



Sandyhurst Lane  
Residents Association

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**THIRD SUBMISSION TO  
ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL'S  
COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW CONSULTATION**

**30 October 2015**

Sandyhurst Lane Residents' Association (SLRA) has actively encouraged its members to participate in Ashford Borough Council's consultation, including the draft proposal to realign the Westwell Parish boundary.

During the period of consultation we have been made aware of concerns amongst some Westwell parishioners about the lack of information on the consequences to the Parish of such a boundary change, its perceived threat to unbalance the community dynamics and to urbanise the south-eastern edge of the Parish.

Whilst we sympathise with the lack of information we believe the other concerns are unfounded. Change is often perceived as a threat.

The SLRA strongly believes that, contrary to being a threat to community cohesion and a move towards urbanisation, this boundary change is the only way to protect Sandyhurst Lane residents, and indeed the wider Westwell Parish, from the inevitable urbanisation pressures that will arise if the presently unparished side of Sandyhurst Lane was under the governance of two Urban parishes.

This boundary change is the only way we can fulfil our Constitutional duty - "to protect the rural character of Sandyhurst Lane and its surrounding area".

**We urge the Council to endorse its draft recommendation to amend the Westwell Parish boundary as shown in Plan 16.**