

# Solihull

## Personal Details:

**Name:** Mr Lee Browning  
**Email:** [REDACTED]  
**Postcode:** [REDACTED]  
**Organisation Name:** Clean and Green (Representative of parish/town council)

## Comment text:

**Related subject:** Kingshurst

As Kingshurst Parish Council, we strongly advocate for boundary changes that accurately reflect the community's identity and cohesion within the proposed ward boundaries.

KPC would like to provide valuable feedback on the current boundary review, with a particular focus on the naming and delineation of certain areas within the proposed wards. It is imperative that any adjustments made accurately reflect community identity and linkage, fostering a sense of representation and connection among residents.

The discrepancies identified in the proposed naming and delineation, especially concerning Smith's Wood and Kingshurst. It is evident that the proposed area designated as Smith's Wood encompasses what most local residents would identify as Kingshurst, while the area named Fordbridge and Kingshurst primarily consists of Fordbridge, with only a portion of what locals recognise as Chelmsley Wood.

We propose renaming the proposed Smith's Wood ward to incorporate North Kingshurst into its title, such as "Smith's Wood and North Kingshurst." This adjustment will ensure that residents feel represented within their ward and better reflect the community's identity.

Kingshurst Parish Council, established in 1955, has been actively representing the interests of their community and In addition, community groups play a vital role in fostering a sense of belonging and cohesion among our residents.

Identifiable boundaries can be established based on natural features such as Babbs Mill Nature Reserve, which was created in 1977 and serves as a significant boundary marker. Rerouting the ward boundary along the length of Cooks Lane, instead of drawing it on the Cooks Lane side of the river, would better reflect community cohesion and natural geographic features, ensuring that the ward boundaries align with the natural landscape of the area and historical significance.

The historical roots of Kingshurst as a Royal Manor, its evolution into a predominantly residential area, and the recent regeneration efforts underscore the importance of the inclusion of Kingshurst within the ward of Smith's Wood by ensuring that Kingshurst is recognised and represented within its own ward, residents can be assured that their unique identity, history, and ongoing development efforts will be given the attention and consideration they deserve

The recent regeneration efforts, such as the approval of the Kingshurst Village Center after 20 years of anticipation, underscore the importance of including Kingshurst within the ward of Smith's Wood.

Our Residents urge for boundary changes that prioritise community identity, cohesion, and representation. By incorporating North Kingshurst into the Smiths wood ward title, aligning ward boundaries with natural features, and acknowledging the community's interests and historical significance, we can create wards that better serve the needs of our residents.

## **Attached Documents:**

*None attached*