

Purbeck District Council January 2014 Report

Potential partnership working

Last month I reported that we had decided not to go into partnership with East Dorset and Christchurch District Councils. Having taken that decision we are now moving on and continuing to look for new ways to improve our services whilst maintaining or reducing our costs. We are reviewing our planning system (I am Chairman of the Planning Board) and have started work on this already. We hope to finalise our recommendations by April this year.

Elections

Just to remind everyone. There will be multiple local government elections taking place on Thursday May 22nd of this year; the Euro elections will also take place on this date. Government have now enacted legislation for the District, Parish and Euro elections to be held at the same time. We have 14 Parishes and 8 District Wards subject to election at that time. Bere Regis Parish and District will be held on that date as will Brianspuddle & Affpuddle District (part of the Winfrith ward). The following Parishes are up for election and this time it will be a five (5) year term Affpuddle and Turnerspuddle, Arne, Bere Regis, Chaldon Herring, Church Knowle, East Lulworth, East Stoke, Langton Matravers, Lytchett Matravers, Morden, Moreton, West Lulworth, Winfrith Newburgh and East Knighton, Worth Matravers

The count for the District and Parish is likely to take place on the evening of 22nd May. The count for the Euro election will take place on the following Sunday 25th May (to coincide with the rest of Europe). However this is all complicated by the fact that the weekend is a Bank Holiday weekend and is the start of half term for many schoolchildren. I urge anyone who is not sure they will be at home on this date to apply for a postal vote (which you receive a few weeks before the date) or a proxy vote (where you nominate someone to vote on your behalf).

Surgery

Surgeries are held on the first Saturday of every month. These are held at the communal Lounge in Turberville Court in Bere Regis from 09.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. If you have any questions or queries related to the business of Purbeck District Council please come along. If anyone wants to contact me and cannot get to the surgery my email address is peterwharf@hotmail.com.

Peter Wharf
District Councillor