

190513 Cranborne & Alderholt Ward Dorset Councillor Report for Alderholt Parish

Councillors and Residents of Alderholt,

This is a very brief initial report, longer ones will be provided as the Council term goes on.

This is, of course, the very start of the new Dorset Council with 82 newly elected members replacing the 204 Councillors that made up the old District and County Councils. Those 6 councils –the District Councils of East Dorset, North Dorset, West Dorset, Purbeck, Weymouth and Portland, and the Dorset County Council have all now been abolished. Christchurch has joined Poole and Bournemouth in the new BCP Council.

All of our local services from Bins to Highways will now be delivered by one organisation.

Substantial savings of around £10 Million are being made by reducing duplication and streamlining departments; though this will involve some job cuts across the County.

The very first Full Council Meeting will be on the 16th May, where a Leader will be elected – this is most likely to be, as reported in the press, Cllr Spencer Flower from Verwood.

At that meeting I will know what Committees I have been appointed to.

In the lead up to that meeting there has been a fairly constant round of mandatory training for all Councillors, from an initial welcome session with headline info being disseminated on Wednesday 8th May, looking at the various directorates within the Council. This was followed by a full day on Thursday looking at Cyber Security, Data Protection, Council Procedures, the Council's Budget, and Ethical & Safeguarding issues.

Further sessions are taking place this week and next, including a Planning Training session next week, and more sessions are to be arranged later.

Best wishes

Cllr David Tooke