

Burton Bradstock Parish Council Community Governance Review

Dorset Council is undertaking a community governance review. Burton Bradstock Parish Council has until October 25th 2021 to submit a response to Dorset Council.

A Community Governance Review is a legal process whereby the council consult with those living in the area, and other interested parties, on the most suitable ways of representing the people in the parishes identified in the Review. This means making sure that those living in the area, and other interested groups, have a say in how their local communities are represented.

Boundary Anomaly

Discussions have taken place with Bridport Town Council concerning amending the parish boundary between Burton Bradstock and West Bay.

Specifically concerning four houses on the eastern side of West Bay (plus 4 more for which planning consent exists) which are currently within the Parish boundary of Burton Bradstock. These properties are contiguous with the Bridport parish boundary and clearly relate to and make use of the West Bay and its facilities. The properties feel remote from the core settlement of Burton Bradstock, being at least two miles from village facilities.

Bridport Town Council & Burton Bradstock Parish Council considers that there can be little argument about this being an anomalous arrangements and support a minor change in the boundary between Bridport and Burton Bradstock parish to incorporate the four dwellings into Bridport that are contiguous with the built-up area of West Bay.

Electoral Arrangements - Reducing the Number of Councillors to be Elected to the Council

In **XXXX** the number of Burton Bradstock Parish Councillors was increased to 11 – this was to deal with an expanding council workload.

In **200*** the management of the Hive Beach car park and facilities was returned to the National Trust relieving the council of a significant amount of work. Since this time the council has struggled to fill the 11 Councillor vacancies. Councillor numbers currently stand at 6. No election of Councillors has been held in Burton Bradstock since **200?**. This is not considered to be a healthy in terms of local democracy.

The Council, therefore proposed requesting a reduction in the number of Councillors from 11 to 9. This is based on:

- an assessment of the councils workload,
- reducing the quorate requirement for council meetings,
- encouraging the holding of elections for Councillors.