WRAXALL AND FAILAND PARISH COUNCIL
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IMPORTANT NOTICE
PROPOSED PARISH BOUNDARY CHANGE

Background:

On Friday 28th February 2025, North Somerset Council launched a Community Governance Review (CGR). This is a legal process which offers an opportunity to review, create and make changes to the governance arrangements for town and parish councils, as well as parish areas.

Issue:

On 19th March 2025 Nailsea Town Council (NTC) voted to recommend that a proposed Settlement Boundary is put forward to the Community Governance Review. This boundary change would see The Elms and land to the North and Northeast of Nailsea, currently being considered for future development, removed from Wraxall and Failand Parish and reallocated to form part of Nailsea.

Wraxall and Failand Parish Council do not support any boundary change.

The transfer of The Elms from Wraxall and Failand Parish Council is detrimental to our Parish, with residents incurring a higher cost for the precept and diminishing the influence of the Parish Council. It also sets a precedent, so if there are other bids for boundary changes then the viability of the Wraxall and Failand Parish is questionable.

Residents should be aware that NTC have a significantly higher Precept[1] (currently 227% greater across all bands).

- A Wraxall and Failand "Band D" property for 2025/26 pays £47.27.
- A Nailsea "Band D" property for 2025/26 pays £107.32.

These increased precept costs will not only affect residents of The Elms, but the boundary change will also lead to an increase in costs of Parish Services for the remaining residents of Wraxall and Failand.

In addition, any land or residential dwellings that are subject to a boundary change will also be removed from the protection of the Wraxall and Failand Neighbourhood Plan, which focuses on the protection of agriculture, green spaces and the Green Belt. NTC does not have a Neighbourhood Plan; therefore, is unable to offer the same protection.

Historically, a boundary change is also contrary to the overwhelming majority of The Elms who elected to remain within Wraxall and Failand Parish when responding to a referendum in 2009.

Have Your Say:

All Residents are strongly encouraged to answer the questionnaire (10 mins) by either: scanning the QR code on the right, visiting www.n-somerset.gov.uk/cgrconsultation or picking up a paper copy of the consultation from their local library.
Tip: Please use "Question 12: Any Further Comments": to add the impact of a boundary change on you!

The review consultation is open until 11.59pm on Wednesday 30 April.

REMEMBER: IF YOU DON'T RAISE AN OBJECTION – NO COMMENT IS CONSIDERED AS ACCEPTANCE!

[1] https://n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2025-03/council%20tax%20guide%202025-2026.pdf