demographics of the area are completely at odds to Hollinswood and Randlay . The area is poorly managed by the present parish council I feel brookside has some very specific challenges , around crime and poverty that need to be fully supported by the existing parish council who will be familiar with the needs of the community the challenges and the best resolution to tackle challenges, through their tried and trusted methods Randlay and Hollinswood currently have some areas of poverty and crime and by lumping us with brookside and Stirchley will mean that some of the highest crime areas and areas of deprivation will be in one place managed by one parish council This is too big a task for one parish council Brookside is an area that needs to have time and effort invested in it to bring it up to the same standard as the rest of Telford , a place where I am proud to live , please invest in Brookside by acknowledging that a more targeted , focussed management plan is needed here to support the residents of Brookside and those residents who are striving daily to live a good life in the area . I strongly feel that a merger of the 4 areas is ill thought through and will be a large area to be managed by one parish council , with the same precept , and monies will need to be spent targetting the high crime areas, graffiti, violence and fly tipping taking away, from the pot of money for the other areas to have to do without I feel of all the areas in the borough Brookside has some unique needs that a knowledgable, experienced targeted parish council will need to continue to manage Please do NOT merge the parishes in this instance

I wish object to the aligning of the parish with brook side and Stirchley , I believe the service level we currently see will Diminish , our parish takes pride in its locality and have invested a lot in to the local environment and estates community sprit keeping it to a good standard , I work for a local housing association and I look after all of the main estates in the area like Brookside , stirchley , Sutton hill, Madeley , Woodside , Randlay and hollinswood , I visit lots of property's and the areas with in these community are not to the standard our parish keeps ours , we have a good community sprit and our areas are well kept and a good community collaboration with street litter picking and pride in our parish , the other localities have many Challenges with crime and poverty, If amalgamated we would be the highest for crime and deprivation and would need a large investment to tackle these areas. I see low investment in the other parish areas and community collaboration is non existant , I with my colleges try to install pride with in the other locations with little by in and support from the residents I see large volumes of fly tipping , community areas overgrown and not managed and I can see the main focus would be on areas like this and lose focus on installing pride where you live like we have here in our parish . There are many challenges with the other parish councils and merging is not the answer I feel Randlay and Hollinswood need to retain its identity as a place to live and love , I am proud to live here

I don't agree with the merging of the parish councils. I feel that this would make the area much too big and with fewer councillors to look after the area how could this possibly work. Therefore making the service we receive from the parish worse and making residents worse off.

Excellent idea merging the 2 parish councils will provide a better return for tax payers.

Firstly - Its not called The Nedge, the proposal is to merge Hollinswood and Randlay Parish & Stirchley and Brookside Parish into a new parish called The Nedge - to have this on the selection page called The Nedge, is a best lazy or at worst suggesting this has already been decided. Secondly, with the pack why is the option to remain as is not provided - you have just listed the proposal, however actually that is incorrect. This is the consultation and it should clearly state that there are 2 options - one to merge and one to remain as current - this is misleading and not providing the true options to us the residents. Thirdly - the decision (proposal) to merge the parishes fails to meet a number of the original terms of reference - the main and most obvious one is that the new parish boundaries would NOT match the existing ward boundaries. This in itself means that this proposal should not be allowed on this simple basis. However, knowing that TWC Committee nodded through all the (non)options, the further main points why this should not happen are 1) Loss of a clear identity for each area - Hollinswood and Randlay are very closely tied with each other due to Randlay Valley 2) The reduction and proposed balance of Councillors would mean that Hollinswood and Randlay residents would not be treated equally with representation as the other areas 3) You cannot suggest that the main criteria is that the locations are linked by the A442 - this could therefore argue that any parish on the A442 has links! There is a clear geographical road way that separates the boundaries of the current parishes. 4) There is a closely knitted community between the 2 areas already, due to the primary schools, there is absolutely minimal link to Brookside with some link with Stirchley due to the secondary school, but to be clear this link diminishes rapidly once passed the Co-op. 5) There is NO evidence in the pack to support or suggest this was a proposal was made by a sufficient number of people to provide this only option as opposed to the other respondents I could go on but frankly the parish council will ensure the views of the local residents are clearly laid out and I fully support their decision to OBJECT to this proposal. Finally TWC Councillors should always remember they represent all of their community and certainly NOT their rosette. They should always declare their interests and be reminded of their responsibility to the democratic nature of the role.

Object to combing Randlay and Hollinswood with Stirchley and Brookside ,keep things as they are we are a lovely community in Randlay lovely counsellors who are always here if we need them .why change something that works well

Hollinswood and Randlay should be kept individual from stitching Bookside parish council.personally I think that Hollinswood and Randlay do a fantastic job and have the right amount of councillors and i agree with the way they work especially with the yearly budget,if they were amalgamated there would be too many councillors trying to work together and will have different outlooks for the individual parishes which i believe would cause problems and not be beneficial

I wish to express my disagreement with the proposal to merge Hollinswood & Randlay and Brookside & Stirchley parish councils to form The Nedge parish council. I feel that the Hollinswood & Randlay parish council currently serves its residents well, and that the merger would result in the loss of identity for both the residents and the council. I also oppose the proposal to reduce the number of Hollinswood & Randlay parish councillors from 12 to 7. The councillors are very active providing many services for their residents and I consider their existing number is justified. The ratio of current councillors to electors is not excessive compared to other councils.

I would like to express my disappointment at the proposed merging of Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council, with Stirchley and Brookside Parish Council. The idea of a parish council is to represent local communities and I believe that enlarging the area on the proposed scale would mean it is no longer local issues that are being served. The residents in each of these areas have their own unique needs and wants, and to merge them would result in a dilution of the services that are provided.

The parish councils for the Nedge should be set exactly as they are currently. The Parish areas serve their communities well. Making the area one Parish will by definition make the Parish unable to reflect the views of all of its community as each community is different and distinct and has its own issues and needs.

I oppose the set out plans. There is no clear plan on how funding will be allocated as it is today. As an "outsider" who came from a tiny farming village in Suffolk, I was brought up around community, when we moved here it was clear the community cared and was supported by the parish. With that going, who is there to care the same, no big voices and a community that cares, just who can shout the loudest will get the most funding.

I object to the creation of the new The Nedge super parish because of the following :- 1. The geographical area will be too large, not everyone has a car enabling them to attend activities in each area. 2. The reason cited about numerous previous boundary changes doesn't give any specific details of problems that exist and need to be amended. 3. The reason about commonality of the A442 also applies to other parishes that border the A442 like Madeley and Oakengates, so why are they not included on the same basis. 4. Each area has its own unique culture, needs, wants and demographics so why are you trying to bring them all together as one. The whole idea of local parish council's is to enable those differences to be catered to. 5. You haven't detailed a single specific problem/advantage of making these changes. Why does there have to be a change, if there isn't a problem.

I am against the proposal join Randlay/Hollinswood with Brookside and Stirchley/Holmer Lake. I believe Randlay/Hollinswood function effectively and efficiently as a team. So would prefer for the status quo to remain.

I wish to keep the two parishes separate. As a resident of Randlay my entire life i see no need to change, it has nothing to gain. I wish you would stop shrinking the green areas as well with ugly looking new build estates. [REDACTED]

I am against the proposal join Randlay/Hollinswood with Brookside and Stirchley/Holmer Lake. I believe Randlay/Hollinswood function effectively and efficiently as a team. So would prefer for the status quo to remain.

I do not agree with the proposed merging of Stirchley and Brookside/ Randlay and Hollinswood. These should stay split to protect tgere identities and assests. Merging them will surpress their individual effectiveness.

Merging Randlay, Hollinswood, Stirchley and Brookside is a bad idea because it will make the Parish to big to be effectively managed

My comments relate solely to the propsed merger of Hollinswood & Randlay with Stirchlkey & Brookside to create the Nedge. These are made in my capacity as an ordinary resident of Randlay , and also a "Friend of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley" . Before I get onto parish specifics , I'd like to say It is not clear what has prompted this review in the first place. There has been no mention I can see of financial advantage or cost cutting measures , so these proposed PC changes seem to be "changes for changes sake" and a bit of a tidy up ?! Our current Parish Council does a great job already in supporting residents of the parish and providing services and activities which I'd suggest rank with the best of those on offer in the borough. They provide support for the maintenance of our open spaces including the Valley and overall contribute to a stable and freidnly community. The councillors all know this parish well and are always approachable.(Im sure that the councillors in Stirchley & Brookside are similarly close to their own residents). There is no merit at all in forcing two councils together creating a much larger parish where the councillors' knowledge and influence will be much more widely spread and as a result the servcies they provide cannot be as good as when they were smaller entities. I cannot see why Hollinswood & Randlay would merit only 7 councillors in the proposed Nedge PC and proposals relating to our area would inevitably be less certain of being given equal consideration. On a staffing level we have excellent council staff who take a pride in looking after the area and I would not one to see a single one of them face reduced hours or even worse lose their jobs.. As Friends of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley we get invaluable help from the PC to maintain this large and special place which is appreciated so much by residents and by other bodies such as Shropshire Wildlife and theTelford Woods project . Any change would inevitably cause a change in the relationship we have with the parish council which may well be detrimental to the ability to do this as efficiently. I looked at the button requesting the upload of any supporting information but I have no specific technical documents or statistics which could back up my comments and you will realise they ae all subjective based on the fact that I live here , I know what it is like , and I see no reason for changing what is clearly working well for the benefit of both the parish and Telford & Wrekin council.

The recommendation will produce a parish that will be too big and will take away the identities of all residents from the current parish councils.

As a resident of Hollinswood & Randlay, I strongly oppose the proposed merger with Stirchley & Brookside Parish Council. This change does not reflect the best interests of our community and risks diluting the focus and effectiveness of our local representation. Our parish has distinct needs and priorities—most notably, the long-standing and unresolved issue of the Randlay Centre redevelopment. It is essential that our parish councillors remain fully dedicated to addressing the concerns of Hollinswood & Randlay residents, without being stretched across additional areas with different challenges and priorities. Merging with another parish would inevitably divide attention and resources, potentially delaying or diminishing progress on key local matters. We deserve a council that is solely focused on our community, understands our unique identity, and is accountable to our residents alone. I urge the council to reconsider this proposal and to preserve the independence of Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Council in order to ensure effective, focused, and locally responsive governance.

I do not support the proposed merger of parish councils to "the nedge" We deserve to have our local parish council determine where our money is spent. My contribution should be spent in my local area, not on another housing estate a few miles down the road. We should also retain local offices where people without transport can drop in and discuss any concerns, merging parishes will no doubt end up with fewer parish officers in fewer locations, making contact with parish officers more difficult for some residents. I see this as a backward step for those of us concerned about our local area. Merging area's into one larger area will only dilute the effectiveness of our current parish services.

There should be no changes to the existing parish council structure, Hollinswood and Randlay should continue to operate as it does now, without merging with Stirchley and Brookside

I dont want Randlay and Hollinwood to merge with Stirchley and Brookside. The parish will become too large and we will lose our identity.

I'm opposed to the merger of Randlay & Hollinswood with Stirchley & Brookside parish councils. We have excellent committee members in Randlay & Hollinswood who are devoted to serving the community and who have many connections with families in the parish. I think that the merger will adversely affect those connections and diminish the excellent work our committee currently carry out.

IF the parish council is doing good work for the arena. why make changes

The parishes as they stand should be kept as they are. I would like to see the station quater added to Hollinswood and Randlay as its right next to Hollinswood. Hollinswood and Randlay Parish provide the best service and bigger is not always better. The transition over to a new parish will not be smooth. Hollinswood parish council is very organised. But Stirchley council is a mess. Dont break up what work's perfect for the residents of Hollinswood and Randlay. People could loose their job. Residents could loose services and events could be cut. Please dont mess with it.

Community cohesion is important, which you clearly haven't factored in in this proposal. Both current parishes (which are not named on this part of the consultation which is incredibly misleading!) have their own unique identity. From living in the one and having family and friends in the other I am aware of a multitude of differences. Most people do not travel between the parishes for events for example. The children are very different in their attitudes as seen from attending Funzone at both parishes (and helping run it). Adults don't cross the boundaries for groups that are held at the parish buildings (and community centre in Brookside). Joining these parishes will not be reflective of the identities and interests of either community. It may be convenient for you to slap a title on two wards and call them something that means all parts will lose their identity but it is not beneficial to anyone else. It fails to consider the increasing population from the Hem project (Stirchley and Brookside mostly) as well as the possibility of more homes being created on Stafford Park in the Hollinswood and Randlay area. Your proposals ignore the forecast growth of the electorate. In terms of the number of parish councillors it may be representative to each area but as you are merging two distinct areas there will always be a losing side just based on numbers of councillors. Currently both areas have an adequate number to function effectively. As a resident I cannot see any possible benefit to merging the two parishes.

I fully support the nedge proposals but believe it should be warded as Stirchley, Hollinswood, Brookside, Randlay and The Hem ward. This would make local representation.

Fully support the idea put forward for the Nedge, we need a bigger better parish council, with better parish councillors.

Fully support the proposals to merge Stirchley & Brookside and Hollinswood & Randlay

I fully support the nedge proposals, as S& B is not very good.

I do not agree with this merger between Hollinswood/Randlay and Stirchley/Brookside as the area would be too large and I feel that this would be detrimental to us. Our parish councillors would be unable to give us such a good service

As a resident of 21 years in [REDACTED] Holmer Lake [REDACTED], I cannot see any justification to combine the parishes of Shrichley and Brookside with Hollinswood and Randlay. I object to the merger. I am active in the community. I know my area, Holmer Lake Ward, is completely different from those of Brookside and Stirchley. Even the small detail of Lake End Drive and Cygnet Drive. They are both in Brookside, but their demographics are alien. These 2 Drives should be in the Holmer Lake Ward. Brookside has a reputation for high crime. Besides the building of the community centre, I do not see an improvement there in all the years I have lived nearby. Parts of Brookside need to be in Special Needs, something this borough has neglected for many decades. I have delivered leaflets all over Brookside. I cannot see a single feature that makes it correspond to any part of Telford except Woodside and Sutton Hill, both built as overflows for Birmingham; all 3 have outlived their purpose. All 3 have crime levels far exceeding their surroundings. I understand Hollinswood and Randlay have areas that are similar to Brookside, but on a far smaller scale and should be much easier to manage as they are. A merger will lump these 2 parishes under the name of The Nedge. I can see there will be a call for a reduction of office and other staff and councillors. I cannot see how reducing representation will improve the lot of the residents. Is it not the purpose of a parish to be the bottom level of democracy, engagement, and access for the community? Removing representation removes democracy. I read somewhere in this governance review, it is a requirement that communities have a demographic connection. As mentioned earlier, Lake End Drive and Cygnet Drive. Demographically, no connection with Brookside. They are on the wrong side of Brookside Avenue. Completely different housing and parking layout, and very different crime levels. These drives have far more in common with Tadorna Drive and Holme Lane. All 4 areas have Holmer Lake in common as well. There is a convenient divider between Stirchley and Randlay, Holmer Farm Road. This does create a strong border. I have not noticed a connection between the 2 parishes across this road. There is no simple access for the communities to interact, except for individuals who need to visit someone or for a dog walker to cross towards Holmer Lake. The Co-op and food outlets could suggest a common interest. I would not call that a cultural significance. There is nowhere for residents to sit and chat, and feel safe. The Co-op and the surrounding area are a gathering point for youths, mostly seen on cycles and electric scooters. It is a place used by them to let off excess energy, vandalism, and graffiti. nothing there of culture and convenience for the community, except when the Shrichley and Brookside parish put on an event, but that is only the odd few days per year. I understand the 2 parishes have agreed that all of the new houses on The Nedge are best served by Stirchley and Brookside. This development is split across both parishes, the majority of it falling within Stirchley and Brookside. I see this as the best option. Both parishes are against the merger. They have submitted their objections. Both parishes are serving their respective communities very well. They currently share facilities and services. This is possible because they are geared to do it. It has been going on in this way satisfactorily for many years. I have not seen a single 'WHAT IF' from the review or open days at the parish. There is no financial information explaining what could affect both parishes. There is nothing about the Brookside Centre, its financial situation, or its reported antisocial feelings from inside the building. There is doubt about long-term ownership. I see this as another problem associated with Brookside. Stirchley and Brookside parish is aware of the problems and is better at handling them. Waiting for a decision from the borough in 2 years could be catastrophic for the building and the community. The Review keeps both parishes in limbo. Stirchley and Brookside are looking for a full-time employed clerk; currently, there is a locum. The review is hindering employment. Who in their right mind would want to be employed for 2 years and possibly lose their job? I was at the open day at the Sambrooke Centre when the Governance Review had an open day. I spoke with many other visitors. A few had no idea what to say. Most did not want change. Most were from Stirchley, Lake End Drive, Cygnet Drive, and

Tadorna Drive. I know from listening to my neighbours in Holmer Lane they do not want a merger. There is an old saying: if it ain't broke, don't fix it

Support the proposal

As a resident of Randlay I feel that we would lose our identity if merged with Stirchley and Brookside as there don't seem to be any links between the two parishes. We live in a small community that has a very good parish council that works well for our residents, putting on such events as funday, christmas fayres, christmas lunch for older residents, also outdoor gym session weekly, games days for the younger members of our community, as well as providing a safe space for our special needs children and adults. Schools work well with the parish. If Arundel Close and Botfield Close were moved into Hollinswood and Randlay this would make more sense and give The Hem to Stirchley and Brookside. I'm very unclear as why would want to merge that two parishes and reading through your statements you don't seem to know either apart from they are both on the A442. I haven't spoken to anyone who is in favour of this merger. The Nedge name does not convey the historical characteristics or localness of the area. When the houses were built in Arundel and Botfield closes they were both in Hollinswood and Randlay Parish and moved some time later. This merger would mean The Nedge Parish would be too big and Hollinwood and Randlay would have a reduction of councillors, those people who know the residents and area best.

The whole proposal for The Nedge is so poorly set out and communicated. Reasons/issues/problems about the current Parish Council arrangements are so non-specific as to be irrelevant and there are no specific advantages detailed that the creation of the new super parish will create. Can you provide any specific details about either the current problems or the advantages of the change. I also find it very dis-respectful that the above question assumes that the new parish of The Nedge has already been created and doesn't list the existing parishes. I thought this was supposed to be a consultation. I think the new proposed super parish should NOT be created.

The first stage consultation was a disingenuous exercise, at the end of which , despite assurances that this was a new consultation with a blank page and the 2024 scheme was not the basis, you in essence presented the same scheme , - a merger of the parish councils of Hollinswood and Randlay and Stirchley and Brookside, - despite the fact that the proposals were not supported in the consultation and the Borough council could provide no meaningful justification for this move. The new parish will not be coterminous with the present borough ward boundary and being on the A442 is not unique to Stirchley and Brookside and Hollinswood ad Randlay. Priorslee and St Georges is also on the A442 and adjacent. The borough Council did not engage with either Parish council or Population during stage 1 The proposal has therefore little credibility This proposal links geographically, socially and economically distant areas - Hollinswood and Holmer Lake , Randlay and Brookside - to the detriment of both. Removing opportunities for access to economic grants from Brookside residents and adding liabilities to teh residents of Hollinswood and Randlay. The proposal removes representation from all residents by increasing the number of votes per representative or reducing the number of councillors per resident . Thereby increasing workload for each councillor and reducing opportunities for access for the residents Further the proposal enforces a guaranteed majority for the councillors of Stirchley and Brookside , allowing them to override the residents of Hollinswood and Randlay Further, the proposal introducing redundancy cots onto tee new councils as the merger is unlikely to retain the same staffing structure (for instance two clerk positions presently exist) , adding cost and distraction from running the council between 2026 and 2027, meaning the likelihood is that services will be affected The proposal provides a severe risk that the 5 year strategy adopted by the councils, after consultation with the local community in Holliswood and Randlay, will be lost , At Hollinswood and Randlay, that strategy has been developed over 17 years and covers SNAC, Carbon neutrality, support for local families, the upgrade of the environment (Randlay Valley , The Nuddy, the Pavilion and Field, the allotments , The Annual Fun day , Councillor surgeries, integration with ethnic and national groups within teh Parish, working with Schools , etc) Your proposal gives a high risk that the action plan will be revoked and the interests of teh residents less supported Finally, during this second stage consultation, Telford and Wrekin have made no attempt to consult with the parish councils nor, and more importantly , with the residents of Hollinswood, Randlay or Stirchley , against the guidance provided for the review. You have made no attempt to run open sessions in Stirchley , Hollinswood or Randlay . Your proposal is neither required nor supported by the residents

As a long time resident of Hollinswood and Randlay, but with connections to Stirchley and Brookside and I OPPOSE the proposed merger of the current parish councils to form a single parish of the Nedge. The whole purpose of a parish council is to represent the needs and interests of the community it serves at a local level, whereas the Borough Councillors represent the community at a higher, slightly more distant & less neighbourly level. It therefore doesn't make sense for the Parish and Borough Councils to cover the same area. The information pack admits that the geography of the proposed parish "is very diverse and it is difficult to create community governance arrangements predicated solely on the geography", and the only commonality the proposal can find is that "they all have connections to the A442 as a common transport link". This appears to be a desperate attempt to manufacture a connection and shows that there is no practical reason to combine the parishes of Hollinswood and Randlay, Stirchley, Brookside and Holmer Lake. This reasoning could be used to create a parish spanning all of North and East Telford along the A442 from Leegomery and Hadley through to Sutton Hill! The commonality of a parish should logically be geographical (this proposal covers an impractical distance / area) but also based around the community it serves. The parish of Hollinswood & Randlay is well run, and through the ongoing work of its parish council has created a strong, sustainable community which reflects the needs and make up of the community. Similarly, the Stirchley and Brookside parish councils are focussed on the needs and composition of their own communities. As someone friends in both parishes, I know that the 2 communities have different needs, so a merger would dilute the focus on the communities which the parish is intended to serve. The councillors/ staff in Hollinswood and Randlay are also very active in their roles and are already busy supporting the community, so the proposed reduction in councillors would mean that the council would be unable to provide the same community service that they do at the moment. I am a community champion and when I am out doing things like litter picks or other volunteering with members of the H&R Parish council, local residents know the Parish Council members and are comfortable approaching them with local issues, concerns or just to engage with their councillors. I have seen the same at the Sambrook Centre in Stirchley where local residents come in to talk to the staff and the staff know many of the residents and their families. Similarly councillors know their area and can target initiatives at specific parts of the community. There's no way this local knowledge, understanding and community focus could be maintained over around 3 times the area and with treble the population, especially as the area is continuing to expand (eg the large estate currently being built at Halesfield/ the Nedge on the east of the A442. The same applies to Stirchley, Brookside (and I assume Holmer lake), where councillors know which areas need particular focus for certain issues. When people attend any of the excellent community events that the parish councils put on (such as fun days), they can always be located so that they are in walking distance for most in the parish, which fosters the sense of community as residents and families meet up with people who live around them. If the current parishes were merged, residents from Brookside or Holmer Lake can't get to Hollinswood or vice versa without a car. As council which is aiming for net zero, residents should be able to attend local events without car use (especially as not everyone in the area has a car) However I acknowledge that it may possibly make sense to merge Brookside & Holmer lake as they are geographically intertwined (though the residents/ councils may feel differently as I don't really know Holmer Lake). Some minor adjustments to the existing boundaries to fit estate boundaries would also make sense where estates have expanded since the existing boundaries were set and are split between parishes (this is difficult to see on the existing parish maps in the info document as the existing parishes are so large compared to some parishes.) It would also make sense to incorporate the new Station Quarter housing into Hollinswood & Randlay, as Hollinswood is the nearest residential area to it on a practical level and it's completely isolated from Lawley and Overdale (5 mins walk to the centre of Hollinswood, half an hour or more to get to the Rock

– and I suspect over an hour to get to the main local centres. As social / affordable housing it also fits with the Hollinswood demographic.