

PREES PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk
Mrs L Rumney

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Mr Redman
Chief Fire Officer
Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service
Sent via email

The Fields
Quina Brook
WEM
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SY4 5RJ

8th July 2014

Dear Mr Redman

Re - Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2015-20.

Prees Parish Council has considered the draft IRMP and completed the online questionnaire. However there are one or two issues concerning the accuracy and consistency of the data used for population figures which sees Baschurch re-categorised as 'Urban fringe area with >1000 population' and yet justifies keeping Prees in the 'Rural Area <1000 population category'.

The Cllrs have studied the ONS census data for figures on Prees in comparison to Baschurch wherever that population or household figures are quoted. The Council is of the opinion that it is unable to determine exactly which figures you are using to justify keeping Prees in the 'Rural Area' <1000 population category.

Even in the worst case just Prees and Higher Heath alone stand at a population of 1300. It maybe that someone who does not have local knowledge has just selected the figures for Prees which is not a true reflection due to the fact that Prees has two distinct (significant) population centres. Then there is Fauls, Prees Green etc which are not even listed.

According to the population figures from the 2011 census information (www.ukcensusdata.com) Prees Village has 939, with a further 1,163 for the Higher Heath area, 405 in the rural area around Prees Green and 388 in the area around Fauls, Sandford and Darliston. This would give a total population for the whole parish of 2895. Even with the figures for Prees village alone the area is 61 away from the magic figure of 1,000.

These figures, and in comparison to Baschurch, would see a more than strong case for categorising the Prees area as 'Town and Fringe', given that in much of the statistical information used it has a significantly larger population.

The Parish Council does support the change in risk terminology, provided accurate and accessible figures are used and published.

The Parish Council also supports the merger of the Service's Fire Control centre, with that of at least one other organisation given the safe guards that have been indicated.

Yours sincerely



Lesley Rumney
Clerk to Prees Parish Council.