

Comments on the draft recommendations for Burneside and Kendal made during stage three of the Community Governance Review

Stewart Menzies, resident of Burneside Parish

I am concerned at the proposal to move the area west of High Sparrowmire from the parish of Strickland Ketel (Burneside) to Kendal Town. The proposed development in this area will impinge into the Green Gap between Kendal and Burneside and the incorporation of it into Kendal Town will increase the risk that the Green Gap will be subject to further encroachments.

If this boundary change does go ahead then we would look for a firm commitment from SLDC that no further encroachments would be allowed into the Green Gap between Kendal and Burneside to preserve the separate identity of these settlements.

Kevin Price, Clerk to Burneside Parish Council

Land north of Strickland Ward (Hallgarth)

“Proposal to alter the parish boundary of Kendal Town Council to include properties on an area of land north of High Sparrowmire. This would form part of the Strickland ward of the parish of Kendal.”

Burneside Parish Council (BPC), welcomes the opportunity to improve community governance in South Lakeland District. This Submission was agreed at its meeting on 9th April 2019.

BPC is content with its present status, boundaries and electoral arrangements, but is aware that Kendal Town Council (KTC) is requesting that its boundaries be extended to encroach on Burneside's Strickland Ketel Ward. (We understand that two of the six SLDC [South Lakeland District Council] Cabinet members are also listed as being Kendal Town Councillors). We must state that Burneside Parish Council are opposed to the alterations proposed.

We note that the Kendal Strickland Ward has only existed as such since The South Lakeland (Electoral Changes) Order in 2017 and as such is quite new whereas Strickland Ketel has a long and proud history. The Council is concerned at loss of identity.

Burneside has a strong sense of individuality despite its proximity to Kendal. It seems to the parish council that this proposal is entirely the idea of Kendal Town Councillors with no support, or any comment, seeming to come from Kendal residents. There is no synergy between the community of Kendal and the new, ever expanding, housing developments within Kendal.

Councillors are aware that the CGRC does not make decisions on the basis of finance but this would seem to be one of the main reasons for the changes proposed, resulting in a substantial future loss of revenue to the BPC and residents of Burneside.. We have been aware of Kendal Town Council's intention to annex this part of our parish in the past, thus increasing the amount of council tax, etc, they collect.

The SLDC Local Plan under CS8.2 & CS8.4 sets out to protect and enhance landscape and settlement character as well as protecting bio/geodiversity. We contend that this boundary change is just the start of further future encroachments on the Green Gap which separates our two settlements; an area currently open field supporting a variety of wildlife, including a bat population. The Green Gap fulfils the stated principle of ensuring that individual settlements are kept distinct and maintain their individual character, avoiding “coalescence”.

Kendal has argued that its boundary should be aligned with the town’s new development boundary as defined in the recently adopted Local Plan. The DCLG/LGBCE [Department for Communities and Local Government/Local Boundary Commission for England] guidance on community governance reviews contains many aspects that should be considered, but alignment with a notional development boundary is not amongst them.

Burneside Parish Council feels it is competent and capable of providing effective representation for all its inhabitants. It offers significantly more councillors per elector than KTC would, with an absence of the party politics which is inappropriate to local government at this level.

The views of the affected inhabitants, and Burneside residents must be sought and considered before any decision is taken about the annexation of land into Kendal. We are concerned that Burneside Residents, and those who will be affected by these changes, will not have a say in the appearance of future development and environmental enhancements.

Therefore Burneside Parish Council is firmly opposed to any annexation into Kendal of the land referred to for the reasons given above.

In conclusion, Burneside Parish Council request that the CGRC review its current proposals, having regard for the identity and wishes of the people of Burneside, as emphasised in its own guidance.

We respectfully ask you to reject the boundary changes proposed.

Councillor Penny Ridyard, resident of Burneside and Chair of Burneside Parish Council

Good Afternoon,

My concern is the proposed takeover of land from the Parish of Burneside. The designated areas are the natural boundaries between Kendal and Burneside contributing to the stunning landscape and gateway to the Lake District. There are many reasons outlined in the Parish Council's submission the Partnerships and Organisational Development Team why we believe this take over should not go ahead.

I have two questions regarding this proposed land grab;

Who will be involved in the final decision making process and how many of these people are members of Kendal Town Council?

If Kendal succeeds in acquiring these fields, in regards to Lanefoot Farm, will Kendal adopt the road next to the main field and take over responsibility for its maintenance and of course gritting and ploughing in winter?

Brian Smith and Jean Smith, residents of Burneside Parish

We are aware that Kendal Town Council (KTC) is requesting that its boundaries be extended to encroach on Burneside's Strickland Ketel Ward. We are opposed to any boundary changes.

Burneside has a strong sense of individuality despite its proximity to Kendal. It seems that this proposal is entirely the idea of Kendal Town Councillors with no consultation or support seeming to come from Kendal or Burneside residents.

It would appear that one of the main reasons for the changes proposed is financial resulting in a substantial future loss of revenue to the Burneside Parish Council and residents of Burneside. At the same time, thus increasing the amount of revenue collected for Kendal.

We contend that this boundary change could also be the start of further future encroachments on the Green Gap which separates the two settlements. The Green Gap ensures that individual settlements are kept distinct and maintain their individual character.

Burneside Parish Council is competent and capable of providing effective representation for all its residents.

It is our opinion that the views of the affected inhabitants, and Burneside residents must be sought and considered before any decision is taken about the annexation of land to Kendal. We oppose any annexation into Kendal of the land in Burneside parish and respectfully ask you to reject the boundary changes proposed.

A.R Plint, resident of Kendal Parish (received by letter, not Citizen Space)

Thank you for your helpful letter concerning the re-alignment of the Strickland ward/Burneside Parish Council boundary.

My comments are:

1. ? The relatively of the National Park boundary to the proposed change
2. ? The amenity loss to the Windermere Road approach to the Kedal Town Boundary. Currently 'Hallgarth estate' is carefully positioned
3. ? The retention of green fields between Burnside Road and the railway below Kentrigg, instead of the original accepted plan of housing development on these fields, in view of comments that the ground is unsuitable.