



Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without Parish Council

Clerk. Mr. Peter Armstrong; 27 Belton Ave, Grantham, Lincolnshire. NG31 9JE

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6/1/23

Dear Julie,

As the Parish council have not received the short survey/questionnaire as Stage 2 Consultation we can only deliver our consolidated PC view that has been shared with our parishioners who may be impacted, as follows:

1. They would no longer have the same councillor representing them....there would be new elections.
[Currently they have one very active Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without Councillor living in this area.](#)
2. Their Council tax would become part of the Grantham Parish/Town Councils charges and whilst we do not know what the rates would be, we can only compare current rates of Grantham (£1923.75) and Londonthorpe and Harrowby Without (£1888.02) for a Band D property indicating potentially higher costs from being part of a Grantham Council.
3. As the proposed Grantham Parish/Town Council would represent over 43000 people the ratio of councillor to population will be lower than they enjoy currently. We are aware this does not save money as Parish Councillors are not paid for their work and rarely claim any expenses.
4. We cannot give any idea of the costs of the changes at this time. **(Still SKDC have been unable to provide any information on this.)** The Parish Council has contracts with various suppliers and this change would obviously impact on those. Any changes to contracts will likely cost additional monies, although we cannot be certain at this time.
5. Town Councils tend to have a more political makeup than parish councils whilst ours is largely independent. (The discussions so far by this SKDC committee confirm this would not be the case the GTC)
6. Our parish council will have to stop providing the Bridge End Grove Recreation Area, as it would be out of our parish. (Our equipment would be removed and used on one of our other sites.)

We do not though want to see any increases in costs for any our parishioners due to this boundary change. Current Parishes have existed for generations and have their own character, which would be lost in a more remote council. Parish councillors actually live in their parishes and are an excellent contact and local voice for the community. Don't make this relationship more remote for our parishioners please.

Parish Councils such as ours, own numerous assets such as play areas, nature areas etc which they would not wish to lose.

Our overall position on this is that we are very clear we do not see any advantages to our residents in any proposed transfer, in fact the removal of the existing relationship with our parishioners established over many years would be detrimental to their interests.

Kind Regards

Pete Armstrong Clerk to the PC - On behalf of the Parish Councillors

P A Armstrong