Horton

Email Responses:

1 Sirs

The proposal, as outlined in the BRC committee proposals May 2025, for Horton to remain part of Hadley and Leegomery Parish is I firmly believe wholly inappropriate. I do understand that the option for Horton to become part of a new Weald Moors Parish Council is a non-starter at this time. Notwithstanding it has merits, it did not have wider community support. Hence we need to press the BRC for an alternative.

Please consider:

Horton has nothing in common with HLPC – socio-economically and other factors. It's nonsensical. Besides, Horton pays it's Parish Precept for next to no benefit from HLPC.

Horton matters very rarely if at all are discussed or raised in HLPC meetings. If they were, it would be questionable that most of the councillors would not be able to pass fair judgement let alone be interested on given their focus on the other wards.

Our own HLPC councillor engagement with Horton residents has, since being elected has been negligible. Hence we are very poorly served by being part of HLPC. We may as well not have our own ward councillor.

Evidentially Horton, has suffered extensively by the expansion of Hortonwood in recent years and many opportunities for HLPC to actively engage, pre-planning consultation and the like with Horton residents have been lost. Horton has only been able to react too little too late to effect the best outcomes for our community.

Notwithstanding the fact that many residents have moved into Horton, knowing the Hortonwood position does not excuse a Parish Council for going the extra mile to ensure that it's electorate (not the companies/investors/construction agents etc) are integral to the process.

Therefore in addition to being removed from HLPC 'governance' Horton should not have Hortonwood within it's 'ward'.

On the question of HLPC engagement with Horton residents during the CGR process, it has been very disappointing that other than 2 or 3 very brief, incomplete, even inaccurate emails, our own Cllr has not to my knowledge approached residents directly to court their views, let alone and more importantly convene a meeting where all the options for Horton could be presented and discussed. Whether our Cllr has everyone's emails I know not – given the new arrivals to the village and hence it would not be unreasonable for some door knocking or note put through letter boxes to have taken place. All this is very disappointing and falls way short of electorate expectations. Surely.

Imperative also as part of this CGR is for all properties that are geographically in Horton but which are currently in Preston upon the Weald Moors should see boundary re-alignment to make them part of Horton's governance.

This move would bring the Queens public house and the 4 -5 new properties to the south of the Queens and others into Horton. This would simplify the opportunity for those affected residents to engage with all Horton matters over time and not have the present unnecessary, but awkward anomaly.

Horton's future should I believe be as a Parish Meeting, and excluding Hortonwood from being within its governance. This would present our small, unique community to manage its own affairs, to pursue opportunities, projects and other initiatives that the community believes to be important for its future. With new builds occupied and minor boundary changes as above, there will be not far short of 200 electors in Horton within the next year or two. New people bring fresh energy and new ideas, couple then with residents who have been in the village for a decade or more and such vibrancy can be harnessed much more successfully than the present governance being tied to HLPC.. which when all is said and done is a not good fit, arguably a burdensome millstone for Horton to work with. Horton does not need to be part of a 'remote' Parish Council that has many other different and challenging priorities.

Horton is already part of the Ercall Magna ward for TWC representation and hence having the anomaly of being part of HLPC is another unnecessary encumbrance.

Horton as a Parish Meeting would be an exciting new start for our community, bringing a fresh and clear identity.

Thank you for your attention.

PS please refer to Horton's submission to the 2024 CGR – in some detail this argued the case for Horton to become a Parish Meeting, with an outline support by the community in excess of 70% as I recall.

2 Good afternoon Team

Please find attached my response regarding Horton, Ercall Magna Ward

Appendix A – Horton Annex A

I have corrected the formatting & content issues the Windows to Mac IT issue created. I have added the graphics that went and this is our submission absolute final copy if you will be gracious enough to accept please?

Can you drop me a mail so I know it at least arrived safely.

Appendix A – Horton Annex B

Survey Responses:

- I believe that in the interest of community cohesion/identity and effective delivery of services, that maintaining the current boundaries of the Parish including Horton, but also incorporating the entirety of Trench Lock using the natural boundaries available of the A442 and railway line would be the best outcome for the residents of Hadley & Leegomery. I agree that there should be an extra Councillor for the Trench Lock as this would ensure the best levels of representation for residents.
- I recognise the importance of effective local governance. Any changes to the current Town and Parish Council boundaries should, first and foremost, be designed to

strengthen local representation, improve accountability, and maintain the unique identities and historical ties of the communities within the borough of Telford & Wrekin. For any proposed changes to the current arrangements, the Council should explain clearly how those changes would address each of those points. Telford & Wrekin Council should engage further with residents, community groups, and other local stakeholders before any final decisions are made. My comments on the Council's draft proposals have been informed by conversations and correspondence with Town and Parish Councillors, Borough Councillors, and other interested parties. The Community Governance Review is more extensive than it needs to be at this time. With the latest version of the draft Local Plan still to be published, a more targeted review to accommodate significant new developments in Muxton and Priorslee would be sufficient, while a more comprehensive review could be conducted following the publication of the final version of the Local Plan. Waters Upton and Ercall Magna – I support maintaining the current boundary and governance arrangements. Both communities have a distinct identity and are geographically separated by a significant distance. Muxton – I support the proposal for a separate Parish Council. The boundary of the new Parish Council should be the same as the Borough Council ward boundary. The new developments on Donnington Wood Way and at the top the Redhill should be included in the Muxton Parish boundary to include the new residents in the existing community. The extra care facility on Donnington Wood Way was approved with community facilities for Muxton included in the planning application. Donnington Wood Way, Redhill and the A5 are the obvious and logical boundaries of the new Muxton Parish as opposed to the arbitrary proposed boundary which divides the existing community. Priorslee – I support the proposal for a separate Parish Council. Donnington, Wrockwardine Wood, Trench – I do not support the current proposals. Donnington and St. Georges are older, well-established communities. Residents of Donnington will associate more with Wrockwardine Wood and Trench, whereas residents of St. Georges will identify more with Oakengates. The proposals as currently drafted would split Wrockwardine Wood in two, with Summer Crescent, Cockshut Piece and The Nabb being moved into St Georges, A more logical proposal would be to merge Donnington (excluding Redhill) with Wrockwardine Wood & Trench; alongside the creation of a single Oakengates and St Georges Town Council which would better reflect community identities. Eyton, Preston, Kynnersley and Hadley & Leegomery - Wealdmoor Parish Council should include Kynnersley and Preston. Horton should have its own Parish Meeting as it is a predominantly rural community which is clearly distinct from Hadley and Leegomery. Eyton should retain a Parish Meeting due to its distinct and isolated rural location. Apley Castle should not be included within the Hadley and Leegomery Parish, as it is a distinct community with little connection to Hadley & Leegomery. Wellington Town Council - Admaston, Bratton & Shawbirch should have their own Parish Council, separate from Wellington, as they constitute a distinct urban area with shared local services. Wrockwardine and Little Wenlock – these villages are geographically separated by The Wrekin and are long established distinct communities. They should each have their own Parish Council. I know that Little Wenlock Parish Councillors have serious concerns about the proposals to merge the Parish Council with other areas, as they feel that would create a loss of identity and influence for their community. I am told that, in response to a recent survey carried out by the Parish Council, a majority of Little Wenlock residents supported keeping a separate Parish Council for Little Wenlock. Rodington - this village should retain its own Parish Council. I would welcome further opportunities to contribute as the Community Governance Review progresses.