

Meadow View
Henley
Box
Wiltshire
SN13 8DB

15th October 2015

Dear People considering boundary changes

Changes to the Corsham Boundary

I attended the consultation at the Springfield Centre last night and would like to make a few points:

The main reason given for the changes were that it was an exercise in tidying up the boundaries and then too, a support for new communities:

I just don't get it! What, administratively speaking, difference does a wiggly line make, has the request come from some graphics department because they are unable to draw wiggly lines anymore? And regarding the land the far side of the A350 bordering Chippenham, surely the simplest and easiest aesthetic answer would be to continue the existing northern boundary of the highlighted area along the watercourse (river) to fill in the area and bring the whole lot into Corsham, that would tidy it up much simpler. The reasoning behind the suggested plan was not fully explained.

And as for tidying up the lines in Box this clearly doesn't work either as the bottom section of the area remains clearly jagged.

Anyway all this tidying up is really a superficial reason and a façade. The people of the concerned areas have clearly not been consulted enough and little local debate has taken place. It appears from my point of view, that this is wholly in the case of Corsham and particularly in Box an exercise in bureaucrats needing to validate themselves and their work, and an unnecessary and costly exercise. It may be an opportunity for a review, but in my opinion we are ok thanks.

Many farms, hamlets and communities in the area are split over parish boundaries already, and yet don't shout about split identity. People will identify themselves with the people and places that are most meaningful to them, one cannot enforce a change.

Essentially I am writing to keep Box and Corsham as they are. There was no mention as to what benefit Corsham has in giving away land to Chippenham, once its gone its gone. And if there is to be a change I am in support of Box Parish Council's suggestion of embracing the fewer homes in Rudloe that are at present in 'Corsham' into Box.

I am also writing to say that there appears to be a total lack of reasoning why or need to mess with any of the boundaries and that those who have motioned the idea are not being clear, justified and transparent with the motives, The benefits to those living in the area were not given nor were the benefits of letting go parcels of land made clear. Also, it is really not justifiable as I can see either not to be able to talk about the money involved, any money effecting changes for the parishes or knock on effects to

council charges etc, for individuals and councils alike. Where did that 'rule' come from??? In these days of austerity and financial accountability I think it is disgusting that this is not being approached in an open and accountable way, so that individuals can consider financial consequence.

That's it for now
Yours truly

Sally Mitchell

Sally Mitchell