

18.221



19th February 2018.

Secretary,
Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee,
Room 1.67
Custom House,
Dublin 1.

Re: Electoral Boundaries in the Parish of Ballybricken & Bohermore

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you to express my dissatisfaction with the current electoral boundaries drawn up for the above named parish. At the present moment there are three different electoral areas representing the parish.

- . Adare-Rathkeale
- . Cappamore-Kilmallock
- . Limerick City East.

As one of a number of community leaders, whose sole interest is the welfare of the parish, I would like if the parish of Ballybricken & Bohermore could be presented as ONE electoral unit, adhering to existing parish boundaries.

This parish, like parishes all over the country, is based on both Church and GAA boundaries and is an entity in itself and should therefore be treated as a single electoral area.

Geographically the parish is situated in East Co. Limerick and at the present moment the vast majority of the parish is represented by councillors from Limerick City and the South of the County.

Many of the councillors live up to 40 miles away and do not know the area or even where the parish is and many others have more interest in representing Limerick City and have no knowledge of the needs of the rural area in which this parish is situated in.

Having disjointed representation from councillors of three different areas hinders rather than enhances development in the parish.

While the political interest in the welfare of rural Ireland and local communities through various National & Capital plans is laudable, it should not involve the splitting of a parish community for reasons of political expediency.

While there is one polling booth situated within the parish the majority of the people of this parish have to vote at two different polling stations outside of the parish and this causes confusion among many people and especially for new-comers to the parish.

As the postal address for the majority of the people of the parish is 'Grange, Kilmallock', I would like to recommend that the parish of Ballybricken & Bohermore be situated entirely within the Electoral area of Cappamore – Kilmallock.

I look forward to a positive response from this submission and towards my recommendation.

Yours sincerely,

Rev. James Walton PP