

Dorset

Personal Details:

Name: Mrs Nicky Ashton

Email: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Organisation Name: Alderholt Parish Council (Representative of parish/town council)

Comment text:

Related subject: Cranborne and Alderholt Ward

Consultation Launched on Review of Local Election Boundaries in Dorset

Alderholt Parish

We are the most easterly parish of the Cranborne and Alderholt Ward and all five parishes within the ward are rural areas.

With our parish boundary being the Hampshire/Dorset County boundary many of our connections are with Fordingbridge and Ringwood, to a lesser extent, being the closest towns to us in Hampshire.

These connections include Burgate School, Fordingbridge doctors and dental surgery, some sports and some shopping, legal and financial services.

With regard to education in particular, parents have the option to access the Hampshire education system which has the benefit of not incurring the longer distance travel to the senior school at Wimborne which has a detrimental impact on the children by limiting after school clubs and sports activities.

We believe 50% of residents attend either the Cranborne Surgery or Fordingbridge Surgery in Hampshire.

The village of Alderholt has a local Co-op and post office which are highly valued and supported by residents and we believe by neighbouring Cranborne residents.

Since January 2018 a joint initiative led by Alderholt Parish Council including Cranborne and Edmondsham and Knowlton financed the provision of the 97 bus service which ran three mornings a week connecting the villages to Fordingbridge, Verwood and Ringwood. Following the suspension of this service Alderholt Parish Council at the request of its residents now funds the shuttle bus service on a Wednesday morning between Alderholt and Fordingbridge thereby allowing residents to access the necessary Fordingbridge services on a weekly basis.

Due to our geographical location, we believe the current ward boundary for Cranborne and Alderholt reflects the correct local connections, communities and identities. Having looked at the electoral statistics for each ward we believe both by area and population numbers the current arrangement is more than satisfactory.

Attached Documents:

None attached