

# WINTERBORNE FARRINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Group Parish Clerk – Andrew J Harrison  
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Jacqui Andrews  
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Sent by email only to [cgr@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cgr@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

21<sup>st</sup> October 2021

Dear Ms Andrews

## **DORSET COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

Further to your email of 26<sup>th</sup> July last, please accept this letter as the corporate response of Winterborne Farringdon Group of Parish Councils [WFGPC] to the public consultation that forms part of the ongoing Community Governance Review. In formulating our proposals we seek to either maintain or enhance the coherence of the communities along our borders, and have worked on the assumption that the fundamental grouping will not change. **Were this not to be the case, some of our points would need to be revisited.**

Winterborne Farringdon is a group of 5 parishes: Bincombe, Whitcombe, Winterbornes Monkton, Herringston and Came, that come together on the South Dorset Ridgeway around historic Culliford Tree giving it a common identity. We do not seek to change or otherwise amend our internal boundaries, nor do we seek to change the name of the group nor any individual parish within it.

The following 9 numbered 'issues' should be read in conjunction with the map that forms an appendix to this letter. Of these: 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 have been discussed with neighbouring town or parish councils and can be regarded as locally agreed 'proposals'; 5 and 6 are issues that we have been discussed with Weymouth Town Council but disagree with what we believe WTC will propose; 8 and 9 are boundary anomalies which have little community governance significance but which you might or might not wish to include (we have not yet raised either with neighbouring councils).

### **Issue 1 – land north of Littlemoor Road**

This land is allocated in the local plan for major development to extend northwards the urban boundary of Weymouth. We believe that any new development can only be provided with the community development it needs as a coherent part of the larger community of Weymouth, being represented by a town council as opposed to a rural parish council such as ours. WFGPC have held discussions with Weymouth Town Council and are both agreed that this parcel of land should become part of Weymouth.

### **Issue 2 – additional land north of Littlemoor Road**

1 above, if approved, would further detach the south face of the hill known as 'the Tout', already isolated by geography, from the parish of Bincombe. In discussions with Weymouth Town Council we both agreed that this parcel of land should also become part of Weymouth on the understanding that it will still remain within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

### **Issue 3 – Plaisters Lane, Sutton Poyntz**

The eight dwellings at the north west end of Plaisters Lane have little connection with the rest of the parish of Bincombe and we cannot dispute that they sit better as part of the village of Sutton Poyntz.

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WFGPC understand that Weymouth Town Council will propose, and on that basis we are content, that this parcel of land becomes part of Weymouth with the rest of Sutton Poyntz.

### **Issue 4 – Bincombe Down**

The small triangle of land identified as 4 on the map is an anomalous island of Weymouth left on the east side of the A354 by the 2011 Relief Road; the existing boundary follows the railway line even when it is in tunnel and is invisible on the ground. WFGPC propose moving the boundary from the railway line west to the A354 between the point that the A354 crosses the railway line in tunnel to the point at which the current boundary crosses the A354 again to the north, this land then becoming part of Bincombe parish. We understand Weymouth Town Council are content.

### **Issue 5 – Meadow View Road, Nightingale Drive and the Woodpeckers**

The current boundary between Bincombe and Weymouth [apparently following the old line of Littlemoor Road but c75 yds north of it to allow for never implemented 'ribbon development'] cuts discordantly through Meadow View Road, Jordan Way and Nightingale Drive, leaving a few residents of these roads in Weymouth but the bulk in Bincombe. WFGPC and Weymouth Town Council are agreed that the area between Icen Lane and Littlemoor Road should be treated as one. Over many years this community has become an established and valued part of Bincombe, and WFGPC therefore propose that the boundary is moved south to run along Littlemoor Road, but we understand that Weymouth may seek instead to move it north to Icen Lane; a much larger transference of population. WFGPC believe that would have an unfortunate effect on the numerical balance of Bincombe parish and the rest of the WF Group, so would strongly resist such a proposal.

Similarly, the current boundary cuts through the Woodpeckers: twelve houses form an island of Bincombe south of Littlemoor Road. Already detached from Bincombe, we can see no logical way that they could remain in Bincombe if 1 above is approved, so we propose the boundary at this location is shifted north to place all the dwellings in the Woodpeckers in Weymouth.

### **Issue 6 – land adjacent the railway line and A354**

WFGPC understands that Weymouth Town Council will also propose that the boundary between Bincombe and Weymouth should be moved east to follow the 2011 line of the A354 (Relief Road) rather than the railway line as at present. WFGPC believe that the boundary should remain unaltered; the land in question is difficult to access from either Upwey or Broadway but is very visible from Bincombe and considerable effort was made by then DCC and Highways England to ensure that the new road sat unobtrusively in the landscape. It is WFGPC's belief that the railway line with its embankment provides an excellent natural boundary between the urban and rural communities and should remain the boundary between Weymouth and Bincombe.

### **Issue 7 – land adjacent to Monkey's Jump roundabout**

The current boundary follows a road that was removed during the construction of the Dorchester bypass in the 1980s. This is no longer visible on the ground today. WFGPC and Winterborne St Martin Parish Council [W St M] are agreed that the boundary at this location should be amended to follow the road that exists today, the land affected becoming part of Winterborne St Martin.

### **Issue 8 – Maiden Castle**

WFGPC propose that the whole of the Maiden Castle site become part of the parish of Winterborne Monkton [WM] wherein its entrance and approaches lie. Currently, the site protrudes discordantly into that parish (with 2/3<sup>rd</sup> abutting WM, only 1/3<sup>rd</sup> W St M) and it would seem more appropriate that the north-south boundary should take the shortest route around the castle. With the ownership of the castle falling within the purview of Historic England there would be no issues of representation and no burden or loss of income for the affected parish councils. We therefore believe that shifting the boundary to unite the castle with its landscape would allow a more coherent case for the ongoing preservation and protection of its approaches to be made in the future. We have yet to discuss this proposal with Winterborne St Martin.

### **Issue 9 – Loscombe**

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Loscombe protrudes discordantly into Whitcombe parish as does Maiden Castle into Winterborne Monkton (2/3<sup>rd</sup> abutting Whitcombe, only 1/3<sup>rd</sup> West Knighton). Few properties are involved and we have no strong feelings but suggest that a more coherent western boundary for Loscombe would be to follow the A352 rather than the line of the old road (lost after the 1769 Turnpike Act diverted the road). We have yet to discuss this with Knightsford GPC.

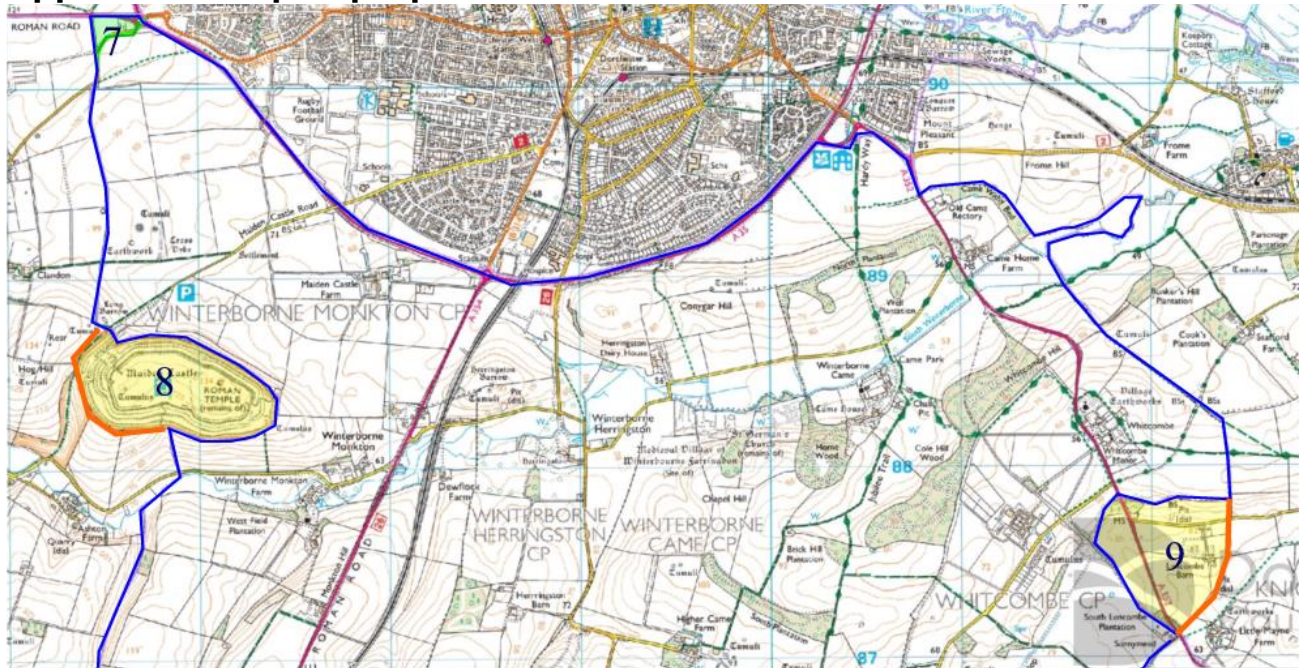
We trust that these proposals are straightforward, and set out with a clear rationale. Should you have any queries, or require further explanation or more detailed maps of any of our proposals, please contact Councillor Roger Holehouse [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who will be able to advise further.

Yours sincerely

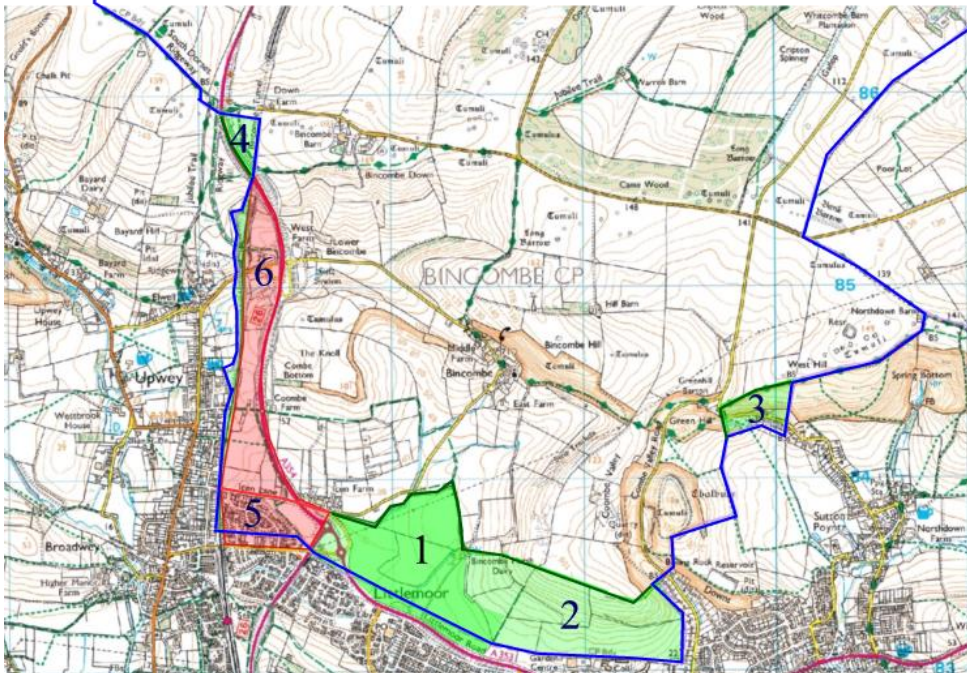
Mrs J S WEBSTER  
Chair

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## Appendix – map of proposals



Existing WFGPC boundary



### Key

Agreed boundary revisions  
1, 2, 3, 4 & 7

Disputed boundary revisions  
5 & 6

Possible revisions  
not yet discussed  
8 & 9