

St Georges and Donnington

Email Responses:

1	<p>Good Afternoon,</p> <p>Please find below the response from St Georges & Priorslee Parish Council regarding the proposed changes:</p> <p>The Council recommends increasing the number of councillors for the proposed Priorslee Parish from 5 to 7, to be spread across two wards, reflecting the growing population and ensuring fair representation.</p> <p>Additionally, it is recommended that the number of councillors for the proposed new St Georges & Donnington Parish be reduced from 17 to 15. The Parish should also be warded appropriately to reflect and represent the distinct communities within its boundaries.</p>
2	<p>Please find attached my views and comments in relation to Phase 2 consultation of the CGR 2025.</p> <p>Appendix A – St Georges and Donnington Annex A</p>
3	<p>Please find following my thoughts.</p> <p>First thing... I completely oppose the splitting of Muxton & Donnington as it is not in the best interest of Muxton residents. Ensuring residents get the best support from their parish council is the aim?</p> <p>My response to this is different from others [REDACTED], so I can only speak for myself here.</p> <p>I [REDACTED] have played a very active role in Muxton Ward. With this I have a good understanding of the needs in the ward. When I first became a Muxton Cllr, when items discussed on the agenda were predominantly about Donnington, a comment I often used was "How about Muxton?"...then I warmed up! Muxton has always very much been heard in the Parish Council and has been heavily represented. Often public who attend the Parish meets are Muxton residents and most items on the agenda are for Muxton.</p> <p>Donnington and Muxton Parish Council has grown stronger over the last couple of years with a great admin team and again, I speak for myself, work closely with the staff as well as the Donnington Parish Councillors. With this team and availability of finance, we have offered services and events for all residents which include an enforcement team, Christmas lights and events such as over 60s seaside trips, family days out, Christmas dinner, Thursday morning coffee meets, table tennis classes...for example.</p> <p>The current parish have an office and the Clerk and team are always available for residents to visit, to discuss matters face to face, which is very frequent. This is a valued service for residents. We added up that last week, the Clerk spent around 8 hours speaking with residents in the office. (Not possible if part-time).</p> <p>I've worked closely with Donnington Councillors with situations where issues cross both Donnington & Muxton where Muxton residents are affected. Clock Tower car meets, safeguarding, bikers, education, Church groups, ASB issues...much more</p>

goes on behind the scenes though unable to say all due to confidentiality with residents concerned.

Joint funding such as Veterans Café with pride allowance from Donnington Councillors and I, have enabled us to run the veterans café for all residents in the current Parish.

The council as it is now works well – an award winning council at that.

So what would it mean if Muxton is a single Parish splitting from Donnington?

I've worked closely again with the admin team to understand facts and figures (as well as SALC) to understand where we stand.

Based on the number of houses in Band D council tax (2100 houses) and based on the 'basics' of Parish need, the council tax precept would be £2.86 less per household, per month, than what it is now....sounds great? Keep reading for the not so great stuff!

I do have a full detailed list of costings though this precept would cover things like: one part-time member of staff: a parish clerk, working from home (we won't have a council office), street lights, parish ground maintenance, bus shelters, council affiliation subscriptions.

As Muxton has no Parish assets, we have no income such as that provided by Casey's and Turreff Hall.

As a single Parish and based on the precept, unless the tax is increased dramatically, we would not be able to afford:

- A full time Parish Clerk
- Christmas lights (estimated £16,000)
- Neighbourhood Enforcement Team (<https://www.telford.gov.uk/roadworks-transport-and-streets/enforcement/>) I have worked closely with on patrols, cameras, signage, street parking issues etc...
- Resident trips to seaside and Christmas dinner for over 60s
- Local events such as the Christmas Fayre / Santa floats / Children's Christmas party

As we have no parish room, we will also have the additional cost of hiring rooms for Parish meetings and unable to hold resident coffee mornings, children's events in the library, free activities as we do in Turreff Hall.

The part-time parish clerk will have to work from home so no face to face support when needed unless an appointment booked and room hired for residents to meet. This also means purchasing of office equipment / IT / secure software etc..

Just to throw another spanner in the work; timing. The elections for all the New Parish Councils will take place in May 2027 but to have any money for its first year, (which actually runs from April) the new councils have to tell the Borough Council of its precept in January 2027.

This means that in 2026, and if the new Muxton Parish goes ahead, this has to be set up and decisions made by current Muxton councillors, on behalf of the yet to be elected Councillors in May 2027. All councillors have to stand down 2027 and elections begin...another big cost for Muxton to have to pay if on our own.

	<p>I will stand again as my heart is in helping and supporting the community to the best of my ability – whether I am elected will be in residents hands, though regardless of my position, there will be changes within our Muxton councillors. This could also potentially mean new councillors who haven't got a clue how Parish councils run so without Donnington support, does not sit comfortable with me.</p> <p>We have a good working relationship as Donnington & Muxton Parish Council so I completely oppose the splitting of our Parish and the adage of 'If it ain't broken - don't fix it' comes to mind.</p>
4	<p>It appears to be an inappropriate time to be even considering changes to Parish Boundaries when the Local Plan is still in a state of flux. It is also clear that any changes to Parish Boundaries will have consequences, mostly financial, for residents.</p> <p>I object to the CGR proposal for a New Muxton Parish. Donnington & Muxton has been a successful and viable Council for many years and was awarded Gold Standard in the Local Council Award Scheme. It's working well - why change it?</p> <p>An independent Muxton Parish would have no offices or staff and there would be fewer residents to pay for setting up these services. I would say that there is justification for leaving this Organisation as it is. This is change for change sake. The only other acceptable alternative would be to merge Muxton with Lilleshall who already have council offices and staff. This would reduce the costs for Lilleshall and would be a lower cost to Muxton residents. Muxton and Lilleshall share the same views on the retention of the " Lilleshall Gap" to prevent a festival of greedy developers land grabbing.</p> <p>There appear to be no benefits to a stand alone Muxton Parish and it's residents will lose many facilities they now have.</p> <p>I believe this does not make financial sense and that Donnington & Muxton Parish Council should be allowed to continue their good work for their residents</p>
5	<p>My comments on the Community Governance Review 2025 consultation are attached.</p> <p>Appendix A – St Georges and Donnington Annex B</p>
6	<p>Please find attached submission.</p> <p>This is a joint submission from members of the current Donnington & Muxton Parish Council;</p> <p>Appendix A – St Georges and Donnington Annex C</p>

Survey Responses:

1	I fully support the proposals for muxton, donnington & St. George's, the Weald moors and church Aston and Chetwyn Aston although I do think Horton should stay with Hadley
2	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

	<p>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.</p>
3	<p>Culturally the new estates off donnington wood way feel more aligned with muxton (think Granville links through to muxton are way stronger) New builds near Redhill/ priorslee should be priorslee not Donnington/st George's</p>

4	Fully support the proposals for the parishes, but need to see a change in council numbers and warding. St Georges & Donnington should be 13 and Priorslee 7 and Muxton 7, and I fully support Wrockwardine Wood merging with Oakengates. identity is key warding for key areas, Redhill, St Georges, Snedshill, Donnington Wood, Donnington, The Humbers, Oakengates, Ketley Bank, Wrockwardine Wood, Wombridge and Trench etc i dont like big numbers of cllrs but like to have enough to make governance happens
5	I don't want Donnington and Muxton to be split. It is not broken so why change it, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] We also know the councillors that represent us, I haven't a clue who the councillors are at St. George's. SO I SAY DO NOT WASTE MORE MONEY CHANGING IT. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] That's my opinion.
6	Whilst I am in broad agreement with the creation and warding arrangements of a St Georges and Donnington Parish and Muxton Parish, I disagree with the inclusion of the Humbers polling district (WMH) within the St Georges and Donnington Parish. I would argue that for the following reasons, the Humbers should remain aligned with Muxton under any future parish council arrangements. There is no rationale provided within the information pack to justify including the Humbers polling district within the proposed St Georges and Donnington Parish. It feels like the residents of this particular polling district are once more being used as an expedient makeweight for balancing voter numbers rather than proper consideration being given to the identity and needs of this community. Consisting of a new build housing estate less than 20 years old, former MOD housing now in private ownership as well as military behind the wire accomodation, the area has very different characteristics from Donnington and has even less in common with St Georges. The residential areas of the polling district are located to the North West of the A518 and are closer to the proposed Muxton and existing Lilleshall parishes than they are to any residential part of Donnington. Residents of this area look to Muxton before Donnington for local services. The nearest shops are located in Richards Road (Lilleshall parish) and Wellington Road/Fieldhouse Drive (Muxton parish). The closest pharmacy is located in Fieldhouse Drive and many residents are registered with the Linden Hall branch surgery in Muxton. The proposals would result in mixed messaging regarding democratic accountability. At a borough level the area would be a part of Muxton Ward but at a parish level would be part of St Georges & Donnington parish. The area is already overlooked at a borough and parish level in favour of the more populous areas of Donnington and Muxton on the other side of the A518 and I feel that the inclusion of the area in parish that includes St Georges would only further exacerbate the situation when it comes to allocating resources.
7	My house is on [REDACTED], Donnington, yards from The Humbers and next to Muxton. In my view it makes no sense at all to be 'lumped in' with St George's. I already have concerns about the thousands of houses proposed in the local plan for land opposite my home. Ive been involved in local meetings about this in Muxton as we have shared concerns. Nobody in St George's will have the same concerns or give the same support that we've had from [REDACTED], as its not on their doorstep. We've also had major issues with boy racers on the A518. Again, local councillors are supporting in dealing with this whereas I'm sure councillors in St Georges will not be si concerned as neither of these issues affect them directly. For these reasons I totally oppose the proposal to change our boundary. We have many shared things in common and shared issues with Muxton and Lilleshall and it should remain so.
8	as Priorslee wishes to go alone i feel it should have a 4/3 split and have 7 members to make it a more inclusive parish., sad to see St Georges move away but tats is the feeling of priorslee residents so in the proposals i feel the new St Georges &

	Donnington should have maximum of 15 cllrs and warded 1 redhill ward 1 snedshill ward 1 the lamb ward 1 The humbers ward 2 Donnington Wood ward 1 St Georges East 4 Donnington 4 St Georges West
9	I support the proposals, despite a few [REDACTED] the Parish Council here does an awful lot despite the low council tax. i know the people in the big houses want to move away but our borough councillors work hard and just get attacked by the same few people. the Gower looks great and its saved, our streets are clean and repaired and the hanging baskets look lovely every year. the St Georges Day was brought back by the Borough councillors and they work hard to make it a family event with lots of free activities. I don't know if joining Donnington is the correct answer but i know they deliver similar things although losing Priorslee means St Georges needs a new partner. i would be glad to see the back of Priorslee the Parish have done a lot for them and they still moan like replacing the clock. so i fully support the proposals as joining Oakengates would be too expensive for council tax payers.
10	I can not understand why we would merge with St Georges which is further away than muxton. Is this a tactical move to try and secure labour places?. How can you look after the heart of our community Donnington by doing this?.
11	The parish council should stay as it currently is, as in Donnington & Muxton. To join Donnington up with St Georges would be wrong. Muxton is more our "neighbour" than St Georges will ever be in terms of distance, associated interests/heritage etc.
12	I agree that the demographic and identities of Donnington and Muxton are very different and that both communities could be better served by separating their community into two Councils. However, I feel that the communities of Wrockwardine Wood and Trench would be better served joining the Council of Donnington & St Georges. Wrockwardine Wood and Trench has a hard boundary of the A442 between them and the town of Oakengates. Wrockwardine Wood and Trench residents already use services and attend a significant amount of events in Donnington which are organised by the current Parish Council which serves Donnington. Having taken the opportunity to speak with a number of residents who live in Trench, they feel a stronger identity with Donnington rather than another town council quite a distance away.