

Dorset Council

Community Governance Review

Draft Recommendations – Amendment to Winterborne Farringdon Grouped Parish Council recommendation

Recommendations:

1. That the proposals set out in this Appendix be adopted by the Council as Draft Recommendations for the purposes of the Community Governance Review.
2. That the Draft Recommendations be published for consultation purposes for a period of 8 weeks from 20 February 2023 to 17 April 2023.
3. That the results of the consultation, together with proposed Final Recommendations, be reported to Full Council on 11 May 2023.

Recommendation 4 - Winterborne Farringdon

Based upon the evidence currently available, Dorset Council, on balance, considers that a community governance change would:

- help to better reflect the local identities and interests of the community;
- help to secure a more effective and convenient governance of the area.

The current governance arrangements for Winterborne Farringdon are as follows:

Parish	Number of councillors	Electorate 2022	Electorate 2027	Electors per councillor 2027
Bincombe	3	435	843	281
Whitcombe	2	20	19	10
Winterborne Came	3	37	36	12
Winterborne Herringston	2	23	22	11
Winterborne Monkton	3	58	61	20

The current governance arrangements for the Grouped Parish Council do not achieve electoral equality, and it is the Government's Guidance that "it is not in the interests of effective and convenient local government either for voters or councillors, to have significant difference in levels of representation between different parish wards". Having taken account of areas of Bincombe moving within the parish of Weymouth, Dorset Council therefore recommends a change to councillor numbers as follows:

Parish	Number of councillors	Electorate 2022	Electorate 2027	Electors per councillor 2027
Bincombe	2	435	69	35
Whitcombe	2	20	19	10
Winterborne Came	2	37	36	18
Winterborne Herringston	2	23	22	11
Winterborne Monkton	2	58	61	30

Maiden Castle - Currently, the entrance and approach to Maiden Castle lies within Winterborne Monkton parish. The Winterborne Farringdon Grouped Parish Council have proposed that the whole of the Maiden castle site, is moved within the parish of Winterborne Monkton as currently 2/3rd of the boundary abuts Winterborne Monkton parish. It is suggested by the Winterborne Farringdon Grouped Parish Council that such a change would not impact on Winterborne St Martin parish as there would be no issues of representation and no burden or loss of income for the affected parishes. They believe that moving the boundary to unite

the castle with its landscape would allow a more coherent case for the ongoing preservation and protection of its approaches in the future. No representations were received in respect of this proposal during the initial public consultation, so Dorset Council is proposing this change as part of its Draft Recommendations.

Loscombe – Winterborne Farringdon Grouped Parish Council's view is that Loscombe protrudes discordantly into Whitcombe parish. They state that few properties are involved and whilst the Parish Council has no strong feelings, they suggest that a more coherent western boundary for Loscombe would be to follow the A352 rather than the line of the old road that was lost after the 1769 Turnpike Act diverted the road. No representations were received in respect of this proposal during the initial public consultation, so Dorset Council is proposing this change as part of its Draft Recommendations.

Recommendation: Dorset Council's draft recommendation is to change councillor numbers to achieve electoral equality and to amend the parish boundaries as reflected in Map Recommendation No.4 Map.

