

Wrockwardine and Rodington

Email Responses:

1	Dear Sir/Madam Please accept this email as an objection to the plan to amalgamate Rodington Parish Council with Wrockwardine. These parishes have very distinct identities and I along with many others in my community feel that this proposal does not take this into account. Rodington is a successful parish council and able to respond to local concerns. Under the proposal, the number of councillors for my area would be reduced to three which I feel is insufficient. I know there has been a number of objections already put forward and one wonders why bother with a consultation exercise if the wishes of the community are ignored. At no point has there been an explanation how the proposed change will benefit the residents of Rodington Parish. I feel the proposal will dilute local democracy rather than enhance it and I object in the strongest terms.
2	Good afternoon Wrockwardine Parish Council wish to make the following submission in response to the proposed changes: Re: Community Governance Review At the Parish Council meeting held on 8 October 2025, the current revised proposal of the Community Governance Review was discussed, and the consultation period from 26 September 2025 to 19 October 2025 was noted. It was resolved to make the following submission: · The area proposed is too large geographically and would result in a rural parish that is difficult to administer effectively. · The logistics of administering such a large area would be challenging. · Meetings alternating between Wrockwardine and Rodington would mean parish residents from the whole proposed parish would be less likely to attend. Each meeting would also be more likely to be biased toward the locality of the venue. · Future housing, already proposed around Allscott, would add strength to Wrockwardine side of the Parish and inevitably this population growth and the increased income generated would have the most likely consequence of leading Wrockwardine to dominate the proposed Parish Council. This would therefore be incompatible with the stated aims of community representation and cohesion. · Both Wrockwardine and Rodington have their own community ties and facilities.

	Local representation is essential and would be lost with the distance that would be involved in managing such a large, combined area. We have nothing against Rodington Parish Council, but Wrockwardine Parish Council would like to remain as such.
3	Good afternoon, Please find attached the Community Governance Review response from Rodington Parish Council. Please could you confirm receipt of this email? Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you. Wrockwardine and Rodington Annex A
4	Telford and Wrekin Council Subject: OBJECTION to the proposed merger Rodington and Wrockwardine Dear Sir/Madam, I am writing as a resident of Rodington to formally object to the proposed merger of Rodington Parish Council and Wrockwardine Parish Council(s), which is currently being reviewed as part of the Community Governance Review I believe that this proposal would not serve the best interests of our community for the following material reasons: 1. Loss of Community Identity and Local Voice The current Parish Council serves our distinct local community, and a merger would risk diluting our unique community identity. The sense of belonging and representation would be significantly weakened in a larger, less familiar entity. Our Parish Council is an effective and familiar body that addresses the specific needs of our residents, and the proposed merger would remove this crucial level of local representation. 2. Ineffective and Inconvenient Administration Combining our parish with another could lead to a less efficient and more difficult-to-administer authority, especially one that relies on volunteer councillors. Rodington volunteers would not like to be involved with a community that is distant and remote.

	We have nothing in common. It is not clear how combining larger parishes can result in any savings as the councillors are all volunteers. 3. Negative Impact on Community Engagement and Local Services Our Parish Council provides valued local services and engagement, such as recently installed speed indicator devices, maintenance of the graveyard and future initiatives required within the graveyard. The merger could jeopardize the continuation of the locally organised events at the village hall including families and children and community-focused initiatives. A combined council may not have the focus, resources, or specific local knowledge to maintain this level of commitment to our smaller community. 4. Lack of Clear Justification or Demonstrated Benefits I am unaware of how such a move would benefit our community. This in my view will have an adverse effect on our great local community. I urge you to conduct a thorough and comprehensive review of this proposal, taking into full account the strong community sentiment against it. I request that my objection, and those of other residents, are given the proper weight and consideration they deserve. Thank you for your time and consideration.
5	Wrockwardine and Rodington Annex B

Survey Responses:

1	Proposal should not be approved, each parish council needs to retain its independence
2	Rodington and Longd9'-upon-turn have an amazing parish council who are doing wonderful things for our community. Over the last few years their efforts have brought the community together with events and initiatives that are important and relevant to our villages and the surrounding areas. Things like looking at footpaths, roads, community services and providing events such as the Christmas light switch in all of which are loved by the community. They were involved with planning and know our area well. To merge with Wrockwardine would be terrible for our community as the excellent work our current parish councillors do will be massively diverted and responsibility for a much larger area will mean less focus for local issues. I strongly oppose this proposal, and believe like many other residents that this merger will have nothing but negative impact on our community. Rodington Parish Council should remain as it is, with its current number of councillors so it can look after the local area and residents that need them.

3	Wrockwardine and Rodington parishes may be geographically close but they are very different indeed, and I can say that after living all of my 50+ years in Longdon-on-Tern. Whilst I understand the logic behind the plan I cannot believe that the representation of my area, which is already diluted within the Rodington parish with be further so. Issues which are relevant and important to a locale such as public footpaths, traffic speed and volume, local services, public transport, planning simply can not get the same attention with reduced representation within a larger area. For this reason I object strongly to the plan and would be exceptionally disappointed and dismayed if it went ahead.
4	I support the merger of the two parish councils, Wrockwardine and Rodington. In Long Lane we have 4 different parish councils, depending which part of Long Lane residents live, determines which one of the four represents a said address. A reduction would start to make it more simple.
5	Wrockwardine on the map may look close, but is not directly accessible without going through other parishes. The geographical area of Roddington Parish is widespread, being mainly farmlands. Long distances between residents makes site visits to residents a time consuming process. Reducing the number of Councillors from 7 to 3 will reduce the effectiveness of an otherwise award winning Council.
6	As a resident of Rodington Parish Council, I wish to express my opposition to the proposed merger with Wrockwardine Parish Council. The current Rodington Parish Council has consistently demonstrated active engagement and responsiveness to the needs of our community over the years. I am highly satisfied with the support, representation, and services provided, which have been tailored to the specific interests and priorities of our local area. Furthermore, I am concerned about the limited notice and timeframe given to residents to review the proposal and provide meaningful input. Such a change to local governance warrants thorough consultation and transparency, allowing all affected residents adequate time to understand the implications and voice their views. The proposal does not sufficiently justify the need for the merger process, nor does it reflect the distinct identity and effective governance that Rodington Parish Council has maintained. A merger risks diluting the focused attention our parish currently receives and may compromise the quality of local representation. Noting that a Community Governance Review is required to take into account: The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion; The size, population, and boundaries of the local community or parish. The council must also ensure that governance within the area under review: Reflects the identities and interests of the community; Is effective and convenient. Based on these criteria, the proposal to merge does not demonstrate a clear benefit or necessity. Rodington Parish Council already meets these standards effectively, and its continued independence supports strong community cohesion and local identity. For these reasons, I respectfully ask the decision-makers to reconsider this proposal and to preserve the autonomy and integrity of Rodington Parish Council, which continues to serve its residents effectively.
7	Why change something that's not broken, currently as a resident of Rodington Which I feel is always second best to Longden OT, anyway in Parish decisions, how will this help our community? By joining with Wrockwardine we are sure to loose some of the focus and decisions becoming diluted, in favour of Other Parish councils.

8	I object to the proposal to merge Rodington Parish Council with Wrockwardine Parish Council. This merger would not reflect the identity or interests of the Rodington community and would not deliver more effective or convenient local governance, as required by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and national guidance for Community Governance Reviews. □ 1. Loss of democratic voice and local accountability Rodington currently benefits from a small, responsive parish council made up of residents who know the village's issues first-hand—flooding, narrow-lane traffic hazards, drainage, and the preservation of its rural setting. If merged, Rodington would hold only three of eight councillor seats and would inevitably become a minority voice within a larger, more Wrockwardine-centred body. Experience elsewhere shows that smaller wards in merged parishes struggle to have their priorities reflected in budgets and agendas. Meetings would likely be based in Wrockwardine, making participation less convenient for Rodington residents. This undermines the very principle of local accessibility and accountability. 2. Community identity and cohesion Rodington and Wrockwardine are distinct rural communities separated by open farmland, different traffic patterns, and different day-to-day links to surrounding settlements. Residents identify with their own village rather than with Wrockwardine, and there is little shared infrastructure or community overlap. Combining the two would create an artificial administrative unit without a coherent community identity. The review's own guidance requires that governance structures "reflect the identities and interests of the community"; this proposal does not. 3. Planning and long-term development risks An independent Rodington Parish Council provides a clear, statutory voice in planning consultations and in shaping the borough's Local Plan 2041. A merged parish would speak collectively for both communities, meaning Rodington's smaller-scale, rural priorities could easily be overruled by the majority. The village could also lose the ability to prepare its own Neighbourhood Development Plan or maintain separate design and conservation policies. That weakens Rodington's ability to manage future growth pressures or resist development unsuited to its landscape and infrastructure. 4. Practical disadvantages for residents The proposed merger offers no tangible benefits to residents—only administrative tidiness for the borough. It would create transitional costs (integrating finances, staff and policies), and risks Rodington losing eligibility for small-parish funding streams. Residents would find their representatives less accessible, and local decision-making slower and more bureaucratic. The current parish arrangements already operate effectively and efficiently; there is no evidence of dysfunction to justify disruption. 5. Absence of community demand or proven benefit Previous consultation rounds have already shown strong opposition to large composite parishes. No local evidence demonstrates that Rodington residents want or would benefit from this merger. The proposal appears primarily motivated by administrative convenience rather than by the needs or identity of the communities affected. In summary: Creating a combined "Wrockwardine & Rodington Parish Council" would weaken democratic accountability, reduce Rodington's planning influence, and erode a clearly distinct rural identity. It fails both statutory tests for a Community Governance Review—reflecting community identity and providing effective and convenient local government. I therefore urge the Boundary Review Committee to reject this merger and retain Rodington Parish Council as an independent body, preserving local representation, community voice, and the ability to plan appropriately for its own future.
9	If this goes ahead the number of Councillors for Rodington seems to be unfair, 3 for Rodington 5 for Wrockwardine. Will anything ever get approved for Rodington. If this must go ahead should the boundaries of responsibility not be drawn so that there are two equal areas, so that the representation is equal, eg. 4 and 4 so that there is a fair distribution and fair discussion of any issue or funding.

10	I disagree entirely with this proposal and am disappointed that Telford and Wrekin Council have ignored the views of residents who have expressed their views. - It runs totally contrary to localism, (2007) - We are two geographically separate areas. Neither area has indicated any interest in or need for merging. - A merger would inevitably weaken the work of both parish councils and therefore benefits to residents.
11	I am against the proposed merger, I do not believe this to be a 'good move' we are 2 very different areas and combining these 2 areas will end in Rodington's parish budget getting absorbed into Wrockwardine. Telford and Wrekin council should be focusing on other endeavours which are far more important. I feel there is an undertone to this merger which is related to increasing housing in the area and this could be the councils way of getting planning of 2 very large housing developments into the area of Rodington. Therefore I am in onjection to the merger.
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13	I am writing to formally object to the proposal to merge Rodington Parish Council with Wrockwardine as part of Telford & Wrekin Council's Community Governance Review. As a resident of Rodington, I have serious concerns about the impact this merger would have on local governance, representation, and the identity of our community. 1. Loss of Local Identity and Representation Rodington Parish has a long-standing and distinct rural identity, with its own priorities, character, and community issues. Merging with a geographically separate and more populated parish like Wrockwardine risks marginalising the voices of residents in Rodington and surrounding villages. A single parish council covering a larger and more diverse area would dilute local representation and reduce the ability of councillors to focus on issues specific to our community. 2. Geographical and Practical Concerns There are clear practical and geographic differences between Rodington and Wrockwardine. The communities are separated by significant rural distance and lack strong direct links in terms of shared services, infrastructure, or community interaction. This merger risks creating an administrative structure that is neither cohesive nor representative. 3. Lack of Local Support and Consultation Transparency To my knowledge, many local residents oppose this merger, and Rodington Parish Council itself has expressed concern. The process so far has not adequately involved or informed local residents, and there is a sense that the consultation has been rushed or insufficiently publicised. The proposal appears inconsistent with the Council's own Terms of Reference for the review, particularly with respect to respecting community identity and ensuring effective and convenient local governance. In conclusion, I strongly urge the Council to reconsider this merger proposal and to retain Rodington as an independent parish council, in line with the views of its residents and in the interests of effective local democracy.
14	As a resident of Rodington Heath, I am writing to object to the proposed merger of Rodington Parish Council with Wrockwardine Parish Council, currently under consultation as part of the Community Governance Review. This proposal is neither practical nor in the best interests of our community. I strongly urge Telford & Wrekin Council to retain Rodington Parish Council as a separate and independent entity, for the following reasons: 1. Loss of Local Identity and Voice Longdon-upon-Tern, Rodington, and the surrounding hamlets form a distinct rural parish with its own priorities and identity. Merging us with Wrockwardine — a larger, more populous, and quite different community — would risk drowning out the unique voice of our

	smaller villages. There is no strong community of interest that justifies such a merger, and this change would erode the local focus that parish councils are meant to preserve. 2. Geographical Separation and Accessibility Issues There is a physical and practical separation between our communities. Travel between Rodington and areas of Wrockwardine parish is neither direct nor convenient, and the two do not share regular services or infrastructure. If merged, residents here would find it harder to engage with councillors, attend meetings, or raise concerns — directly undermining the principles of local accountability and accessible governance. 3. Lack of Evident Community Support To date, I have seen no convincing evidence that residents of Rodington parish support this merger. On the contrary, discussions in the village suggest many are opposed, and the process has lacked visibility and transparency. If this merger proceeds despite significant local resistance, it will damage trust in both the consultation and the council's commitment to democratic engagement. 4. Better Alternatives Exist If the Council is seeking administrative efficiency or resource sharing, there are other ways to achieve this — such as inter-parish cooperation agreements — without dissolving our parish council and merging with a community that has little in common with ours. In summary, I object to this proposed merger in the strongest terms. the Rodington parish deserve to retain our independent representation, our identity, and our voice in local affairs. I respectfully ask the Council to withdraw this proposal and confirm that Rodington Parish Council will remain a separate entity.
15	I oppose the changes to the parishes most strongly. I cannot see any advantage to local residents. The local Parish Council should be as the name suggests, A Local Parish Council not incorporated into other Parishes for the convenience of T&W. We have a good PC which works well, if it's not broken (which it isn't) don't fix it. I can only assume there are ulterior motives working here which I am unaware of because this proposal is not in the interests of Rodington residents and most probably neither Wrockwardine either. The proposed Parish Council will be too big and will lose its local identity and focus serving the residents of all both existing Parishes. Rodington has already merged with Longon on Tern and having attended a few meetings as a member of the public it's obvious this doesn't flow well with councillors from each village (understandably) having different priorities. This merger would make this much worse. This proposed change directly contradicts your own guidance, ToW 3.4 referring to 'identities and interests of communities' Referring to your Terms of Reference: I note a CGR was done in 2023 which didn't identify any change needed but mysteriously only just over a year later another one is announced. Two CGR's in 2 years instead of one in 10 to 15? I smell a rat and what a waste of public money. '3.2 Furthermore, guidance states that it is good practice to conduct a full CGR at least every 10 to 15 years. Whilst the Council commenced a review in 2023, this did not result in any changes being made and, consequently, it is considered appropriate to undertake a further review to identify whether or not any changes are now needed.' This is a massive contradiction, it's obviously politically motivated and not in the best interests of residents who pay for this 'service'. Why is it considered appropriate to undertake a further review when the previous one didn't identify a need for change? The document is obviously withholding something. No change should mean just that as published, no change identified. Rodington has a distinct rural village character, local heritage, and residents' community expectations which differ from those of the neighbouring Wrockwardine area. A single merged parish threatens to blur these differences. In future local plan and development matters, our smaller community risks being overshadowed. For example, if development proposals come through, the combined parish may push "one size fits all" policy that does not properly reflect Rodington's smaller-scale, historic village context. Rodington's ability to adopt its own Neighbourhood Development Plan or local design/green-space protections may be compromised under the larger parish. Losing that stronger local voice means lesser ability to steer development in a way

	consistent with our settlement hierarchy and rural setting. For these reasons I believe that retaining an independent Rodington parish council is essential to preserving the community's identity and ensuring future planning decisions reflect our village's needs.
16	I strongly object to the proposed merger of Rodington parish and Wrockwardine parish . After reviewing your maps and data the parish of Wrockwardine has a much higher population to that of Rodington parish , which will further increase due to new sites at Allscott in the local plan , therefore - 1 the councillors representing the residents of Rodington will be outnumbered 2 the potential issues facing Wrockwardine parish will be very different to Rodington due Wrockwardine parish largely consisting of the new Allscott village resulting in a different focus not in line with the issues in Rodington
17	Rodington currently enjoys its own parish council, meaning decisions affecting our village are made by councillors who live here, understand the local issues and are accountable locally. Merging into a larger parish risks diluting that direct accountability.
18	As a resident of Rodington I feel this merger will weaken our position as our councillors will be in a minority of the new parish and their voice will be overlooked. The existing Wrockwardine parish is much larger and will continue to grow with the new developments at Allscott and their focus will understandably quite different to the rural area of Rodington. I feel this proposed merger is not in the best interests of the residents of Rodington but fear it is of little consequence to the forces driving this change.