

Appendix 3

Number	Q5 Further Comments	Polling District
SP2	It would seem that increasing the number of Stoke Heath Councillors on the Council would be a way forward	AVA
SP4	Get rid of existing PC as it doesn't do anything for the vast majority of people	AVB
SP5	Seems a waste of resources in these exceptional times. I suggest leave it as it is. I cannot see any benefit just expense	AVA
SP6	Should become less political.	AVB
SP9	We don't need another group of Councillors.	AVB
SP10	We don't wish to pay any more Council tax and if the PC is working why change it. I would imagine it is hard enough to get parish councillors for 1 council let alone 2 The PC office has to close due to circumstances in Stoke Prior probably funding so now is there going to be enough for 2 councils without putting Ctax up.	AVA
SP11	The case that the "petitioners feel that a disproportionate amount of the precept money is spent in the Stoke Prior ward" is simply not made out on the information presented in their communication. The maps which accompany it is quite the most indistinct that I have ever seen. I would like to know how many petitioners there might be. I suspect this may well be a case of tiny minority, causing expenditure and getting excited about something which in reality is trivial. As I have said: Case not made out	AVB
SP14	I think our Ctax could be put to better use than sending out all these letters	AVB
SP15	Happy with the way it currently works	AVA
SP18	My initial feeling is " why is it necessary to create another level of bureaucracy which would cost the ratepayers more and is unnecessary at these difficult times. We do not know why the petition has been raised so very difficult to judge. If residents feel left out then get involved"	AVA
SP19	Regarding the precept not being spent in Stoke Heath that's how administration of my taxes to the government are not always spent locally. Bare in mind a large proportion of Stoke Heath would remain in Stoke parish as historically it went that far unless no parish council was formed costs would rise due to administration.	AVA
SP20	I see no benefit to increase bureaucracy and in particular costs in the community.	AVA

SP21	The "suggested" (shaded green) of the proposed Stoke Heath Parish is NOT representative of Stoke Heath by any stretch of the imagination! Where are the 000'S of properties to the east and west of Hanbury Rd (from the Hanbury Turn to Rock Hill) you cannot call Stoke Heath PC if it is not representing the residents living there! Other properties along Redditch Rd are also seemingly "MISSING"	AVA
SP22	I think the current PC does a good job and I can't see how splitting the budget further and yet having more people involved will make any further difference to services other than spread the budget more thinly.	AVB
SP24	Where as creating a new parish could reflect individual needs more it just introduces more bureaucracy for a small area and means that services could be restricted due to some households making contributions for the same services	AVA
SP31	It should be kept as one parish. Two parish's would cause duplication and unnecessary expense when tendering for services.	AVA
SP32	A waste of public money	AVA
SP33	I do not see the need for creating two parishes when the current one is working very efficiently. Also the cost of doing this paying two lots of councillors/election officers etc.	AVB
SP35	I think that creating extra, smaller parish councils makes no sense. It will create inefficiencies due to its tiny size and end up costing the ratepayers more. If Stoke Heath really feel that they have to create Stoke Parish, then I suggest it makes more sense for them to join an adjoining parish instead, Charford for example.	AVA
SP36	I feel the current Parish serves all the community fairly at the moment. It is a waste of time, money and resources to create another parish. It's not really necessary. Our current council is doing a great job.	AVA
SP41	More dog poo bins are needed in the Stoke pound area-it's a real problem.	AVA
SP42	Why are the homes on Weston Hall Rd called under Stoke Prior when they are in Stoke Works. Stoke Prior was before the railway bridges in Shaw Lane. After was Stoke Works. I have lived in Stoke Works 85 yrs.	AVA
SP46	I think we have a strong voice together rather than fragmented.	AVA
SP47	Local parishes are a waste of time. I asked for the street lights to be repaired and was told the parish had no money. Westenhall Road development money has not been spent around Stoke Prior because PC didn't fight for it.	AVA
SP48	We are going through difficult times with COVID-19. Jobs and businesses all affected. This is not the time to be raising Ctax where this is already high even if it is just the precept.	AVA
SP49	What an awful waste of time and effort. Surely, there are more important things to be focused on.	AVA
SP50	A collective voice is more powerful and I also suspect a split would lead to higher council taxes.	AVA
SP51	By making an additional ward- surely this creates duplication, admin etc. leading to additional costs. Many other businesses etc are merging to make efficiencies and cost savings.	AVA

SP54	Leave it the same	AVB
SP56	Would need further budget information to find out if disproportionate amount of money is spent on Stoke Prior Ward	AVA
SP57	Really feel that whilst we are dealing with a global pandemic there are better things that LG should be dealing with.	AVA
SP58	Rather than a split would it not make more sense to even up the number of councillors from each ward within the existing parish council. I.e 6 for Stoke Prior and 6 for Stoke Heath Ward. We feel sure that this would be much fairer and cost effective.	AVB
SP59	I think this is a pointless and costly exercise there is no need a split and the proposed boundary makes no sense. It should be larger including all Stoke Heath or not at all.	AVA
SP60	The area shaded green on the map does not include all of Stoke Heath. It appears to exclude significant areas of Stoke Heath housing and indeed this property. No evidence has been provided of the current split of expenditure. The claim that expenditure is disproportionate maybe true but has not been substantiated. There is no financial forecast for the proposed Stoke Heath parish. In short insufficient information is provided to reach a decision at this stage.	AVB
SP62	I am against this as there is already a struggle to find people willing to be parish councillors; additionally in these difficult times people do not need the possibility of increased taxes to fund additional needs of councillors.	AVA
SP63	Stoke can support a parish clerk, assistant and web site. Splitting would double admin costs. It is a strategic nonsense on matters like consultation about roads etc to separate the parish e.g. A38 improvements which is the boundary line. It would be unfair for Stoke Prior to finance a playing field largely used by Stoke Heath residents. I was one of the Forelands estate who supports the northern extension of the parish. As said before this petition is basically for a few people with their own agenda and without the ability to deliver on their points.	AVB
SP64	This is a complete waste of time and money!	AVB
SP65	I feel it is unnecessary to create an additional ward. The area is not that large in its entirety and can remain as one parish. It will create 2 wards that will not agree so why complicate this issue.	AVA
SP66	We think this is all a waste of money, leave as it is.	AVA
SP67	Good idea	AVB
SP68	The area proposed on the map is only part of Stoke Heath so it will make a 2 tier system and could cause problems in the future as well as increasing costs when there is no need as the existing parish works well.	AVA
SP69	The separation will lead to more bureaucracy. Delaying procedures and improvements that affect both areas.	AVA
SP72	There is no need to change and incur the costs of any change.	AVA
SP74	Stoke Parish Council do a good job in our opinion	AVA
SP77	Concerned on two counts 1) may have to pay more Ctax and 2) proposed new parish doesn't seem to contain all of Stoke Heath (or may be I have misinterpreted the map)	AVA

SP81	I do not think by splitting the parish will help build a strong community. Many residents of Stoke Heath use public rights of way, recreational space and fields within the Stoke Prior area as well as attend planned activities. Surely by splitting the parish, Stoke Prior will still have to foot the bill for the cleaning/maintenance of dog mess, dog bins, footpaths etc., social space.	AVA
SP82	Pointless bureaucracy. Splitting things up always adds to the operational costs of running things.	AVA
SP84	Unnecessary extra financial burden. Volunteers to stand for Councillor even harder to find from a smaller pool of population. No viable case for any changes has been brought to my attention.	AVA
SP85	The creation of another parish would be a waste of public money, involving payment of a clerk etc. It is often difficult to find enough people to become councillors.	AVA
SP89	Why change something that works fine as it is.	AVB
SP90	We don't think another parish will make any difference to us.	AVA
SP91	From my understanding of your letter, the new Stoke Heath parish is significantly smaller with more concentrated residencies - leaving Stoke Prior with a greater area and less residencies - higher cost to maintain - increase in Ctax.	AVA
SP97	The Parish has spent a lot of money enlarging the Stoke Heath playing field for Stoke Heath residents. If it's split, would it mean they use it but don't pay money to it's upkeep?	AVA
SP101	I disagree with the idea of paying more in my Ctax to pay for the creation of a new parish when the current system works well. This will also add additional layers into Bromsgrove council democratic process which is already confusing!	AVA
SP103	Seems unnecessary change with little ??? Likely increase in cost/household clerks remuneration, premises here for parish council meetings, possible increased election costs. Such issues related to the allocation of spending across the existing parish can be discussed and resolved by the existing PC	AVA
SP105	No. We can see no reason to change things from the current situation and are happy with the current Parish Council.	AVA
SP106	If it's not broken. Don't fix it..	AVA
SP107	Creating two Parishes would only cost More Money, Which is unacceptable.	AVA
SP110	I see no benefit to anybody for a split in the Parish areas. The people in the proposed RHA area would still expect to benefit and use facilities in the AVA & AVB areas.	AVA
SP111	Fragmenting the services could result in a loss of services/benefit to one or both of the parishes.	AVB
SP114	What is the point of PCs at all. I got the same service from Bromsgrove Council as I do from the PC. The only difference is I get charged extra money on my Ctax. Scrap all PCs is my opinion	AVB
SP115	The PC will only work with people who are committed to help local residents, to return calls and to see people face to face not ignoring people!!	AVA

SP118	I believe that any changes would create division and competition between 2 areas that are perfectly happy as one. I also believe that Stoke Prior precept would increase as the new parish would have to support itself leaving Stoke Prior underfunded.	AVA
SP121	The Stoke Heath parish should include AVB area as well. The "Stoke Heath estate" cannot be split in two. It should include the whole estate up to and including Puddle Wharf island, to Hanbury turn and all of Avoncroft. The "needs" and focus of this area are very different to the Stoke Prior village.	AVA
SP125	I would suggest this is down to personalities who do not like living in a big rural met and also think that their community charge will go DOWN!	AVA
SP127	I feel strongly that we should be promoting togetherness and all work together, creating another parish just creates more division, cost and complexity that is not needed.	AVA
SP129	Stoke Heath is amply catered for by Stoke Prior. There is NO need for these proposed changes.	AVB
SP133	I find it quite astounding that this is being considered during the middle of a global pandemic! I would of thought local Councils had more important duties to focus on at this time. I feel money could be spent better elsewhere within the parish. For example the introduction of traffic calming measures along Shaw Lane.	AVA
SP136	Stoke Heath Parish to be extended to include all the properties in Stoke Heath	AVB
SP139	We are not sure from the information given how splitting them would benefit anyone.	AVA
SP142	It appears from the map included not all of Stoke Heath will be covered by the new parish? I have always assumed Stoke Heath starts from the new houses just past The Hanbury Turn pub.	AVA
SP144	I very much feel that we have a county council and a district council, why do we need another layer of bureaucracy with one parish council let alone two.	AVB
SP150	I don't want money wasted on setting up another parish council when already parished. Not necessary!	AVB
SP156	If there is a feeling of neglect or inconsideration at the council by Stoke Prior representatives against this from Stoke Heath why not introduce equal representation i.e. 6 from each parish.	AVA
SP159	It works well the way it is It's just a few trying to rule the rest.	AVA
SP162	There is no reason given for change! What is the benefit?	AVA
SP163	Do not feel it is necessary or required to create a second parish	AVA
SP164	It would be interesting to see the income and outgoings to establish what is/has been spent in a year.	AVA
SP166	Seems quite a small parish. Surely its better to keep it larger from a cost point of view.	AVA
SP168	Establishing 2 parishes from 1 will incur extra costs in establishing 2 bureaucracies meaning less money will be available for providing services.	AVB
SP169	Feel there is no need for a new parish. Happy with existing persons and they have done a fine job over the years; parting of the 2 would break the community spirit, and what is everyone gaining? For what people pay we all get good value	AVB

SP170	I have listened to the argument from the potential Stoke Heath split campaign. They say they are so different as Stoke Prior is not rural, no rural needs, but to me they are just like Charford i.e. a housing estate-so MAKE THEM PART OF CHARFORD PARISH. I can't see the advantage of making another small parish, parish council etc.	AVA
SP172	I cannot see how the residents of Stoke Heath would benefit from forming a new parish.	AVA
SP173	I believe the parish council would prefer to see the parish remain as it is and I agree. The area I understand is closer to Rock Hill and Charford	AVA
SP175	Stoke Heath proposed council area represents a very small part of the total parish, it doesn't appear to have any great parks or areas to maintain. It is difficult to understand what they feel they would need to make them feel more part of a community. We all cannot be near to local amenities and cost to maintain these are always a large part of the Parish Precept. Any further devolvment of costs would inevitably require the residents to pay more for the services.	AVA
SP176	I am perplexed why its deemed necessary to create a new parish. It has hundreds of years history. They say change improves things for the better but in my experiences its not so.	AVA
SH2	We voted against having a pc originally & have not changed our view that we gain nothing. I have no idea what the current pc does in my area. If the new council is going to cost more we would not be interested in the change. We would like someone to tell us exactly what the current pc actually does.	RHA
SH3	A Very bad idea in my opinion I can't see why this would be even considered in 2020 Surely a waste of paper. Ctax is high enough and many are on furlough and will be for months.	RHA
SH5	I don't want to be in a parish they are just a waste of money BDC should cover everything there are too many layers of government.	RHA
SH6	Think this is not suitable at all especially with COVID-19 19 going on-better things to work on.	RHA
SH7	Creating another PC must inevitably increase admin costs and therefore add to the burden on all rate payers effected. This cannot be right in this time of struggling public finances. Stop whinging and make the council we have work for all.	RHA
SH9	I have only lived in Stoke Heath for 18 months and so far as I can see everything seems to run quite smoothly.	RHA
SH10	Why create two separate parishes with the expenses that will incur-2 debts etc It will also create a divisive community by splitting Stoke Heath in 2 parts. It is not always easy to get people willing to be councillors. It works very well as it is-leave it	RHA
SH11	I think the PC is not needed. We have a councillor at main council.	RHA
SH15	I believe the people who are active in this might have the objective of getting rid of the PC in Stoke Heath area.	RHA
SH16	As pensioners we need to control expenses. Any change would not be in our control	RHA
SH17	This split could be avoided if there is a more equitable split of allegiance on Stoke PC. I.e. 6 for Stoke Prior ward and 6 for Stoke Heath ward	RHA

SH22	Its about time to make the changes and I am looking forward to represent our NEW STOKE HEATH PARISH	RHA
SH25	I think this is a good item to be considered. I would however like to highlight that if Stoke Prior/Works area were unable to "stand on their own 2 feet" when considering the funding they may require - then this option should not be approved as it would cause detriment to the area and residents. I would be happy to pay more to support my local area - get grass cut more often, etc. If you drive around Barnt Green you will see a noticeable difference in regards to how the area is presented when compared to the Stoke parish.	RHA
SH27	No. Already speechless that this suggestion (i.e. for a new "Stoke Heath PC") has been made	RHA
SH28	I personally am happy to remain as we are. The only proviso would be to have 6 parish councillors for Stoke Heath instead of 4. thus an equal division between the two. It would also be beneficial for Stoke Heath residents to be aware of what locally the parish council is responsible for. i.e. roads, paths, hedges etc. As at the moment this is unclear.	RHA
SH30	Stoke parish have dominated Stoke Heath for many years now. The alleyways and hedgerows desperately need attention, and repairs to the footpaths. This could be achieved through our own parish using our own money.	RHA
SH32	If this comes to fruition, I would absolutely object to my Ctax going up and it should never be based on Ctax bands. I am mortgage free but what I pay in Ctax now, I have never paid when paying a mortgage. In this present climate of covid19 I think there re more important things to think about and Ctax rises are the least people want when there are so many people losing their jobs. No-one wants more salt rubbing in the wounds !!	RHA
SH36	I very much doubt if this would increase a feeling of local democracy in Stoke Heath. I do suspect the cost would go up.	RHA
SH38	Just more money to pay out for little or no return.	RHA
SH41	We have elected councillors to voice our opinions for Stoke Heath. If new parish created are those proposing it willing to stand? Depends on increase/decrease in Ctax. Would they provide same services etc as Stoke Heath have?	RHA
SH42	Stoke Heath is an area that needs recognition in it's own right. We have no amenities and very little children's areas. SPEEDING TRAFFIC on Wheatridge Rd NEEDS ADDRESSING NOW. The same for Hanbury Rd and Austin Rd. It's a joke.	RHA
SH46	I have concerns you are looking at this during a time of COVID-19. If this does happen it is obvious tax will increase to cover the extra costs & now is not the time to do this with people struggling and job losses. Please consider the people in the ward and impacts of this decision.	RHA
SH47	Stoke Heath should have a greater say. They have a large community compared to the rest of the parish. Stoke Heath provide more to the coffers of the parish, yet has less councillors. What are the others bringing to the party? I feel that Stoke Heath are subsidising the rural community. They should provide an equal amount -fairness for all.	RHA

SH50	We do not agree with being a parish in the 1st instance and see no benefit from the Ctax we pay for it.	RHA
SH53	Happy with things as they are	RHA
SH54	A waste of time & effort, it's ok as it is. Just another excuse to raise our already extortionate Ctax !!	RHA
SH60	I don't have any problem with staying in the Stoke Prior Parish but can understand why keeping the two combined can be problematic, and therefore happy to go with any changes that enable the parish to work well, providing the best community care possible.	RHA
SH63	At this present time we have more pressing matters with COVID-19. This should be discussed at a later date.	RHA
SH64	We have enough parish councillors to adequately deal with any problems in the parish. We have enough bureaucracy in the present set up in County council, district council etc. We have enough ego seekers we don't need anymore.	RHA
SH66	We were asked our opinion on Stoke Heath being included in the Stoke Prior parish years ago and we and many others said that we didn't feel that Stoke Heath would benefit. WE WERE IGNORED! It went ahead and we pay into a parish that does not include us in anything. Our opinions clearly don't count anyway! We live directly behind the A38 and have also shown our great concern about the widening of the road and air pollution. We will again be IGNORED AND THIS WILL GO AHEAD!!! We have NO FAITH IN BDC!	RHA
SH70	I found this consultation very unclear. Though an educated person, I don't understand the difference between ward, parish and parish ward and looking online including on the map, I'm none the wiser now! There is no before and after map. Is the green area RHA to be split from AVB to the west? Or from AVA and AVB combined? No boundary key. Either way I see no logic in splitting half of the urban Stoke Heath estate (as I see it) from the rest i.e. Cornfield\Furrows\Ploughmans etc are similar in nature to Tythe Barn, Barley Croft, Granary etc. If any logical split were to be made then town and country would be more sensible. Please keep the Worcester Rd\A38\Stoke Heath triangle as 1 entity. Is this proposal undoing the change(Stoke Council combining Stoke Heath & Stoke Prior) made a few years ago? Is Stoke Prior village part of Stoke currently? Perhaps a more fair distribution of the 12 councillors should be considered.	RHA
SH71	I studied the map enclosed and the other wards in Bromsgrove are much bigger. We don't need to be split up and have small wards	RHA
SH73	On the map the green area proposed as Stoke Heath Parish Council does not include the area on the map which is titled Stoke Heath-surely this area should be in the Stoke Heath Parish.	RHA
SH74	This is not the time for distraction in politics; There is enough going on at the moment with days from Brexit and The Pandemic etc. . .	RHA
SH75	We could do with a community in Stoke Heath.	RHA
SH76	£30 It is not a large sum of money to pay for our services as they stand. Why change anything? Stoke Heath would gain nothing by changing it.	RHA

SH77	I pay for too much C/Tax now, I do not regard my council or parish as value for money.	RHA
SH84	We would be intrigued to know what proposals/ideas those promoting the creation of a separate P.C for Stoke Heath have. What benefits do they envisage and of course costings for a proposed new P.C for Stoke Heath. We are unconvinced of the need for Stoke Heath to be included in a Parish Council.	RHA
SH86	I think the Stoke Parish Council as it stands has the knowledge, expertise and resources to benefit its residents	RHA
SH87	It would make more sense if a new parish is considered to be needed to include the properties to include Avoncroft Road down towards the A38 big island. On balance it seems in its current proposed form like a waste of time.	RHA
SH89	I am not in favour of two separate parishes. I would just like to see more considerations given to Stoke Heath and its residents. There is clearly some bias for Stoke Prior otherwise this idea would not have been suggested. Lets keep one Stoke Parish and see all the areas of Stoke treated equally and fairly.	RHA
W SH1	Seems silly to create a parish for such as small area	RHA
W SH2	This proposal seems to make no sense. It is splitting the existing Stoke Heath community in two, along an arbitrary ward boundary which was drawn up purely for electoral reasons. If the proposal was to annex the whole of the Stoke Heath community (i.e. anything north of say the Ewe & Lamb) would make some sort of sense.	RHA
W SH3	I think the review/consultation letter could have been more explicit about the reasons as to this was being proposed. It would have been helpful to have had clarity around the issues so that an informed opinion could be shared. Broad examples for consideration are noted but no confirmed specifics. I would like to know what is meant by a "disproportional amount".	RHA
W SH4	I would be concerned about any increases in payments from us.	RHA
W SH5	Stoke Heath area contributes towards things like street lighting and lengthsman but receives little benefit from these	RHA
W SH8	Can't anyone in the Bromsgrove area find something more beneficial and sensible to do with tax payers money during a pandemic. This is another ridiculous and unimportant thing to spend money on, which I'm constantly being told is in short supply! Does anyone ever bother to find the cost of this so far?	RHA
W SH11	We appreciate the facilities at the recreation ground provided by Stoke Parish; also the well-maintained flower planters placed on the estate. The establishment of the John Corbett Way has proved a pleasant asset. Stoke Parish has also put on various events at the recreation ground for the whole parish. We don't know whether this has brought the separate communities closer but the councillors deserve credit for their efforts.	RHA
W SH13	Creating new PCs spreads the limited finances ever thinner. I don't see the logic in creating another set of costly administration for a smaller area (with less money). Make the existing PCs work instead of running away?	RHA

W SH14	The nature and needs of Stoke Prior and its surrounding areas is totally different to the Stoke Heath area as such these needs can only be met by a separate Stoke Heath Parish council; that can focus on the area.	RHA
W SH18	I object to the idea that one sector of society should not pay a tax or precept because they do not benefit as much as others. If Stoke Prior has greater need then that should be met and people with less need should be prepared to pay for the benefit of the wider community	RHA
W SH19	Anything completely local has to be a good thing	RHA
W SH22	I think parish Councils are just a waste of parishioners money anyway as I already pay the district council and county council to do everything	RHA
W SH25	The proposed parish of Stoke Heath does not seem to make a lot of sense, as there are areas designated as Stoke Heath outside the parish. If this proposal included the AVB area it would include more of Stoke Heath in the Parish of Stoke Heath. If the status quo were maintained, it may avoid the requirement for another parish hall and the additional expense required.	RHA
W SH27	The separation can't be soon enough	RHA
W SH28	Dividing Stoke Heath into two sections seems illogical - both two small and part of the same estate	RHA
W SH29	The creation of a new Parish would be an unnecessary expense.	RHA
W SP4	Seems like a waste of money unless savings can be proved for both potential Parishes. We already have more than enough local layers of government without a further split	
W SP6	I find it difficult to understand the rational behind the boundary for the new parish. As I understand it Stoke Heath has historically been the area between Avoncroft and the Worcester Road, why then has much of this area (around the Hanbury Turn Pub) been excluded from the proposed Stoke Heath parish? At the moment I have no real opinion around the splitting of the Parish although I suspect it will do little to help the 'us and them' feeling that exists between a minority of urban and rural residence.	

A 'W' in front of the number is a return from the website rather than a paper return.