

Parish Clerk  
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3 April 2025

**Fiona Ajram**  
**Planning Policy Officer**  
**Place**  
**Dorset Council**

Dear Fiona

**Neighbourhood Plan Resolution**

At last week's parish council meeting, (11 March 2025) members unanimously agreed to formally approve the go-ahead with a Neighbourhood Plan for the Vale of Allen (minute 25.042). This follows eight village meetings held in January, February and early March to gauge the support for such a venture. We wanted to know if residents wanted this, supported it and we were not wasting our time!

This letter is the formal application to Dorset Council to further this aim.

Just under 200 residents attended the various meetings and there was overwhelming support to go ahead. We also have around 24 willing volunteers to be part of, or help with, a steering group. Consequently, members are very encouraged by this support.

We are in the process of formally appointing Jo Witherden, planning consultant who has worked with numerous groups within Dorset to progress a neighbourhood plan. (I'm sure you know her). She attended one of our resident meetings and was complementary of our approach.

Detailed discussion took place at the parish council meeting and it was unanimously decided by members that the boundary would be:

- The whole of the Vale of Allen Parish Council – as opposed to one or more the parishes within the Group – members didn't believe a smaller geographical area or choosing one or two parishes was appropriate
- **Less** the small area in the North which the Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Plan includes - (which we were fully supportive of – and still are)
- **Plus** moving our boundary on the South/Southeast from the River Allen up to the B3078 Cranborne/Wimborne road, – from the Hinton Martell village turn off (Southern end) up to the Knowlton church turn off further North east, so the small areas remaining of Lord Phillimore and RJ Chilton (major land owners) are include to 'neaten up' land ownership and area lines .....as Wimborne St Giles did similar in the North east of VOAPC (keeping Lord Shaftesbury's land all together).

- Knowlton PC has been approached by us, and they have agreed to this 'encroachment' – see email already sent to you.

We are aware this will probably lead to wider consultation.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the Parish Clerk.

Parish Clerk  
Vale of Allen Parish Council  
Clerk@valeofallen-pc.gov.uk

Authorised by the chairman to send this letter to Dorset Council.