

Workload carried out across the whole Parish

As you may be aware the Borough Council are currently conducting a consultation concerning the review of Boundaries in Swindon. Their view is that it would be good to create Parishes in the non-parished areas of the town and revisit some of the existing Parish Boundaries. The two illustrative maps produced by the Borough Councillors show a division of Blunsdon St Andrew Parish thereby creating a new St Andrews Ward Parish in line with the Borough Council Ward (St Andrew's Ridge, Ash Brake, Redhouse and Tadpole Garden Village) or that the same area is subsumed by Haydon Wick Parish Council. This would mean that Blunsdon St Andrew Parish, established since 1894, would only then cover the existing area East of the new A419.

Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council is strongly against this idea. 75% of the allocated Parish Councillors are drawn and work from within the suggested 'new' Parish area and we provide and administer many services across the Parish but these specifically in the proposed new parish:-

- ✓ 91% of our play areas are in the proposed new area and 100% of the maintenance costs
- ✓ 81% of our 53 dog bins are in the proposed area and are serviced by us
- ✓ The majority of planning matters that take up Parish time are in that area
- ✓ We run the new Community Centre there
- ✓ We help fund the Redhouse Residents Association
- ✓ We help fund the Community part of Abbey Meads School
- ✓ We help fund Butterflies Children's Centre activities
- ✓ We help fund the Bios Van project for youth
- ✓ We have installed outdoor fitness equipment and have planned and budgeted for more
- ✓ A 70% share of the Parish staff's hours/admin costs is spent there
- ✓ The Parish Clerk works from her office there
- ✓ We have even refurbished the K6 Telephone Box there!

We have provided notice boards and signs and police bicycles and funded street parties and given Diamond Jubilee commemorative medals to all school pupils.

We have a great relationship with Haydon Wick Parish Council and work with them on many projects from road safety to transferring assets.

If Parishioners were aware of the true facts and costs associated with the current Parish and the actual cost of setting up a new one.

If you are still in favour of the Parish split keep your name on the petition, if you now wish to change your mind let us know by telephone (705617), e mail contact@blunsdonparishcouncil.co.uk, Facebook me or Redhouse Community Centre. Thank you.

Ian Jankinson – Chair Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council