

York

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Related subject: Westfield Ward

1. My view is that the proposed Council size of 47 is too large. There should be some economies in running the democratic process in York, especially as the YNYCA Mayor is now discharging several functions.
2. Generally, I think that accountability is best served by having single-member wards.
3. Specifically, I would want to see a single-member ward covering the distinctive community of Foxwood. This is broadly the current KF polling district.
4. The main community of interest for Foxwood is with the Woodthorpe neighbourhood (CC/CD polling districts). The community of interest arises from the large number of people using the Woodthorpe shopping area, the medical practice, the dentists, the primary school, Acomb Wood amenity area and the Church (St James the Deacon).
In reverse, some Woodthorpe residents use the Foxwood Community Centre, the Foxwood Park and the shops on Foxwood Lane.
A bus service passes through both communities.
Foxwood has no community of interest with parts of the Westfield ward, such as Chapelfields. As a minimum, the Foxwood Park should be in the Foxwood Ward (or Foxwood polling district), as should Chesneys Field. There are no electors living on either open space, so it makes no difference to the number of electors.
5. The JRHT Woodlands estate is split between two wards. It (the Sherringham Drive area) should be included in any Foxwood Ward.
6. If there is an elector numeric deficit, then my first choice of additional areas to be added to a new Foxwood Ward would be the Woodthorpe area.
Alternatively, part of Gale Lane and St Stephen's Road/Askham Lane could be added to make up the quota.

7. A second best choice would be to have a two-member ward based on Foxwood/Woodthorpe/Acomb Park (KF, CC and CD polling districts)
8. Generally, I support elections by thirds. This ensures that there is no cliff face change in Council membership. It allows experience to be shared with new members and a measured change to any new regime that the electorate might favour.

Attached Documents:

None attached