

Dorset

Personal Details:

Name: Mrs Joanne Hughes

Email: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

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

Comment text:

Related subject: Eggardon Ward

Loders Parish is currently included in Eggardon Ward, predominantly north of the A35 which creates a significant barrier (in addition to the natural ridges) on Loders southern boundary. Loders parish is known as a rural, inland, countryside village lying in a valley along the prominent feature of the River Asker, this description features in the LPC Neighbourhood Plan. Our immediate parish council concerns are mostly rural based, not coastal.

The proposal to move Loders parish to the new coastal Ward of Chesil seems to contradict Loders essentially inland character. Loders parish identify much more with Powerstock and parishes north of the A35 than we do with the southern coastal parishes. This is reflected in many of our community events, notably the annual Five pubs challenge, a community event involving Loders Arms, The Crown (Uploders), Three Horseshoes (Powerstock), Spyway (Askerwell) and Marquis of Lorne (Nettlecombe). Furthermore, our Eggardon & Colmers View local parish and community news magazine largely covers these same areas too, sharing information and notification of events across the parishes led by our local vicar who serves the churches across this area. Furthermore, over the years these communities have worked together with organisations to improve water quality in the shared River Asker. This is ongoing with monitoring of fish population and other wildlife plus flora and fauna along the banks. Loders Parish Council also currently share ongoing concerns with other ward parishes between Loders and Maiden Newton, in that we will be directly affected by the future development or otherwise of the old railway track which runs through these parishes and which is the focus of many discussions about a proposed railway.

LPC councillors considered these proposed new ward boundaries at a recent meeting and in their opinion, it would be more appropriate if Loders was included in the newly named Upper Frome & Askers Ward and perhaps Askerswell Parish may also prefer to be part of the ward it is named after. It is also noted that the proposed Chesil Ward population is 4087 (+6.42%) whereas Upper Frome & Askers is 3648 (-4.93%) which would

add to the justification for some movement of people from Chesil to Upper Frome & Askers. The projected electorate per ward is 3,837, so moving Loders and Askerwell moves both affected wards towards these targets.

In conclusion, Loders Parish Council do not consider these new ward boundary proposals reflect the established community interests and identity of Loders Parish.

Attached Documents:

None attached