

# Bassetlaw

## Personal Details:

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**Organisation Name:** East Retford Charter Trustees ([REDACTED])

## Comment text:

**Related subject:** Retford

Attached file

## Attached Documents:

- charter-trustees-boundary-commission.pdf



## **EAST RETFORD CHARTER TRUSTEES**

[www.eastretfordchartertrustees.co.uk](http://www.eastretfordchartertrustees.co.uk)  
17B The Square, Retford, DN22 6DB

## **The Charter Trustees**

The East Retford Charter Trustees came into existence in April 1974, when the former East Retford Borough Council was abolished and merged with other areas to form Bassetlaw District Council. The Trustees exists to safeguard the traditions and town charter of the former Borough of East Retford.

The Charter Trustees is an established legal entity (body corporate) as defined by s.246 of the Local Government Act 1972. The work of the Charter Trustees is funded entirely by local taxation and it has the power to levy a Council Tax precept on households within the area of the former Borough. The legal status of the Charter Trustees is broadly similar to that of a parish council.

The Charter Trustees elects the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of East Retford each year. The role of the Mayor is purely ceremonial. The Mayor acts as an ambassador for the town and undertakes hundreds of functions of public relations and of a charitable nature during a year in office.

The Charter Trustees, and the office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor, operates on a non-political basis. The role of the Charter Trustees is to maintain and preserve the historic charter of East Retford, and its ancient traditions and customs.

## **Boundary Review**

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) have indicated that they will undertake a review of electoral wards in Bassetlaw, which includes the town of East Retford.

The East Retford Charter Trustees is organised on the basis of district electoral wards within the former borough of East Retford. Any changes to the boundaries of wards will impact the operation and membership of the Charter Trustees.

## Recommendations

- The Charter Trustees do not wish to see an expansion of the boundaries of the town. We consider that the area of the former Borough of Retford is sufficiently representative of the boundaries of the town.
- We believe that the current representation of ten district councillors for Retford is sufficient to represent the interests of our town on Bassetlaw District Council.
- We wish to see a scheme of wards in Retford which is representative of the diverse range of local communities it contains. Although a small market town, Retford contains several natural communities with their own strong community identity, such as Ordsall, Hallcroft, Thrumpton, etc.
- We wish to see a scheme of wards that includes the entirety of Retford Town Centre in a single ward. This will allow for better representation of the interests of local businesses and residents in central Retford, and enables better representation on planning issues following the adoption of the Retford Town Centre Neighbourhood Plan, which currently encompasses parts of two wards (Retford East/Retford West)
- We wish to see a scheme of wards that respects natural and easily recognised boundaries, such as the River Idle, Chesterfield Canal and the two intersecting railways.