

Telford and Wrekin Borough Council

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Organisation Name: CHURCH ASTON AND CHETWYND ASTON VILLAGE HALL

Comment text:

What are the assumptions in moving from the current no. of voters to the predicted numbers?

Uploaded Documents:

Download (https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download_document?file=draft%2F1623403882_LETTER+TO+BOUNDARY+COMMISSION.docx)

I write as the Chair and Trustee of Church and Chetwynd Aston Village Hall, and a resident of Church Aston for 44 years, with an explanation of the role of the hall in the community and a proposal for the councillor representation that will be equitable and future proofed.

The hall was first established with the donation of land by Colonel Leeke, who lost both his sons in WW1 in 1920, with the donation of land. The first hall was an ex-army hut from Cannock Chase that burnt down in the 1970s and the current cedar wood building erected. We are due to celebrate the 100 years of the hall this year on 3rd July with a children centric party (A year late due to Covid)

The hall has recently gone through a major project called GOING GREEN when 14Kw of solar panels were installed on the roof linked to a storage battery, the whole building insulated and decorated, and both the main hall and meeting room fitted with Air Conditioning (6Kw) to both counter the high summer temperatures and hopefully replace the old ,expensive, noisy, and unreliable 70Kw gas system.

All of this work was done with the support of charitable grants and the hard work of volunteers from both of the villages. All of the work was both financially and morally supported by both Church Aston and Chetwynd Aston Parish Councils and our excellent T & W councillor Andrew Eade.

You can see some of the work on our recently established website and linked Facebook at ccastonvillagehall.co.uk.

Before the covid lockdowns the hall was very heavily used by many local groups of all ages and backgrounds and abilities indeed only one weekly session was available for hire. The groups included a scout, beavers, and cubs' group with some 130 members, an elderly whist group, many exercise classes, Yoga, Tai Chi, Medau, Junior Karate, Urban Out Steppers, Long Mat Bowls, and a Christian religious group meeting on a Sunday.

Progressively the groups are returning as the regulations and their confidence allows.

We have many events planned for later in this year to get our community back to normal as possible. This community spirit is vital for the health and wellbeing of all.

Now a proposal.

I recognise that areas change and there is a need for good representation at local government level and that this is not a political move but one that recognises the historical character of the communities.

Currently we are represented as a part of Lilleshall, Church Aston, Chetwynd Aston, and Woodcote.

There is to be some large housing developments in mainly Chetwynd Aston and parts of Church Aston that could make the representation uneven but would enhance the community of, particularly Chetwynd.

It is important that the historical character of both Church Aston and Chetwynd Aston are maintained to sustain the community.

Create an area that focusses on Church Aston and Chetwynd Aston with its current boundaries respected and future proof the proposal as the land available for future housing is likely to be in these areas. It is important that the areas are not submerged in the Newport Town as we depend on the separate identity to maintain the community identity.

Such a move would cement the communities and provide equitable representation without political bias.

I urge that you actively consider such a proposal.

Having worked in Operational Research, albeit some time ago, I understand the processes of making such decisions.

Am happy to make a presentation to you directly if it would be of value.