**Bradford Ward Boundary Review 2023**

**Information for Baildon Town Council Full Council meeting 24th July 2023**

Cllr Knowles and Cllr Jennison met (Clerk in attendance) on 13th July to discuss the Bradford Ward Boundary Review, issues for BTC and our possible response to the consultation. The consultation deadline is 4th September and the only BTC meeting to discuss and formulate a response is Full Council on 26th July. Details about the review and consultation process are attached (‘Bradford Community Groups Presentation’).

Cllr Knowles has previous experience in boundary reviews and has prepared the following paper. Consultation comments must start from the premise of a ‘community identity’ reason for proposing changes. Comments can not be based on political reasons. Comments must take cognisance of the Electoral Numbers (see attached Electoral Figures Bradford) and the imperative to keep Wards within the +/-10% of average electorate projected for 2029.

**Community Identity**

Baildon is an historic community in the Aire Valley with a clear and distinctive identity, and is largely surrounded by Green Belt land. The River Aire forms a physical barrier, and Baildon Bridge into Shipley is the only road crossing of this river in the 10 kilometres length between Bingley and Apperley Bridge. Baildon is currently split between two Bradford City Council Wards, c90% of electors are located in Baildon Ward and c10% of electors are located in Shipley Ward.

Baildon has defined a boundary for Neighbourhood Plan purposes and this includes part of Shipley Ward (polling district 22A).

Baildon is bounded:

* to the north and east by Guiseley in the Wharfe Valley, which is part of Leeds City Council
* to the west by moorland and by Bingley, with just one connecting moorland road
* to the south by Shipley, with just one connecting road, the A6038 Otley Road

**Baildon’s current City Council Wards**

1. **Baildon Ward**: 6/7 Polling Districts of Baildon Town Council (PDs 01A, 01B, 01C, 01E, 01F & 01G) which form 5/6 Baildon Town Council Wards (West, North, East, South East, South & South respectively) , plus Esholt (PD 01D)
2. **part of Shipley Ward** : 1 Polling District (PD 22A) which forms Baildon Town Council’s South West Ward

**City of Bradford:**

Total Electorate 2023: 370,124; 2029: 393,754

Average per ward: 2023: 12,336; 2029: 13,125

Range within 10% 2023: 11,102-13,570; 2029: 11.812-14,438

Wards more than 10% larger or smaller than average number of electors:

>10% above average: 4 Wards: Bingley, Bingley Rural, City & Craven

>10% below average: 4 Wards; Wharfedale, Wibsey. Worth Valley & Wyke

Current Baildon Ward: 2023 -3% of average electorate; 2029 -2% of average electorate

**Baildon Town Council’s Proposal**

BTC could resolve to

1. make no comment
2. make the comment that Baildon Ward expands to include the whole of the Baildon community within one City Council Ward by adding Polling District 22A (2023 electorate 1,157; 2029 electorate 1,234) which is located on the Baildon side of the River Aire. The new Baildon Ward therefore is 2023:13,122 electorate 2029:14,109 electorate. And that minor adjustments to Old Springs hamlet on the Baildon/Bingley boundary are consulted on with the residents in that area.
3. Submission of comments will be delegated to the Clerk.

Richard Knowles 11th July 2023 (revised by Clerk 12th July).