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**The Boundary Commission for England**  
c/o: [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk)

**18th February 2025**

**Dear Boundary Commissioners**  
**MILTON KEYNES WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW**

You have called for further input into MK City Council's ward boundary review. This is the second response of Old Woughton Parish Council (OWPC) – located in the proposed new ward of 'Ouzel Valley'.

Firstly, we wish to place on record our appreciation for the consideration you clearly gave to our first phase response. It has been well received that our request to migrate as an existing parish in whole into the new arrangements has been proposed by you.

Our substantive input at this point, therefore, is to flag an issue with the name proposed for the new ward. Clearly, the Ouzel Valley is a local geographical feature, which we all very much enjoy, but as we set out at some length in our first phase response (extract below), our community identity comes from the main village of Woughton on the Green:

*“The village name of Woughton is Anglo Saxon in origin with other variations describing this settlement across the centuries ‘Ulchetone’ for example which is the 11C record in the Domesday Book and later Woughton-on-the-Green (16C) as it is known today. Once stretching from the River Ouzel all the way west to Watling Street, previous boundary reviews have defined an area much more tightly around the modern village, as enshrined in the late Development Corporation’s pattern of grid squares, which respect the original villages...”*

It is no co-incidence, therefore, that Old Woughton P.C. includes both of the Milton Keynes grid squares with Woughton in their names. Consequently, we prefer a ward name styled along the lines of Ouzel Valley and Old Woughton. This is particularly an issue, because the current proposals include another new ward: Woughton and Fishermead, which has none of the Woughton grid squares (although eight further grid squares beyond that of Fishermead). We anticipate considerable confusion amongst the local electorate, many of whom already struggle with the difference between parish wards and those of the principal authority.

In which connection, there appears to be an error on the Proposals Map, whereby our neighbour - Woughton Community Council - is shown as Woughton on the Green P.C. and this is only adding to this naming confusion with two of our parish wards:

Woughton on the Green (North) and Woughton on the Green (South). We do hope that this can be addressed for future stages of this process.

We hope our representation is clear, but should further clarification be needed please do contact us directly and, as before, we would be very happy to host a visit for you.

Yours sincerely

Vicky Gladstone  
Interim Clerk  
On behalf of Old Woughton Parish Council