

**Paul Kingsley**

**From:** John Thomas (Councillor) [john.thomas@kerrier.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 18 April 2008 21:14  
**To:** Sam Hartley  
**Cc:** Paul Kingsley  
**Subject:** boundary review submissions.

Dear Sirs,

With reference to the above, I wish to add my views to the proposals as follows.

At the meeting of Kerrier District Council on the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008 of which I am a member, it was decided to request that a minimum of 130 councillors be accepted by the now Cornwall County Council at their meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> April 2008, with a rider that we generally supported one member wards primarily, but did realise there were wards that would reflect better local government by having a two member ward as an exception to the rule. The case I wish to put forward as a special case is my electoral ward of St. Day, Carharrack and Lanner, known internationally as The Three Historic Mining Villages, this was recognised by the Boundary Review in 2003 in its final recommendations to the Electoral Commission who also accepted that these villages were unique geographically, and also the close knit communities that existed historically. What I would request is that your good selves look at the findings in the report of 2002 accepted by the commission in 2003 in which my comments including lengthy correspondence, discussions with the then team leader a Tim Atkinson are included, and as I understand talking to Malcolm Brown of C.C.C. at the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008, his advise was that the existing document of 2003 still carried a lot of weight and should have some considerable bearing on the review in hand, with respect too and I quote from page 7, "This improved level of Electoral Equality is forecast to continue, with the number of electors per councillor in only one ward, St Day, Lanner and Carharrack, expected to vary by more than 10 per cent from the average for the district in 2006" at that time standing at 1,498 per councillor, which includes at present, 1 county and three district councillors, under the proposed arrangements 1 member will have to represent 3266 electorate and split communities that have an exceptionally long history, the outcome obviously will be that these unique identity will be lost forever. I wish to enforce my opinion with paragraphs taken from the final recommendation report 2002, those being pages 7, 15, (17 para 16, 17), 19 (para 20), 20 (para 23, 24) 22 (particularly bottom of para 34) 23 (para 38) 34 (paras 99, 100, 101, 102,) 35 (particularly 103, 105, 106) 36 (para 110, "having---Parish council" and "however---proposal") 37 (para 112, and 3<sup>rd</sup> point on 114) 38 (para 117).

In addition to

the above if the Boundary Review feels strongly towards its previous convictions and accepted recommendations in 2003 then I will quote as follows "para 95, electoral equality locally. On the basis of the evidence provided by submissions from St. Day and Lanner Ward, we also consider that the current ward reflects Community Identities and Interests well, and Provides Effective and Convenient Local Government", by the way this phrase repeats itself several times in the report, therefore I would strongly suggest that the importantly renamed ward of St. Day, Lanner and Carharrack has already convinced an important team of people such as yourselves how unique these villages are, and the desperate need to keep them together if only for their Community Identities and Historic local Interests.

Furthermore as a possible solution to your dilemma as to sharing out councillors to a certain number of electors, my proposal to you is to retain the Historic Mining Villages of St. Day Lanner and Carharrack, but add Gwennap and part of Chacewater which would return be supported by the majority locally, and provide you with the necessary percentages with only a slight variation compared to the proposed figures.

Can I stress at this time my personal feeling is that I am not in this business to save my own possible position if standing for election, but to save Existing Strong Local Communities and Identities by giving people in my area the right to be fairly and locally represented.

In summing up I would employ you to support most of the principle in the 2003 decision, and make an exception to proposed ward representations, and strongly consider my proposal for a Two Member Ward for St. Day, Lanner and Carharrack, with the inclusion of Gwennap already lately added to the Mining Villages, and part of Chacewater. I suppose I am asking for one more than the talked about 130 councillors, but still within the discussed 125 to 135 variance. I do hope as before with Tim Atkinson we will be able to keep some dialog going between us in the difficult months ahead, I will also be sending some literature on the Historic Villages for your perusal and hopefully will play an important in the decision making. Can I say that you have a thankless task to perform one I myself would not relish, but everyone has difficult decisions to make at some stage of their lives, so sincerely may I wish good luck, and thank you for hopefully taking my points on board.

Yours sincerely,