

Dorset

Personal Details:

Name: Geoff Chopping
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: Holt Parish Council (member, not representing) (Councillor)

Comment text:

Dear Team,

I started trying to have all of the "Furzehill Lobe" under the same Parish Council as Holt Parish in 2014.

Having the "Furzehill Lobe" and Holt Parish in different Parliamentary Constituencies and within different Dorset Wards complicated the issue, yet the goal was successfully achieved at the last Dorset Community Governance Review when all of Furzehill was then within the same Parish. Consequently Holt Parish now has two wards: Holt Ward and Furzehill Ward covering the "Furzehill Lobe" part of Furzehill.

Although both these wards are now in the same Parliamentary Constituency they are currently still in different Dorset Wards and technically are represented by different Ward Councillors.

This is not administratively efficient and has at times caused difficulties with communications with Dorset Council.

The residents of the "Furzehill Lobe" demonstrated during the last Community Governance Review that they wished to be part of the rural Holt Parish as the "Furzehill Lobe" has similar low electoral density and rural characteristics as Holt Parish and not the more urban nature of the Wimborne Town and Colehill Parish areas.

Moving around only 200 electors into the Stour and Allen Vale Ward should not make a significant difference to the currently acceptable variances

of the numbers of electors per ward for either the Stour and Allen Vale Ward or Colehill & Wimborne Minster East Ward.

Holt Parish was probably the largest Parish in East Dorset before the addition of the "Furzehill Lobe". Trying to move all of Holt Parish into the wards of either Colehill Parish or Wimborne Town would create a situation with a very unbalanced distribution of electoral density across whatever grouping might be proposed.

Consequently, for the "Furzehill Lobe" to become part of Stour and Allen Vale Ward should be an appropriate and practical working arrangement.

I live within the "Furzehill Lobe" and for me it is less than two miles to the Parish Hall in Holt where I attend Holt Parish Council meetings as I am a Holt Parish Councillor.

This is my personal opinion and of course Holt Parish Council has generated a collective view for this review.

Attached Documents:

None attached