

Winterborne Farringdon CGR – Speaking Note

1. Winterborne Farringdon is a Group of 5 sparsely populated rural Parishes who's Council only meets quarterly. Put bluntly we are not structured to take on urban community development in the 500 homes planned for 'North of Littlemoor'; Weymouth TC is and is willing to do so.
2. Furthermore, the additional population of North Littlemoor, giving Bincombe 86% of the total Group electorate by 2026: that's 6 out of 7 electors living on the southern edge of Bincombe far beyond the Ridgeway from the other 4 Parishes. It would so unbalance our already asymmetric demographics as to render our Grouping unviable. So on both counts, **North Littlemoor must become part of Weymouth** not Winterborne Farringdon. The question is: how best to achieve that?
3. We do understand your need to keep DC Ward boundaries unaltered [although we fear that you may get yourselves into a 'chicken and egg' situation as Parliamentary, Dorset ward and Parish boundaries try to get in step with each other while reviews come up at different times]. The **simplest solution** would be to **shift the southern boundary of Bincombe parish North** to encompass the planned new development (and the adjacent land to the East) **now while the area still contains no housing**. That, in broad terms, would take it back to something like its historic baseline line: Icen Lane, Bincombe Marsh Dairy, the Tout, before a 1933 CGR [see below] messed things up.
4. We're more relaxed about the triangular bit to the north on the understanding that it is earmarked for a school, not housing, and so has no bearing on parish level governance, but we would be content for that to go to Weymouth if you wished. **Bottom line:** North Littlemoor should become part of Weymouth TC while remaining in Winterborne/ Broadmayne DC Ward, analogous to the situation at **Nottingham** [Chickerell DC Ward while in Wey Valley WTC Ward]; **it can be done!**
5. If you are feeling bold, you might also take this opportunity to correct anomalies along the rest of the southern boundary north of Littlemoor Road; due to the odd 1933 revision mentioned earlier, it meanders, with no trace on the ground, dividing individual properties. It lies 75 yds north of the old line of Littlemoor Road; possibly allowing for then fashionable 'ribbon development' that never materialised. With a bit of thought, corrections could be made mutually compensating in electoral terms to preserve the 'electoral equality' of DC wards while removing the worst anomalies.
6. Now to **our second issue:** our initial submission drew attention in to the anomalous intrusion of Loscombe between Whitcombe and Broadmayne. CGR Recommendation 5 is quite logical but it does make the intrusion even more pronounced: only 21% of Loscombe will then abut West Knighton *cf.* 33% now. We submit that the boundary should **shift to the NE side of the A352**; the old road which the boundary follows was diverted by the 1769 Turnpike 250 years ago! That would certainly simplify dialogue with DC on road safety issues around that dangerous corner.