COMMUNITY COMMITTEE 22 August 2018

Community Governance Review – Final Recommendations

1. PURPOSE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report Type:	Public Report for Recommendation
Purpose of Report:	To consider the proposals of the Task and Finish Group and to recommend to Council the final recommendations for the review of community governance for Christchurch
Recommendations:	**It is RECOMMENDED that:** **(a) the Task and Finish Group community governance review final recommendations, as set out in Sections 14, 19, 24, 29 and 34 of this report be approved;** **(b) the Legal and Democratic Services Manager be authorised to make all necessary reorganisation of community governance orders to implement the changes agreed by Council;** **(c) the Task And Finish Group continue consider the transfer of assets, services and precept requirements for year 1 and a report be presented to full Council in due course.**
Wards:	Borough-wide
Contact Officer:	Richard Jones, Partnership Legal and Democratic Services Manager Councillor Lesley Dedman, Chairman of the Task and Finish Group

2. BACKGROUND

2.1. The Council, at its meeting on Thursday 16 November 2017, resolved to undertake a Community Governance Review of the borough of Christchurch. A Task and Finish Group of four councillors was appointed to oversee the review and to make draft and then final recommendations. The Councillors on the Task and Finish Group were Councillors Mrs Dedman (Chairman), Bath, Bungey and Mrs Jamieson.

2.2. Draft recommendations were approved for publication and consultation with interested parties.

2.3. Consultation took place between 25th May 2018 and 20th July 2018.

2.4. The Task and Finish Group have considered the representations received in response to the consultation and have agreed the final recommendations for consideration by the Committee and subsequently full Council.

3. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW CRITERIA

3.1. Members are reminded that a Community Governance Review offers the opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries and to remove anomalous parish boundaries. It can consider one or more of the following:-

(a) Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes;

(b) The naming of parishes and the style of new parishes;

(c) The electoral arrangements for parishes (the ordinary year of election; council size; the number of councillors to be elected to the council, and parish warding); and

(d) Grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes.

3.2. The Council is required to ensure that community governance within the area under review will be reflective of the identities and interests of the community in that area; and is effective and convenient.

3.3. In doing so the community governance review is required to take into account:-

- The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion; and
- The size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.

3.4. The aim of the review is to consider and bring about improved community engagement, better local democracy and efficient, more effective and convenient delivery of local services and ensure electors across the whole Borough will be treated equitably and fairly.

3.5. These criteria were considered by the Task and Finish Group in reaching their recommendations.

4. CONSTRAINTS

4.1. The Council may not alter the external boundary of Christchurch or any other principal council. However, the review may make consequential electoral arrangement recommendations to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) regarding the Electoral Wards of the Borough Council or the Electoral Divisions of Dorset County Council where there is sufficient evidence that this would be desirable and result in more convenient electoral arrangements. There are no consequential recommendations arising from this report.

4.2. Members will be aware that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England is currently consulting on the proposed boundaries for the new Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council. The consultation closes on 27 August 2018, a week prior to the meeting of full Council. The Commission has confirmed that any changes agreed and made by Order will be taken into consideration when determining their final recommendations in relation to the BCP Council warding arrangements. Once made, the LGBCE will not be permitted to alter the external boundary of any parish but may alter parish warding arrangements to achieve electoral equality.

5. CONSULTATION RESPONSES

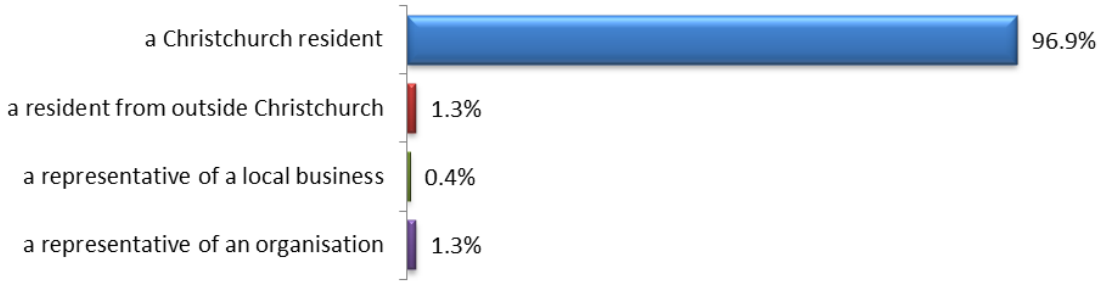
5.1. The draft recommendations were published on Dorset For You. A summary document and questionnaire, approved by the Task and Finish Group, were also produced to assist consultees to respond. Paper copies were made available at several locations throughout the Borough, including the Civic Offices, Christchurch and Highcliffe Libraries, doctors' surgeries, community centres and Christchurch Information Centre. Additional copies were dispatched by post upon request. A full copy of the draft recommendations were provided to key stakeholders and a copy provided to all Councillors.

5.2. There were 225 responses received to the consultation using the electronic or paper form and a further six written responses which are referenced, where applicable, under each relevant area. A general comment was received from the Hilary Trevorah, Chief Executive to Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils (DAPTC) who wrote:-

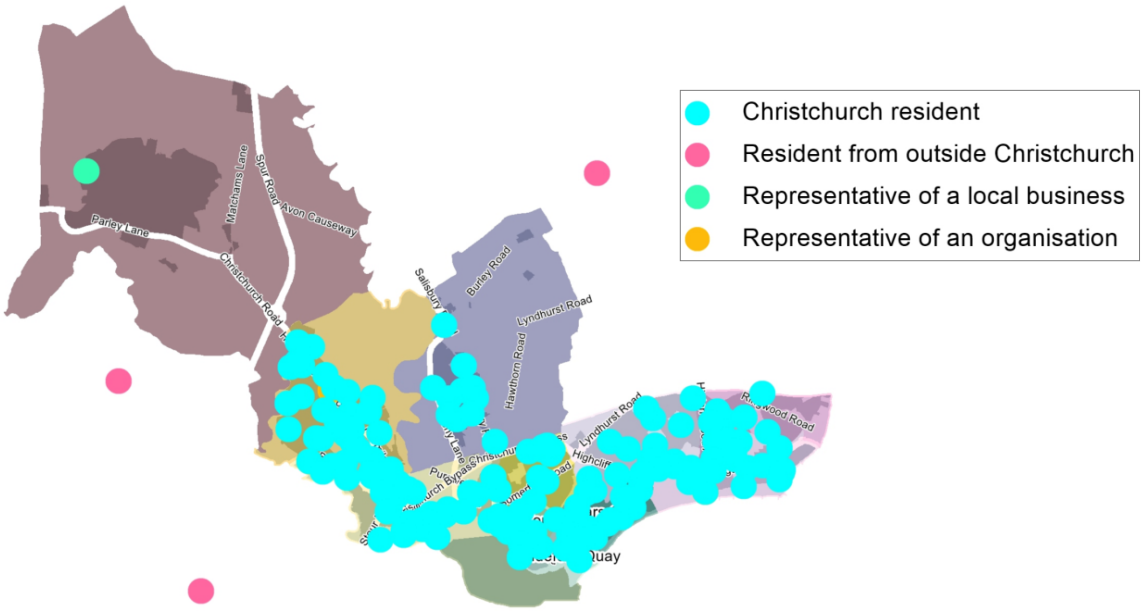
> *"Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils (DAPTC) is in favour of creating new parish councils in areas without them. Parish councils are a vital link with local communities, providing a greater understanding of their residents' views and concerns.*
>
> *This association together with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and with the encouragement of central government, very much encourages the establishment of new parish and town councils as the tier of local government that is closest to communities. Existing town councils in Dorset are very proud guardians of their historical, cultural and mayoral heritage as well as constantly striving to represent the ever-changing needs of their residents.*
>
> *Parish councils increase the potential for local control over local matters. They are an accountable voice for their communities, striving to improve quality of life for local people.*
>
> *As principal authority services become more centralised to achieve savings, the role of a parish council becomes crucial."*

5.3. A copy of the detailed response data for each area was provided to each member of the Task and Finish Group for consideration and has been made available online with this agenda.

5.4. The vast majority of responses, 97%, were from Christchurch residents.



5.5. The map below shows the location of respondents by type of respondent.



5.6. The residents of Christchurch were asked to indicate what they normally considered as their community. The table below shows the full breakdown, however, it is worth noting that the top five areas were 43% who identified with Christchurch as a whole, 19% with Highcliffe, 9% with Christchurch town centre and 7% with both Burton and Mudeford respectively.

Community identity		
Dorset as a whole	4	1.9%
Christchurch whole	92	42.8%
Burton	16	7.4%
Friars Cliff	8	3.7%
Grange	1	0.5%
Highcliffe	40	18.6%
Hurn	0	0.0%
Jumpers	1	0.5%
Mudeford	15	7.0%
Portfield	0	0.0%
Purewell	0	0.0%
Stanpit	6	2.8%
St Catherine's	7	3.3%
Somerford	2	0.9%
Town Centre	20	9.3%
Walkford	1	0.5%
Winkton	0	0.0%
Other	2	0.9%

5.7. The demographic makeup of respondents is also worth noting, with a very similar representation from male and female residents, almost three quarters of respondents being aged between 55 and 84 and one in seven respondents

indicating that they had a disability. The demographic questions were options and as a consequence it is not possible to apply weighting

Gender	No	
Male	106	50.7%
Female	97	46.4%
Prefer not to say	6	2.9%

Age	No	
15 or less	0	0.0%
16-24	1	0.5%
25-34	4	1.9%
35-44	10	4.7%
45-54	20	9.4%
55-64	35	16.5%
65-74	66	31.1%
75-84	56	26.4%
85 or over	9	4.2%
Prefer not to say	11	5.2%

Disability	No	
Yes	27	14.0%
No	144	74.6%
Prefer not to say	22	11.4%

7. POTENTIAL CANDIDATE INTEREST

7.1. Respondents were asked to indicate whether they would consider standing for election as a local councillor. This is important in ascertaining whether there would be sufficient candidates to fill the seats upon any new councils established. 37% of respondents (78) indicated that they would consider standing for election as a local councillor, with a further 21% (44) indicating that they didn't know at the time of responding. The remaining 42% stated that they would not stand for election.

8. BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH POOLE BOUNDARY IMPLICATIONS

8.1. The Task and Finish Group were mindful of the draft recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in relation to the warding arrangements for the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council. It was recognised, however, that these draft recommendations were subject to change and should not be an overriding factor when determining parish arrangements.

9. STAGE 4 FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1. The following sections of this report detail the background information, draft recommendations (which were subject to consultation), a summary of

representations received, the task and finish group conclusions and final recommendations for each parish or proposed parish.

9.2. A summary of the responses received in response to the draft recommendations is provided by area together with specific comments submitted.

9.3. The comments provided in the final section of the questionnaire asking 'Are there any other comments, observations or suggestions you have about these proposals?' are reproduced in section 35 of this report.

BURTON

10. BACKGROUND

10.1. The background information provided in the consultation questionnaire was:-

(a) The current parish of Burton is unwarded, has 10 elected representative seats and is coterminous with the existing borough ward

(b) There have been no recent contested elections in the parish, including by-elections and the projected elector to councillor ratio is 355:1

(c) Both Burton Parish Council and Winkton Residents' Association Committee made a submission to change the name of the Parish Council to 'Burton and Winkton Parish Council' to better reflect the area that the parish covers.

11. DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1. The draft recommendations approved by Council were that:-

(a) The parish of Burton be retained with no change to the existing parish boundary

(b) The name of the parish council be changed from 'Burton Parish Council' to 'Burton and Winkton Parish Council'

(c) No change be made to the number of councillors.

12. SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED

12.1. Respondents were asked the following questions in relation to the parish of Burton.

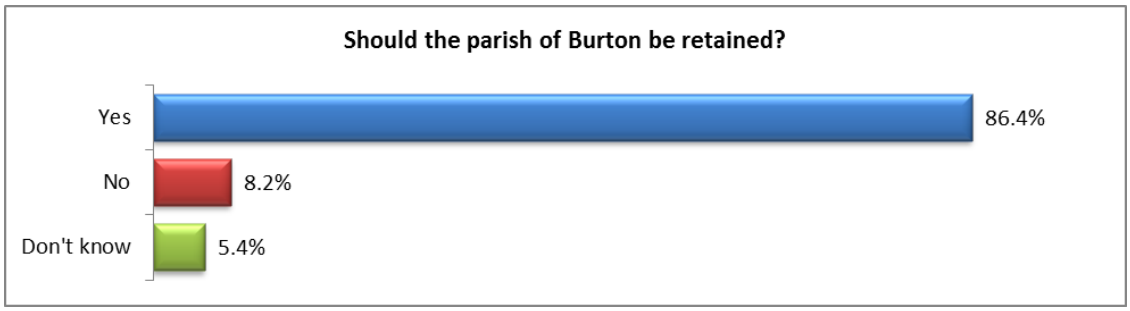
(a) Should the parish of Burton be retained?

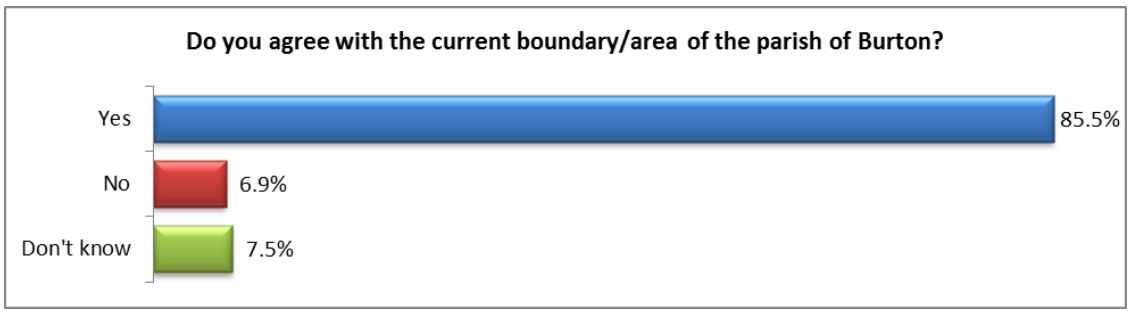
(b) Do you agree with the current boundary/area of the parish of Burton?

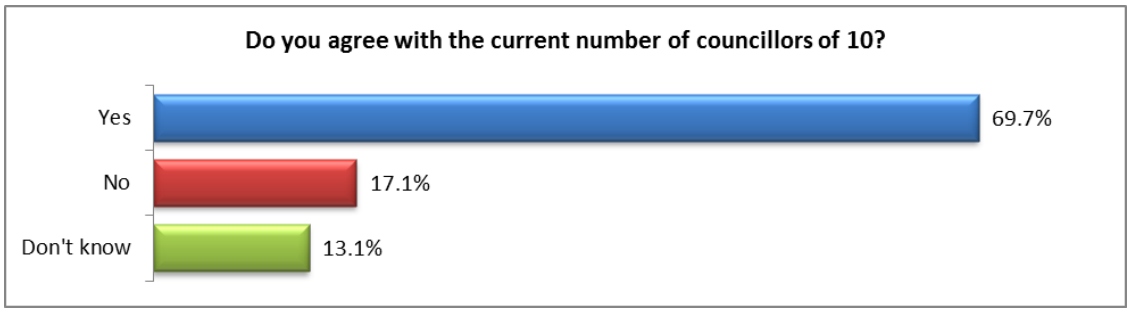
(c) Do you agree with the current number of councillors of 10?

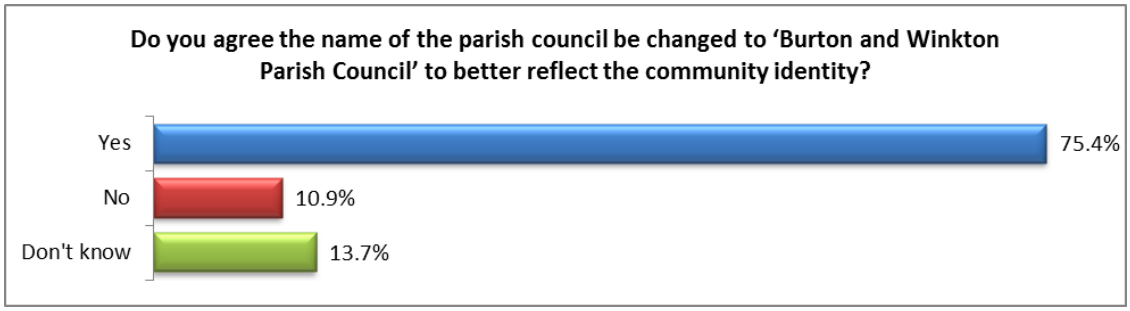
(d) Do you agree the name of the parish council be changed to 'Burton and Winkton Parish Council' to better reflect the community identity?

12.2. The charts below show the overall response to each of these questions.









12.3. Finally, each respondent was asked if they had any other comments in relation to the parish of Burton. There were 39 comments received which are set out below. Any personal or identifying remarks have been removed.

1	10 councillors is overkill and change for changes sake seems to be the norm in this area at the moment.
2	Don't believe that Parish councils have any functions within the community.
3	It is well established and should remain as at present. Residents of Burton & Winkton should decide on the name.
4	I feel that the current parishes both in Christchurch and Bournemouth should be removed, in line with Poole. There is no requirement for them as they just add another unnecessary level of bureaucracy. I don't feel that the current approach, which is essentially a popularity contest, that allows the same people to hold both the position of a County/Parish Councillor and Borough Councillor.

5	I would argue that we do not have 10 elected representatives as I have lived in the parish for 34 years and can only remember one or possibly two occasions when I have had the opportunity to vote for a member - for several years now the process has been through co-opting members and has resulted in an unelected body. Despite reading the minutes of some of the meetings, I struggle to understand what is done by the parish council and how they justify the precept we pay towards them. The fact that there have been no elections underlines the lack of interest in the village for the council - if there was interest people would be putting their names forward for election and a contest would have taken place. The lack of interest stems from the fact that, like me, no one knows what the council does and little attempt is made to tell people.
6	There are no town or parish councils in the two larger authorities Christchurch will be merging with in 2019.Any consideration of corporate governance should be made by the new authority, not the demising one.
7	Any corporate governance review should be undertaken by the new authority across the whole of its area, not by a demising authority.
8	10 councillors is too many for a parish. Suggest 6
9	I have no idea what the parish council actually does or where the precept I pay for it is spent.
10	Everything is ok as is
11	As a community we lack a proper bus service like other areas why is that
12	An unnecessary division of the overall Christchurch conurbation
13	Do away with all unnecessary Parish Councils and do not create further bureaucracy. This is a waste of money, proceed with formation of the 2 Dorset Unitary Councils.
14	One Town Council for the Borough of Christchurch
15	The number of councillors at 10 seems out of proportion to the ratio of councillors to the total population of the ward compared to the other wards.
16	Not sure why we need 10 councillors
17	Include Winkton
18	This makes sense as this is a specific area and is also in line with the boundaries of the ecclesiastical parish.
19	I think it's up to the residents who live in this area to put forward their own views but I do think the parish should be retained to reflect the views etc. of the residents. Number of councillors should be of course the minimum of 5 but attempt to obtain an acceptable ratio e.g., 1 councillor per number of residents. The name of the parish should reflect the areas that it covers. Why and who decides on the number of wards within the parish? I do think number of wards and number of parishes should be limited to as few as is workable.
20	Why change the title since Winkton is already included in the parish catchment area.
21	Winkton is already included within the Burton parish Council catchment area. Why change the name to Burton and Winkton?

22	The area north of the A35 is cohesive and isolated, so the proposed parish council is a natural choice. Not more than 8 councillors.
23	Uncertain
24	It is even more important than Parish Councils be established and/or retained in order that local communities be better represented when the new "Super Council" designed to subsume the identity of Christchurch as a separate Council comes into being. This is especially important given the reduced representation that Christchurch will have on this new Super Council.
25	The ratio of voters to councillors is far too low
26	Burton & Winkton should remain as is
27	The people of Burton best placed to comment on new name, surely?
28	That is up to local residents of the area
29	They are very good!
30	As the parish exists, it should be allowed to continue
31	Leave it how it is - how Burton residents want it
32	It's up to Burton Residents
33	I understand Winkton is now to be included with Burton
34	Burton Grange is the County Division - Why not use that?
35	Councillors should LIVE in Burton or Winkton and NOT outside the parish. Somerford is NOT Burton.
36	Wonderful, peaceful, friendly place to live! Two local shops/ post office well run and stocked. Very nice friendly owners and staff! Superb health centre and chemist shop. Superb churches. Friendly and useful community groups. Shame about the lack of buses now. Awful situation trying to get to hospitals etc.
37	The number of Councillors should be reduced to the minimum of 5 to reflect the smaller population compared to other Parishes
38	Regular and informative meetings!
39	Six elected representatives will be plenty-most of the parish is farmland

13. TASK AND FINISH GROUP CONCLUSIONS

13.1. The Task and Finish Group considered the responses to the consultation on the draft recommendations and concluded that the majority of respondents agreed that the Parish of Burton should remain as it is with the name being altered to ‘Burton and Winkton Parish Council’.

13.2. The Group had regard to the draft recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) in relation to the wards for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council. The LGBCE proposed including the Roeshot Hill area, where there is due to be some housing development, within their Burton Grange ward. Members considered where these future electors would see their sense of identity and determined this

would not be Burton, but would be the Highcliffe area, so decided not to alter the external boundary of Burton Parish.

13.3. The Task and Finish Group also considered the level of representation on the Parish Council. Although it was recognised that there had not been any contested elections in recent years, the future development anticipated within the parish and the consequential increase in electorate did not justify a reduction in elected representation.

14. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

14.1. It is RECOMMENDED that the following community governance and electoral arrangements for the parish of Burton be approved:-

(a) the parish of Burton should not be abolished;

(b) no change be made to the boundary of the existing parish of Burton;

(c) the name of the parish of Burton be changed to Burton and Winkton;

(d) the parish should continue to have a parish council;

(e) the name of the parish council be changed to Burton and Winkton Parish Council;

(f) the parish council for Burton and Winkton consist of 10 councillors;

(g) a Christchurch Borough Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order be prepared in accordance with the above recommendations and that the Order be effective from 1st April 2019 save for those recommendations relating to parish electoral arrangements which shall come into force on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019.

HURN

15. BACKGROUND

15.1. The background information provided in the consultation questionnaire was:-

(a) The current parish of Hurn is unwarded and has 6 elected representative seats and it is made up of part of the current St Catherine's & Hurn Borough ward.

(b) There have been no recent contested elections in the parish, including by-elections and the projected elector to councillor ratio is 88:1

16. DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

16.1. The draft recommendations approved by Council were that:-

(a) The parish of Hurn be retained with no change to the existing parish boundary

(b) No change be made to the number of councillors.

17. SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED

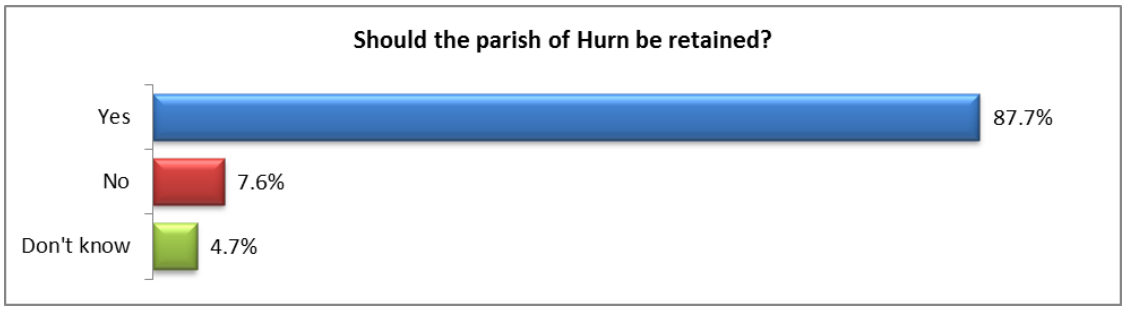
17.1. Respondents were asked the following questions in relation to the parish of Hurn.

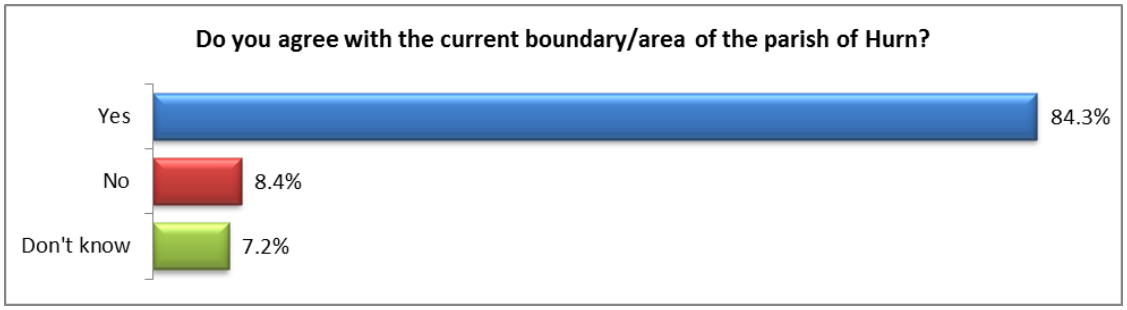
(a) Should the parish of Hurn be retained?

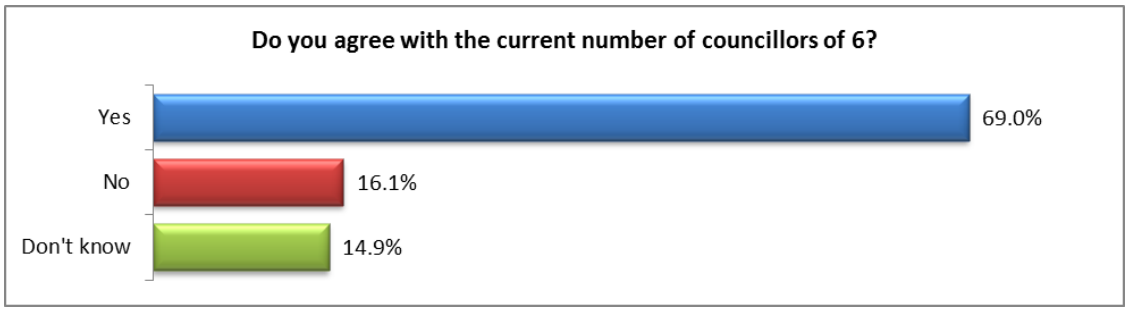
(b) Do you agree with the current boundary/area of the parish of Hurn?

(c) Do you agree with the current number of councillors of 6?

17.2. The charts below show the overall response to each of these questions.







17.3. Finally, each respondent was asked if they had any other comments in relation to the parish of Hurn. There were 32 comments received which are set out below. Any personal or identifying remarks have been removed.

1	Too many councillors.
2	Don't serve any real purpose and have no influence on major decision affecting Dorset
3	I feel that the current parishes both in Christchurch and Bournemouth should be removed, in line with Poole. There is no requirement for them as they just add another unnecessary level of bureaucracy. I don't feel that the current approach, which is essentially a popularity contest, that allows the same people to hold both the position of a County/Parish Councillor and Borough Councillor.
4	There are no town or parish councils in the two larger authorities Christchurch will be merging with in 2019.Any consideration of corporate governance should be made by the new authority, not the demising one.
5	Any corporate governance review should be undertaken by the new authority across the whole of its area, not by a demising authority.

6	In view of the parish including Hurn airport which includes an increasing number of industrial enterprises a more appropriate number of councillors would be 10
7	As is
8	Another unnecessary division of a town
9	Do away with all unnecessary Parish Councils and do not create further bureaucracy. This is a waste of money, proceed with formation of the 2 Dorset Unitary Councils.
10	One Town Council for the whole of the borough
11	The number of councillors at 6 seems out of proportion to the ratio of councillors to the total population of the ward compared to the other wards.
12	Although I do not disagree with the that Hurn Parish should be retained. Perhaps the boundaries should be redrawn and use the A338 as a boundary up to the Avon Causeway.
13	My comments are those given about Burton. Again it's up to the residents if they are satisfied with having 6 councillors or not.
14	The parts of Burton south of Blackwater junction and Fairmile should be transferred to a more eastern parish (which is not the same as the proposed Christchurch Parish - I prefer separate Town and North of the Railway line areas)
15	It is even more important than Parish Councils be established and/or retained in order that local communities be better represented when the new "Super Council" designed to subsume the identity of Christchurch as a separate Council comes into being. This is especially important given the reduced representation that Christchurch will have on this new Super Council.
16	The number of voters to councillors is extremely low
17	As before, Hurn parishioners best placed to comment on suitability of name proposed
18	The boundary should be moved southward up to The Grove - see map above (Responder drew on the map in paper questionnaire to indicate suggested boundary)
19	As the parish exists, it should be allowed to continue
20	With the airport included in this parish it is an extremely important area of Christchurch and I feel the number of councillors should be raised.
21	Leave this how it is - how Hurn residents want it
22	It's up to Hurn residents
23	This is a very important area of Christchurch and I think the number of councillors should be increased from 6 to 10
24	I think with the airport in this parish it is one of the most important areas in Christchurch and should have more than 6 councillors. I feel 10 would be more realistic.
25	Hurn Parish would include St Catherine's which would make a more sensible size re both area and number of residents. Number of councillors would be reviewed

26	Councillors should live in Hurn Parish and NOT neighbouring area
27	Can't comment much because my only two contacts with the parish have been to use the sports centre and shop.
28	The number of councillors should be reduced to the minimum of 5 to reflect the lower population compared to other proposed parishes
29	There should be no more than 6 councillors for Hurn
30	A very important Parish
31	Bournemouth Airport is an important asset to Christchurch. It needs to draw in more business in a way that balances the needs of Hurn residents - it can be done.
32	The maximum number of elected representatives should be no more than three- most of the parish is farmland

17.4. In addition to the questionnaire responses, the following written representation was received in relation to this area.

(a) Hurn Parish Council (Nicola Shaw - Clerk)

"Councillors support the proposal not to change Hurn Parish."

18. TASK AND FINISH GROUP CONCLUSIONS

18.1. The Task and Finish Group considered the responses to the consultation on the draft recommendations and concluded that the majority of respondents agreed that the Parish of Hurn should remain as it is.

18.2. The group had regard to the draft recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) in relation to the wards for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council. The Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Shadow Authority, in its submission to the LGBCE requested that one property - 'Wood Farm' be removed from the Commons ward and added to the Muscliff and Strouden Park ward. The reason for this request was that the property is only accessible via the Holdenhurst area and is therefore more likely to have community identity there, rather than in Hurn.

18.3. The LGBCE did not make the suggested alteration, most likely because it is not possible until a community governance review removes the property from the current Hurn Parish.

18.4. The Task and Finish Group felt it would be a good opportunity to correct this anomaly should Community Committee after consideration and debate decide as such.

19. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

19.1. It is RECOMMENDED that the following community governance and electoral arrangements for the parish of Hurn be approved:-

(a) the parish of Hurn should not be abolished;

(b) the boundary to the existing parish of Hurn be redrawn to the west where it adjoins the parish of Holdenhurst, so as to exclude the property known as Wood Farm and in doing designate that area as unparished;

(c) the name of the parish of Hurn should not be altered;

(d) the parish should continue to have a parish council;

(e) the parish council for Hurn consist of 6 councillors;

(f) a Christchurch Borough Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order be prepared in accordance with the above recommendations and that the Order be effective from 1st April 2019 save for those recommendations relating to parish electoral arrangements which shall come into force on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019.

HIGHCLIFFE & WALKFORD

20. BACKGROUND

20.1. The consultation document advised that the existing area was unparished.

21. DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

21.1. The draft recommendations approved by Council were:-

(a) To create a new parish of Highcliffe & Walkford with a total of 11 councillors

(b) For the parish to be divided into 3 wards: Highcliffe (3 councillors), North Highcliffe & Walkford (3 councillors) and West Highcliffe (5 councillors). The ratio for electoral equality is 1,059:1 on the projected electorate.

(c) The style of the parish be Neighbourhood Council.

22. SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED

22.1. Respondents were asked the following questions in relation to the proposed parish of Highcliffe and Walkford.

(a) Should a new parish of Highcliffe & Walkford be created?

(b) Do you agree with the boundary of the new parish?

(c) Do you agree with the warding of the new parish?

(d) Do you agree with the style of the new parish being a Neighbourhood Council?

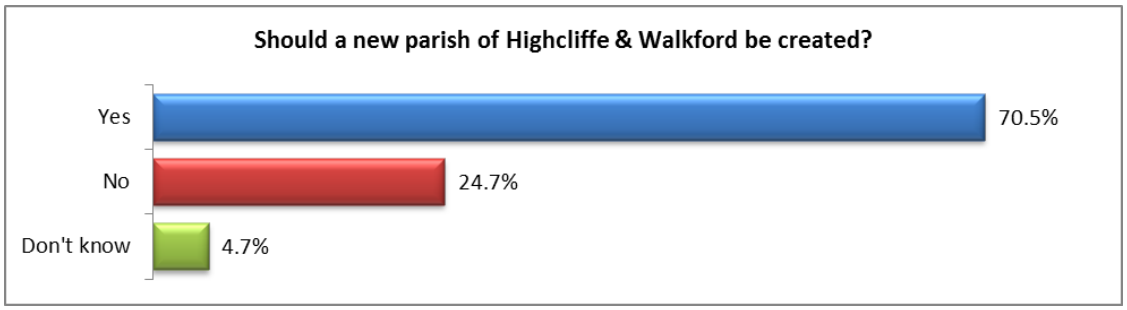
(e) Do you agree with the overall number of councillors for the new parish?

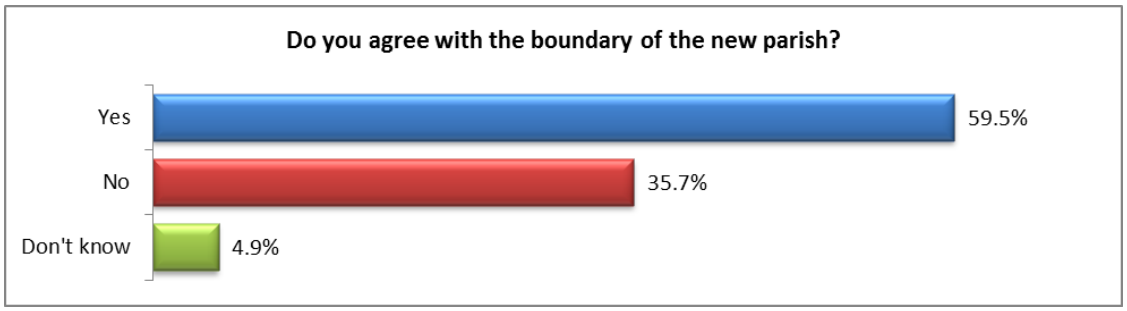
(f) Do you agree with the number of councillors per ward for the new parish?

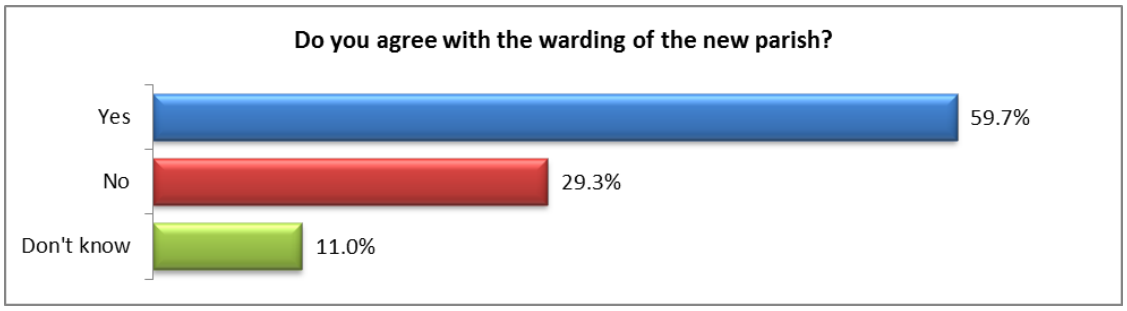
(g) Do you agree with the names of the parish wards?

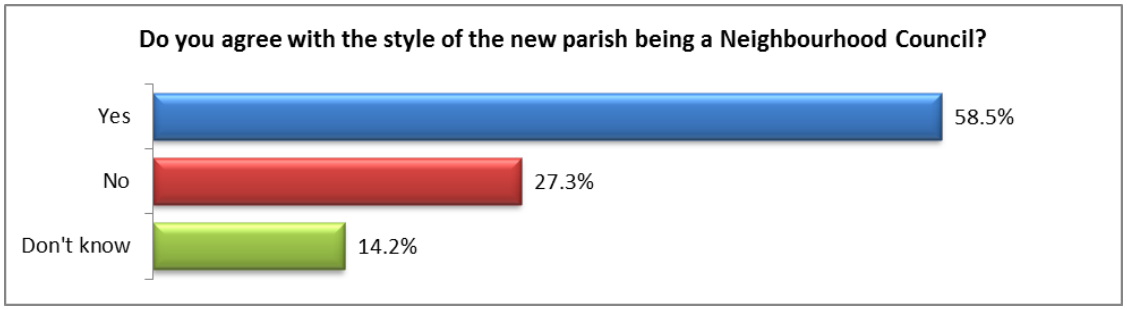
(h) Do you agree with the name of the new parish council being ‘Highcliffe & Walkford Neighbourhood Council’?

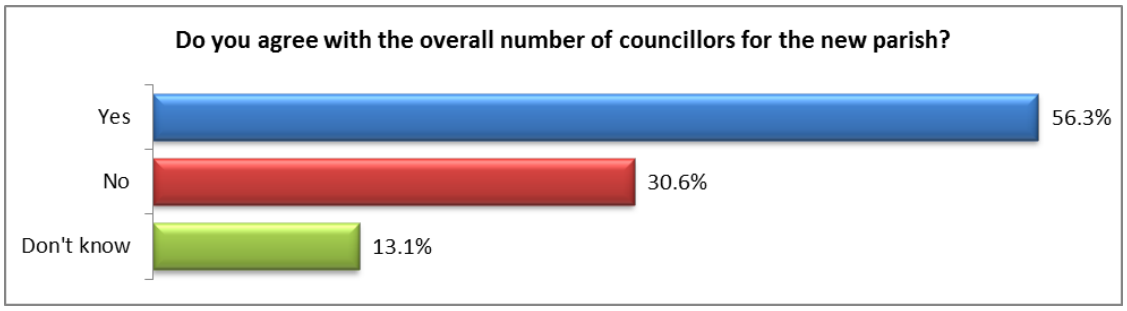
22.2. The charts below show the overall response to each of these questions.

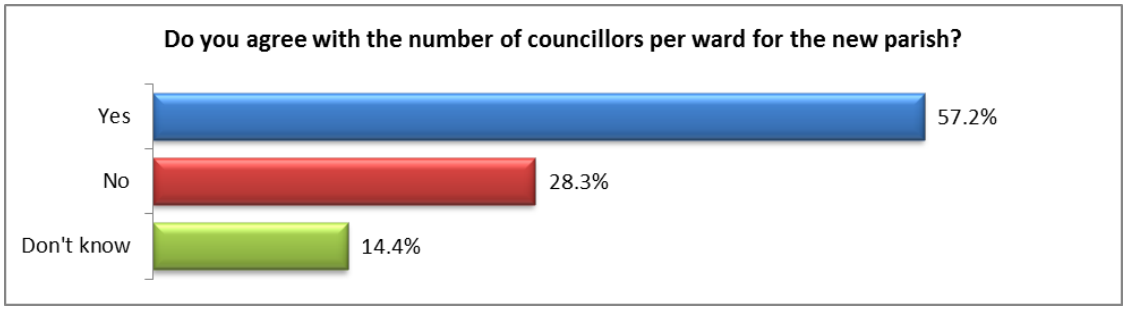

Should a new parish of Highcliffe & Walkford be created?
Yes
No
Don't know
70.5%
24.7%
4.7%

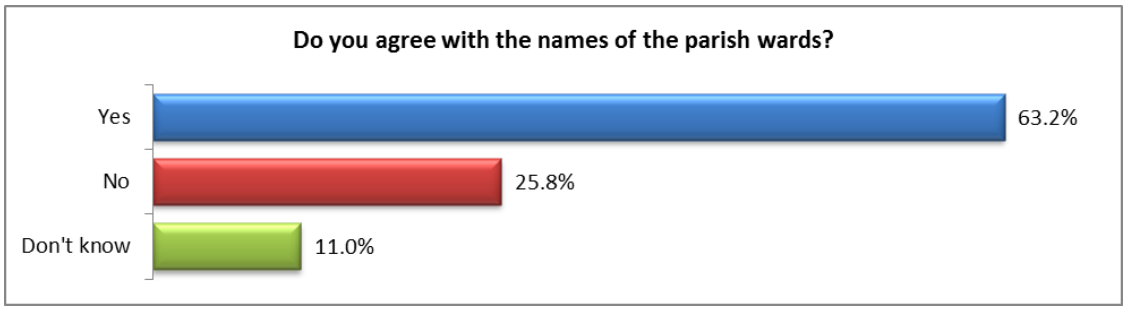

Do you agree with the boundary of the new parish?
Yes
No
Don't know
59.5%
35.7%
4.9%

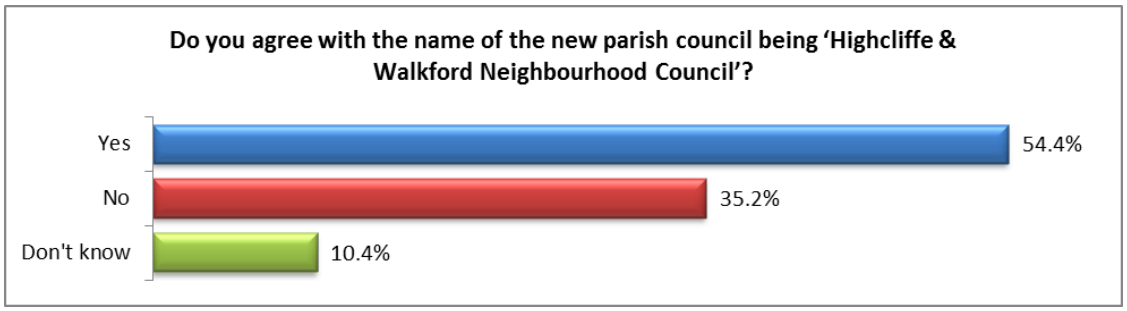

Do you agree with the warding of the new parish?
Yes
No
Don't know
59.7%
29.3%
11.0%


Do you agree with the style of the new parish being a Neighbourhood Council?
Yes
No
Don't know
58.5%
27.3%
14.2%


Do you agree with the overall number of councillors for the new parish?
Yes
No
Don't know
56.3%
30.6%
13.1%


Do you agree with the number of councillors per ward for the new parish?
Yes
No
Don't know
57.2%
28.3%
14.4%





22.3. Again, each respondent was asked if they had any other comments in relation to the parish of Highcliffe and Walkford. There were 74 comments received which are set out below. Any personal or identifying remarks have been removed.

1	I do not agree with these proposals as I wish to stay as a Christchurch Unitary Authority as we are at present.
2	The new parish council should be called Highcliffe, Walkford & Friars Cliff Neighbourhood Council. I live in Friars Cliff and want to see our area named in the new parish.
3	Not related directly to this but I would prefer to see the area of West Highcliffe ward to the west of the Highcliffe Road altered so that it is included within the Friars Cliff ward.
4	Should include Friars Cliff to oversea of the beaches. No mention of new proposed development on A35 which will have a bearing on number of Councillors.
5	The boundary should be Highcliffe road. The houses on that estate more closely identify with Mudeford rather than Highcliffe and Walkford.
6	There is discussion on inclusion yet you now want to create a new area?
7	This should include Friars Cliff Ward. A similarly modern suburb.
8	As a life time resident of Highcliffe I am strongly opposed to the creation of a parish council for Highcliffe and Walkford as this will be a 'talking shop' for the councillors and have no influence over the new authority that is being formed between Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and no cost implications have been put to the public or future proposal of their role. I believe this has been proposed as a way of keeping councillors in jobs and does not reflect what the public wants and needs from their council.
9	I would prefer to see one Town Council covering the whole of the un-parished areas of Christchurch but if the majority of residents of Highcliffe and Walkford support a Parish/Neighbourhood Council I would have no objection
10	A large area. Will there be enough volunteers to run a Parish Council?

11	I feel that the current parishes both in Christchurch and Bournemouth should be removed, in line with Poole. There is no requirement for them as they just add another unnecessary level of bureaucracy. I don't feel that the current approach, which is essentially a popularity contest, that allows the same people to hold both the position of a County/Parish Councillor and Borough Councillor. I feel that warding, as another level above the parish level will only create greater divides between the community as a whole and will cause fracturing of a unified community.
12	I don't feel that creating a new parish council is necessary.
13	It should just be called Highcliffe-on-Sea Council.
14	There are no town or parish councils in the two larger authorities Christchurch will be merging with in 2019.Any consideration of corporate governance should be made by the new authority, not the demising one. There has been no parish council here for forty four years and no justification for creating one now.
15	There have been no town or parish councils in most of Christchurch for forty four years. It seems extremely divisive that a demising authority seeks to change its corporate governance in its eleventh hour.
16	The responsibility of the neighbourhood council should include planning.
17	Do not agree that a new parish is required. Difficulty in recruiting councillors and potential for Unitary to off load costs to ease its budget.
18	I'm against the idea at all.
19	Leave well alone
20	If the consensus is to have parish councils then just call it Highcliffe and Walkford Parish Council. This also applies to the other councils - there is no need for one to be called "neighbourhood", another "community" etc. Call all of them parish councils.
21	This will inevitably result in costing Christchurch residents and is another unnecessary division of the town of Christchurch
22	Do away with all unnecessary Parish Councils and do not create further bureaucracy. This is a waste of money, proceed with formation of the 2 Dorset Unitary Councils.
23	One Town Council for the whole borough of Christchurch
24	The area south of Highcliffe Road including Mudeford Wood community centre would be considered part of Mudeford locally, not Highcliffe. Propose this area and that opposite on the other side by Bure lane is included in the Mudeford boundary.
25	I don't see why the area south of Highcliffe Road is included in 'Highcliffe'. It is clearly outside of the village and should be part of Mudeford. I have no strong opinion on the proposed wards but can't really see the need segregate the new Parish into specific areas.
26	I cannot see why this is a Neighbourhood Council, where as other wards are parish councils and community councils. There are so many organisation structures within one town; why are they not the same type of organisation to help make it all more streamlined? It would be interesting to know the cost difference between putting in the different structures compared to installing all new parish councils for the new wards.

27	Why make a Parish at all? There is no benefit and council tax, which is already much higher than other councils, will rise even more with no say in this by residents
28	Numbers of councillors seems low compared to other parishes.
29	Once again to stop any confusion the boundaries should be in line with the ecclesiastical parish. I think the boundaries for Highcliffe Parish will be the A35 Lymington Road to the West and the Southern Boundary would be Highcliffe Road. South of Highcliffe Road would be Mudeford Parish, the small area north of Lymington Road would be in the Parish of Christchurch as this is South of the railway line
30	I do think Friars Cliff should be part of this ward. As far as boundaries/councillors/wards again it's up to the residents of these areas. I do not know the areas well enough but generally I am of the opinion that ALL residents should be represented by a local council.
31	Leave as is
32	After discussions with our members it would seem to make much more sense to include the present Ward of Friars Cliff into this proposed Parish. Friars Cliff is more closely affiliated with the seaside Parish of Highcliffe. Those living in the area feel more aligned to the Highcliffe area and its village/holiday amenities including its shopping facilities. Mudeford and Stanpit should be included into the creation of a Christchurch Town Council. This area has many historical connections with the Priory Town and should not be separated. Therefore the inclusion of Friars Cliff into a Walkford and Highcliffe Parish/Neighbourhood should be one of only two new parishes in the Borough not three.
33	A good idea
34	Land north of the A35 be transferred either to Christchurch town (preferred) or Burton as this road is a natural boundary.
35	I think that Friar's Cliff should be included in this Parish as it is more similar to Highcliffe and Walkford than where it is proposed.
36	I would prefer that Highcliffe and Walkford remain as part of a greater Christchurch Town Council giving more weight to a larger council. If the majority wish for a separate Parish Council I think that it should include the Friars Cliff area as this would continue the coastal area of beaches in one Parish.
37	The name needs changing as 'neighbourhood' is used in other groups such as neighbourhood watch, which may have a negative effect on the electorate's interest and involvement with the parish council services and activities. Suggest the new parish council is named 'Highcliffe and Walkford Parish Council'.
38	Regarding the boundary I wonder whether Highcliffe should not include the small area to the SW on Bure Lane. That area seems more appropriate for Mudeford parish, which without this area is presently a very small parish in terms of its population. To have an effective, workable Council I would prefer to see no more than 9 Councillors, preferably split 3/3/3 between the wards, with adjustments to ward boundaries to equalise their populations. I prefer the title of ‘Parish’ rather than ‘Neighbourhood’

39	It is even more important than Parish Councils be established and/or retained in order that local communities be better represented when the new "Super Council" designed to subsume the identity of Christchurch as a separate Council comes into being. This is especially important given the reduced representation that Christchurch will have on this new Super Council.
40	Area south of Highcliffe Road and west of Bure Lane should be Mudeford/Stanpit not Highcliffe. If you are going to have North and West Highcliffe wards the other one should be South Highcliffe, calling it just Highcliffe would be confusing.
41	I don't understand enough about how it should be decided how many councillors are needed e.g. the number of electors per councillor in the proposed parish is much greater than Hurn. The proposed Highcliffe Ward would be better named South Highcliffe Ward
42	Friars Cliff is more closely affiliated with the seaside Parish of Highcliffe. Those living in the area feel more aligned to the Highcliffe area and its village/holiday amenities including its shopping facilities. Mudeford and Stanpit should be included into the creation of a Christchurch Town Council. This area has many historical connections with the Priory Town and should not be separated. Therefore the inclusion of Friars Cliff into a Walkford and Highcliffe Parish/Neighbourhood should be one of only two new parishes in the Borough not three.
43	We must have local representation and the above proposal will give us in this area a voice.
44	Throughout all the proposed parishes should be referred to as community councils and not neighbourhood or town
45	This should be called a Parish Council
46	I believe the title of the parish council should be Highcliffe and Walkford Parish Council.
47	I believe the title of the new parish council should be "Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council"
48	New name should be Highcliffe and Walkford Parish Council
49	We believe that the name should be a community council and that the number of councillors should be more in-line with the ratios of Burton and Hurn
50	My replies are subject to Friars Cliff being added to Highcliffe and Walkford. A revised name could be used.
51	I strongly agree that a parish council should be formed - Highcliffe has been badly served for many years by a Christchurch Council and we would be of even less interest to a Bournemouth and Poole Council. If you compare the proposed number of Councillors to the existing Council to voter ratio this proposal seems too low for Highcliffe and Walford.
52	Either Neighbourhood Council or Community Council would be OK. I think it is a bit confusing having North Highcliffe, West Highcliffe and just Highcliffe, but accept that people living north of the Lymington Road might not consider themselves as living in South Highcliffe.
53	I think this should also include Friars Cliff. This is the beach area.

54	As before, Highcliffe & Walkford parishioners best placed to comment on new council name
55	Names are for local residents to decide
56	It is totally unnecessary to create a new parish of Highcliffe and Walkford. Additional Bureaucracy will add no value and the proposal should be abandoned.
57	Should be called Highcliffe, Walkford & Friars Cliff. 3 new parishes too many. All seaside wards
58	I think this Parish should include Friars Cliff, Walkford and Highcliffe
59	Please see comments for Mudeford - None of these changes are wanted! We the residents of Christchurch voted against this local governance reorganization (84%). It is totally undemocratic and has been a scam from the start and must be stopped! The total loss of control of our ancient borough of Christchurch is terrifying. Our thanks go to our Councillors who are still fighting this and to Sir Christopher Chope and Alistair Somerville-Ford
60	Should include Friars Cliff
61	Please see comments for Mudeford - As decided during the recent poll 84% of Christchurch residents voted not to support the Local Governance Reorganisation. Therefore I consider all of these to be unwanted, unlawful changes.
62	Friars Cliff should be included with Highcliffe and Walkford
63	I think Friars Cliff should be within this Parish and should be Highcliffe, Friars Cliff and Walkford.
64	Should West Highcliffe Ward include the areas as marked*? Do they relate to Highcliffe? (The two areas south of Highcliffe Road in orange on map with road dividing the two)
65	I believe that Friars Cliff has more in Common with Highcliffe & Walkford than it does with Mudeford & Stanpit
66	Could include part of Friars Cliff
67	Councillors should live in Highcliffe and Walkford Parish and NOT neighbouring area
68	This should include Friars Cliff, more seaside based
69	Think this is a good area coverage. It is a growing area where housing is concerned!
70	Suggest 2 Cllrs for HCA & HCB (1665 electors) 2 Cllrs for NHA & NHB (1568 electors) 3 Cllrs for WHA & WHB (1726 electors)
71	Like this idea
72	Highcliffe ward should be called 'Highcliffe Village' or Highcliffe South
73	I think this parish should include Friars Cliff
74	Should also include Friars Cliff

22.4. In addition to the questionnaire responses, the following written representations were received in relation to this area.

(a) Private resident of Walkford

"The draft proposals are sound. If as proposed Christchurch becomes part of Bournemouth and Poole unitary authority, local communities would be even more easily forgotten, and as Highcliffe and Walkford are already 'out on a limb', their needs and opinions would probably be totally disregarded.

A Parish Council would be a good compromise for Highcliffe and Walkford.

But the numbers do not seem to add up, a vote in Burton or Hurn should be no more precious for electing a Parish Councillor than one in Highcliffe or Walkford.

Maybe a common standard of 1 Councillor every 1000 electorate would be good, if this is too contentious the limit could be adjusted, but the number attending the unitary authority must have some direct relationship to electoral power.

As a community we should now be beyond tribal political bias and we should just each want the best for our local community.

I would like to have a better say in my environment. I believe a Parish Council will achieve this.

I do not want to hear, second hand from a non-elected paid employee of the Council, to a contentious question. If for instance, a TPO is imposed on all the trees on my property, but not on those on the other side of the road, I want to know why, and when queried I want a reply to my correspondence, and not a prolonged silence, and I want someone I know to be able to contact not a faceless bureaucrat."

23. TASK AND FINISH GROUP CONCLUSIONS

23.1. The Task and Finish Group considered the responses to the consultation on the draft recommendations and concluded that the majority of respondents agreed that a parish should be created in Highcliffe and Walkford in accordance with the draft recommendations.

23.2. The group felt that the responses showed a great sense of community and identity in Highcliffe and Walkford.

23.3. Due to the lower level of support for creating a parish of Mudeford and Stanpit (as detailed in the next section of this report), consideration was given as to whether to include all or part of the area within another proposed parish. Particular consideration was given to Friars Cliff being within the proposed Highcliffe and Walkford parish, this being suggested by some respondents, however on balance and considering all responses, the group felt that Friars Cliff identified more with the Christchurch parish.

23.4. The Group had regard to the draft recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) in relation to the wards for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council.

24. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

24.1. It is RECOMMENDED that the following community governance and electoral arrangements for the unparished areas of Highcliffe and Walkford be approved:-

(a) a new parish of Highcliffe and Walkford be established;

(b) the boundary to the new parish of Highcliffe and Walkford comprise the area designated on the map appended to this report;

(c) the name of the new parish referred to in (a) above be Highcliffe and Walkford;

(d) the parish of Highcliffe and Walkford should have a parish council;

(e) the style of the parish council for Highcliffe and Walkford be set as a Neighbourhood Council

(f) the name of the council be Highcliffe and Walkford Neighbourhood Council;

(g) the parish of Highcliffe and Walkford be divided into three parish wards, comprising the area designated on the map appended to this report, and named respectively:-

(i) Highcliffe

(ii) North Highcliffe and Walkford

(iii) West Highcliffe

(h) the Neighbourhood Council for Highcliffe and Walkford consist of 11 councillors;

(i) the number of councillors elected to each of the respective wards be as follows:-

(i) Highcliffe – 3 councillors

(ii) North Highcliffe and Walkford – 3 councillors

(iii) West Highcliffe – 5 councillors

(j) a Christchurch Borough Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order be prepared in accordance with the above recommendations and that the Order be effective from 1st April 2019 save for those recommendations relating to parish electoral arrangements which shall come into force on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019.

MUDEFORD & STANPIT

25. BACKGROUND

25.1. The consultation document advised that the existing area was unparished.

26. DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

26.1. The draft recommendations approved by Council were:-

(a) To create a new parish of Mudeford and Stanpit with a total of 9 councillors

(b) For the parish to be divided into 4 wards: Mudeford Quay (2 councillors), Friars Cliff (4 councillors), Mudeford Wood (1 councillors) and Stanpit Marsh (2 councillors). The ratio for electoral equality is 611:1 on the projected electorate.

(c) The style of the parish be Community Council.

27. SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED

27.1. Respondents were asked the following questions in relation to the proposed parish of Mudeford and Stanpit.

(a) Should a new parish of Mudeford and Stanpit be created?

(b) Do you agree with the boundary of the new parish?

(c) Do you agree with the warding of the new parish?

(d) Do you agree with the style of the new parish being a Community Council?

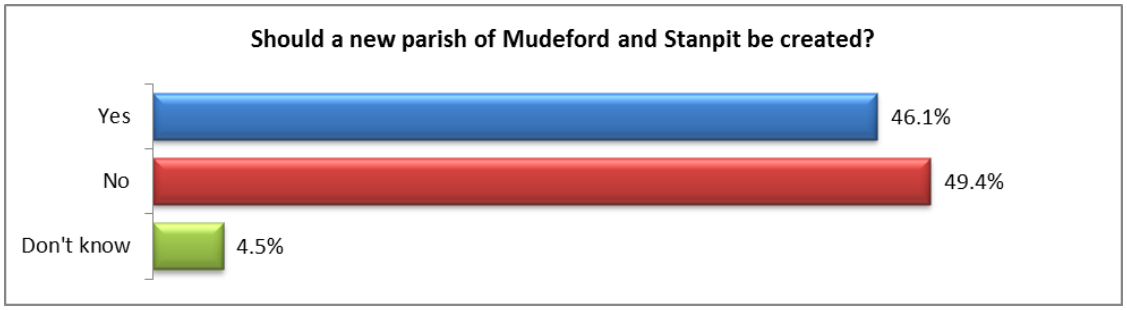
(e) Do you agree with the overall number of councillors for the new parish?

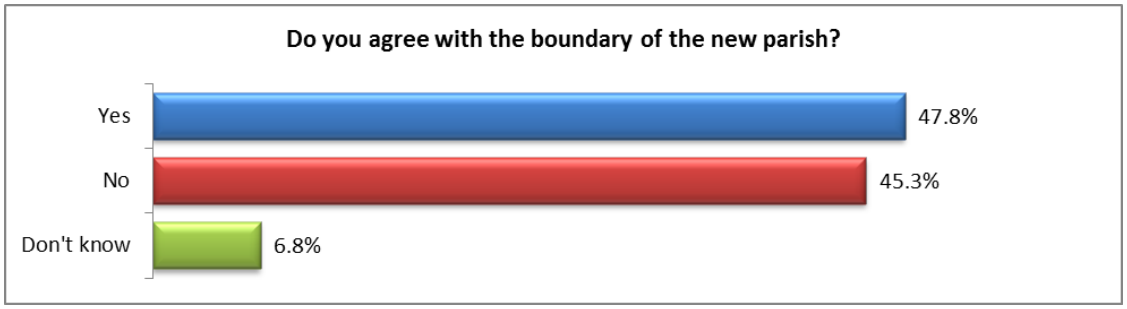
(f) Do you agree with the number of councillors per ward for the new parish?

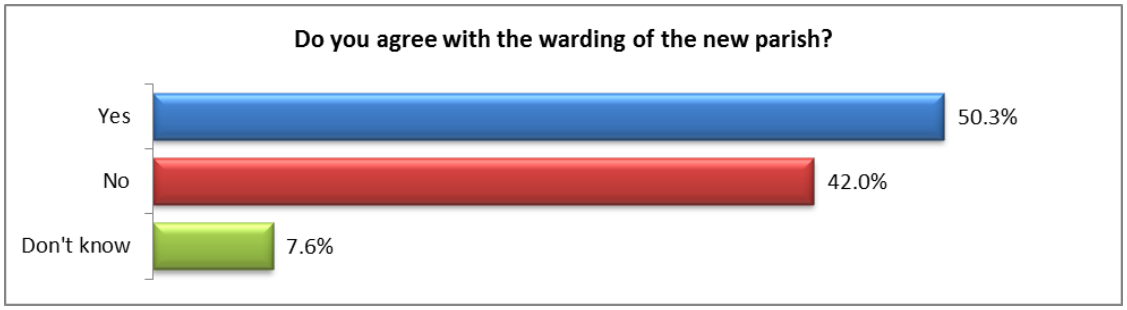
(g) Do you agree with the names of the parish wards?

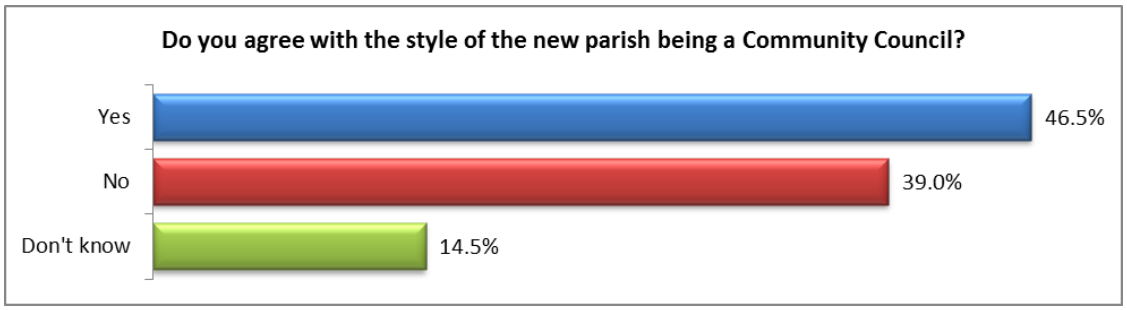
(h) Do you agree with the name of the new parish council being 'Mudeford and Stanpit Community Council'?

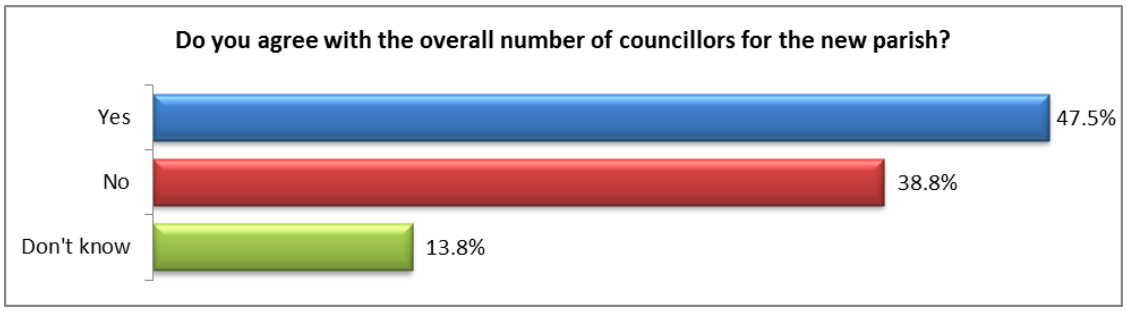
27.2. The charts below show the overall response to each of these questions.

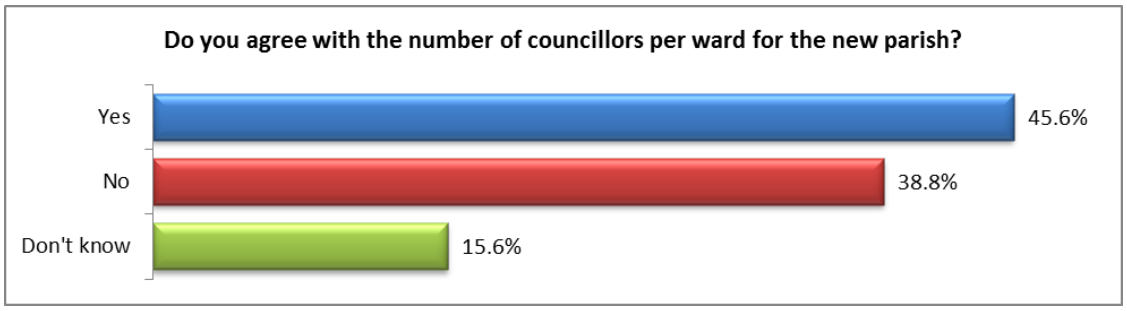


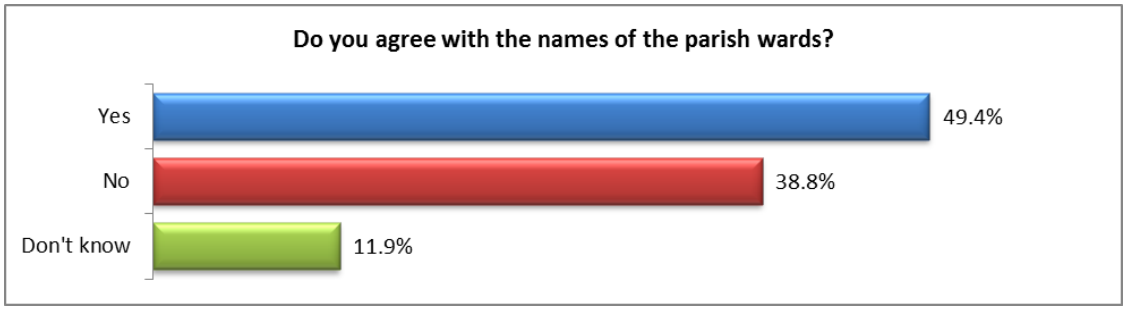


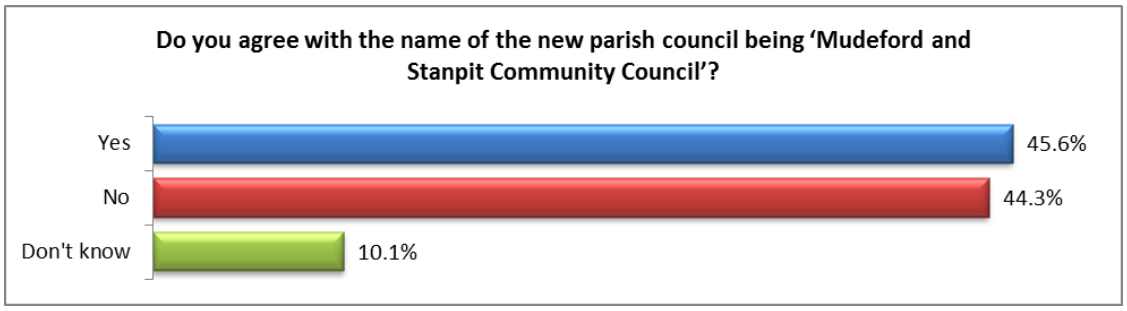












27.3. Each respondent was asked if they had any other comments in relation to the parish of Mudeford and Friars Cliff. There were 81 comments received which are set out below. Any personal or identifying remarks have been removed.

1	I'd like to see the area to the east of Somerford ward detach from Grange ward and link with Mudeford and Stanpit as befits its geographical location.
2	If the new parish is going to include Friars Cliff then it should be named Mudeford, Stanpit and Friars Cliff Community Council.

3	Due to the size of the ward I believe Friars Cliff should be included in the name
4	Mudeford Wood ward is too small and should include that area of the Friars Cliff ward to the west of The Runway, and the area of West Highcliffe west of the Highcliffe Road could be considered.
5	I think that Mudeford and Stanpit should, for both interest and historical reasons, be included in the Christchurch Town Council proposal.
6	Friars Cliff would be better linked to Highcliffe with Stanpit and Mudeford linked to Town Council. The residents associations are struggling to find committee, therefore I believe finding councillors to represent us in this small area will prove difficult.
7	The boundary should be along Highcliffe road. This is a more natural boundary.
8	There is discussion on inclusion yet you now want to create a new area?
9	This should be part of the town centre ward to which it is historically connected, part of the original town. There is a ridiculous boundary line drawn through gardens around Queens Road and West View Road and I would have thought Stanpit and Somerford roads should form the boundary there.
10	I don't believe that individual areas should be split into parish councils as Bournemouth Council have no Parish councils have function well including financial without them. Decision making is not slowed down by endless debates.
11	I feel that the current parishes both in Christchurch and Bournemouth should be removed, in line with Poole. There is no requirement for them as they just add another unnecessary level of bureaucracy. I don't feel that the current approach, which is essentially a popularity contest, that allows the same people to hold both the position of a County/Parish Councillor and Borough Councillor. I feel that warding, as another level above the parish level will only create greater divides between the community as a whole and will cause fracturing of a unified community.
12	I don't feel that creating a new parish council is necessary.
13	There are no town or parish councils in the two larger authorities Christchurch will be merging with in 2019. Any consideration of corporate governance should be made by the new authority, not the demising one. There has been no parish council here for forty four years and no justification for creating one now.
14	There have been no town or parish councils in most of Christchurch for forty four years. It seems extremely divisive that a demising authority seeks to change its corporate governance in its eleventh hour.
15	The Community council should be responsible for planning in their area.
16	Mudeford and Stanpit should be part of the proposed new Christchurch Parish Council.
17	See comment re Highcliffe - Do not agree that a new parish is required. Difficulty in recruiting councillors and potential for Unitary to off load costs to ease its budget.
18	I'm against the idea. Waste of money.

19	The Mudeford Wood ward seems pointless - it is too small. It should be merged with either Stanpit Marsh or ideally Mudeford Quay (and then named simply "Mudeford")
20	Leave well alone
21	Another unnecessary division of the town of Christchurch
22	The boundary should be the Bure Brook and the Highcliffe Road, as at the moment too much of Mudeford is included in Friars Cliff.
23	Do away with all unnecessary Parish Councils and do not create further bureaucracy. This is a waste of money, proceed with formation of the 2 Dorset Unitary Councils.
24	One Town Council for the whole borough of Christchurch
25	The area south of Highcliffe Road including Mudeford Wood community centre would be considered part of Mudeford locally, not Highcliffe. Propose this area and that opposite on the other side by Bure lane is included in the Mudeford boundary. Locally the area north of the infant school up to Somerford Road and the area adjacent to Stanpit, including Russell Drive, would be thought of as Mudeford, therefore propose that's included in Mudeford not Christchurch. In light of the above, I'd consider different warding, esp Mudeford Wood ward being the area north of the current boundary, inc Mudeford Wood community centre, which is currently proposed to be in Highcliffe. The names are ok subject to the ward boundaries being changed, shifted east.
26	Why make a Parish at all? There is no benefit and council tax, which is already much higher than other councils, will rise even more with no say in this by residents. What about Purewell and Somerford? The names will be lost and I suspect gross elitism will ensue.
27	If you follow the ecclesiastical parish boundaries, Somerford would be included up to the By Pass and east of Purewell Cross. the Southern west border south of Purewell Cross is correct , but North of Purewell Cross runs along Purewell Cross Road. Although I think the ecclesiastical parish is wrong and should change. The northern border of the Mudeford and and Stanpit should run along Somerford Road. up to the south eastern side of Purewell Crossroads and the east side of standpit. If the Boundry changed then I would understand if the number of councillors would have to increase.
28	I think of these areas as part of Christchurch town area.
29	I do not think this should be a separate parish but should for part of the Christchurch Town Council. Again re number of councillors. It does of course depend on how many people step forward to take this role but each ward/council should have a representative ration between councillors and residents.
30	Leave as is
31	As with the previous comments our members feel that Mudeford and Stanpit should be included into a Christchurch Town Council due to its many historic links with the Priory Town, its amenities, including the Mudeford link with the Priory Church, smuggling links, harbour and quay links with many boats and trading coming from Mudeford to Christchurch Town Quay over many hundreds of years. Mudeford is an integral part of Christchurch.

32	Cannot see any reason why Mudeford and Stanpit should not be joined with the town centre - there is so much history and heritage which attaches to Christchurch town
33	Mudeford & Stanpit to be included within Christchurch as we are strongly linked historically.
34	Mudeford and Stanpit should be part of the town council
35	Why Community and not a Parish Council? Friars Cliff has a much greater weighting in the Parish. The boundary between Friars Cliff and Mudeford Quay needs to be reviewed and the number of councillors being 3 each.
36	Mudeford and Stanpit should be part of Christchurch Parish.
37	Before Bournemouth existed Mudeford and Stanpit were the entrance to Christchurch when coming from Southampton. There are also ancient historical links between Mudeford, the harbour and Stanpit and Christchurch Town Centre. During the Civil War Cromwell's troupes had a camp at Purewell whilst they laid siege to the Castle. I would therefore wish to see Mudeford, Stanpit and Purewell as part of the Christchurch Town Council area
38	It is even more important than Parish Councils be established and/or retained in order that local communities be better represented when the new "Super Council" designed to subsume the identity of Christchurch as a separate Council comes into being. This is especially important given the reduced representation that Christchurch will have on this new Super Council.
39	There should be just 3 wards - Mudeford, Stanpit and Friars Cliff. Mudeford Quay and Mudeford Wood should be combined as one ward called Mudeford. Stanpit Marsh ward should just be called Stanpit. The area south of Highcliffe Road and west of Bure Lane should be part of Friars Cliff ward.
40	Mudeford and Stanpit should be included into a Christchurch Town Council due to its many historic links with the Priory Town, its amenities, including the Mudeford link with the Priory Church, smuggling links, harbour and quay links with many boats and trading coming from Mudeford to Christchurch Town Quay over many hundreds of years. Mudeford is an integral part of Christchurch. Purewell and Stanpit should be included in the Christchurch Town Council area as it was originally the thoroughfare between Southampton and Poole, before Bournemouth was ever conceived there are huge historical links with the Town of Christchurch
41	Very low ratio of voters to councillors. What has happened to Friars Cliff?
42	These answers are on the basis of Friars Cliff joining Highcliffe and Walkford with Mudeford & Stanpit becoming part of the Town Council.
43	Too small. Suggest it is included with Christchurch.
44	We don't see the necessity for generating a new parish. This would only result in the community having to pay additional council tax. It is unlikely that there will be sufficient interest from members of the community to stand as councillors for the parish council. We already have the Friars Cliff Residents Association which needs to be encouraged and will provide information on the views of the community to the councillors of the unitary authority. There is no need for an extra, expensive layer of representation.

45	If not included in the Town Council then the name should include the word Harbour. The thinking behind this is the problem of Christchurch Harbour being misnamed by a few people and also the nautical mature of the area should be noted.
46	I would prefer to see these made wards of the proposed Town Council
47	Having lived in Mudeford for 15 years, I am not aware of any community spirit. The two Residents Associations struggle to exist, let alone provide persons to run them.
48	It has a ratio of electoral equality of 611:1 while proposed Highcliffe & Walkford has 1059:1 and Christchurch Parish 1355:1, suggest just 5 councillors
49	As before, parishioners to be asked to comment on new parish name?
50	According to the map we appear to be part of Christchurch. The boundary should be at Purewell Roundabout
51	Mudeford has a lot of history - we must keep it as beautiful as it is
52	These are a part of Christchurch Town Centre and should not be split
53	Mudeford is part of Christchurch, the history linking the two goes far back and is connected by rivers and ancient history
54	Mudeford and Stanpit should be part of Christchurch Town Council
55	This will add no value and the proposal should be abandoned. It introduces unnecessary bureaucracy.
56	Mudeford & Stanpit should be part of Christchurch Town Council. All links should be with Town Council & its historic backgrounds
57	With strong historical links with the Town Centre, Stanpit and Mudeford should be included with Christchurch Town Council
58	Stanpit Marsh could be called Stanpit (only). Mudeford Quay just called Mudeford. Friars Cliff to have only 3 Councillors
59	None of these changes are wanted! We the residents of Christchurch voted against this local governance reorganisation (84%). It is totally undemocratic and has been a scam from the start and must be stopped! The total loss of control of our ancient borough of Christchurch is terrifying. Our thanks go to our Councillors who are still fighting this and to Sir Christopher Chope and Alistair Somerville-Ford
60	As decided during the recent poll 84% of Christchurch residents voted not to support the Local Governance Reorganisation. Therefore I consider all of these to be unwanted, unlawful changes.
61	Having had strong links with the Town Centre in the past Mudeford & Stanpit should be included into Christchurch Town Council
62	Mudeford need to be in the whole Christchurch Town Council as they share many 'in Christchurch withs' and they will still have a say as a 'ward'.
63	Mudeford and Stanpit have always had strong historical links with Town Centre and should be incorporated into Christchurch Town Council
64	Note: This was a paper questionnaire and 'Community' was circled and the words ‘Wholly Appropriate’ and ‘ Strongly support’ written alongside

65	I feel this area should be included in Christchurch Parish
66	Town Council should include Mudeford, Stanpit, Purewell (original by way Soton - Poole). St Catherine's joined with Hurn. Names or wards might need reviewing. Friars Cliff - 1/2 Mudeford 1/2 Highcliffe & Walkford
67	Councillors should live in Mudeford and Stanpit Parish and NOT from neighbouring areas
68	Would like Mudeford to remain in Christchurch
69	It should be included in the Christchurch Town Council more historic and business like
70	Mudeford would be better off being with Christchurch Town. I have always thought of Mudeford as part Christchurch Town.
71	I have no doubts on this idea. My own thoughts are for Mudeford to be brought into Christchurch Parish.
72	Could include area of the north currently shown as Highcliffe & Walkford, using the A337 as the boundary. This would even up the population more. The number of councillors should be reduced to the minimum of 5 as per Hurn and Burton & Winkton. This is still a favourable ratio compared to Highcliffe & Walkford and to Christchurch Town.
73	Mudeford should be with town centre
74	Would like Mudeford to remain with Christchurch
75	Historical links already well established
76	Myself - think they should combine with Christchurch Parish
77	Christchurch and Mudeford have always been working together as a community would be a shame to break them up.
78	I think Mudeford should be a part of Christchurch as there are so many historic places that tie up together
79	I don't see the need for this small parish surrounded by a large urban area. Mudeford & Stanpit are naturally part of Christchurch and Friars Cliff could well be included in Highcliffe.
80	I think Mudeford should be part of the Town because of its shared history creating 1 larger Town Council to stand for local matters
81	We feel this area should be in with Christchurch Parish

27.4. In addition to the questionnaire responses, the following written representations were received in relation to this area.

(a) Friars Cliff Residents' Association (Marianne Abley - Chair)

"I have had much contact since our last public meeting at beginning of June 2018 on the Community Governance Review and the overriding feedback from Residents is that the best option is for Friars Cliff to be part of the proposed Mudeford and Stanpit parish council and this should be named Friars Cliff, Mudeford and Stanpit Neighbourhood Council (this is not the name on the Consultation document/s)"

(b) Stanpit and Mudeford Residents Association (SAMRA) (Mike Duckworth - Chairman)

"Following several meetings with officers from the council, SAMRA spent a considerable amount of time and effort debating the Local Community Governance Review. This included consulting a representative number of residents via the web-site and chatting to them in the street about the proposals.

We did consider a Parish Council for Stanpit and Mudeford, but we felt it was too small an area to engage a full complement of Local Councillors. In the current climate, SAMRA and other Residents' Associations are having difficulty recruiting committee members. Even adding Friars Cliff into the mix, SAMRA believes creating a Local Council will prove difficult.

Our proposal was that Mudeford and Stanpit should to be included within a Town Council as we were historically linked within the original boundary of Christchurch. We felt that Friars Cliff had more in common with Highcliffe with ownership of the beaches etc.

We were also open to the suggestion of one large town council being formed from all remaining unparished areas.

Therefore, SAMRA rejects the creation of a Mudeford, Stanpit and Friars Cliff Local Council.

It would however accept a single grouping of all remaining unparished wards in the event that the decision is made that a change to the status quo is necessary."

(c) Christchurch and East Dorset Liberal Democrats (Keith Harrison, Constituency Secretary)

"As Liberal Democrats we support the principle of devolution of political power to local levels. Consequently we fully support the principle of maintaining the 2 existing Parish Councils and creating new authorities for the remainder of Christchurch Borough. However, we have some points of detail in which we would diverge from the proposals as currently made.

With respect to the proposed Highcliffe and Walkford Neighbourhood Council we recognise and respect the strong community identities in these areas and their desire for separate representation. However, we would argue that Friars Cliff might equally be part of this arrangement. It is contiguous with and has affinity with Highcliffe and Walkford in terms of property type and development. Additionally, and importantly, including Friars Cliff would have a single authority overseeing the beaches area of Christchurch and the management and control of any devolved amenities.

With respect to the proposed Mudeford, Stanpit and Friars Cliff Community Council, whist we consider Friars Cliff should be merged with Highcliffe and Walkford, we equally consider that Mudeford and Stanpit should be included within the proposed Christchurch Town Council. We consider that these two areas are historically part of "old" Christchurch which incorporates not only the town centre but

the Christchurch Harbour area. Consequently with respect to history and identity we believe they fit within the Christchurch Town territory.

Our proposals as above would result in there being only 2 rather than the currently proposed 3 new authorities.

However, we believe that this would be a more cost effective solution and easier to resource.

The Highcliffe, Walkford and Friars Cliff Neighbourhood Council would have an electorate of 14,130 and the enlarged Christchurch Town Council an electorate of 22,811. We believe that 2 larger authorities would be able to wield greater influence and secure better protection for the Christchurch area within the proposed new Unitary Authority political environment."

28. TASK AND FINISH GROUP CONCLUSIONS

28.1. The Task and Finish Group considered the responses to the consultation on the draft recommendations and concluded that there was not sufficient support to create a new parish in Mudeford, Stanpit and Friars Cliff.

28.2. The Group noted that the level of support for creating a parish of Mudeford and Stanpit was much lower than the other proposed areas and consideration was given as to whether to include all or part of the area within another proposed parish.

28.3. Particular consideration was given to Friars Cliff being within the proposed Highcliffe and Walkford parish, but on balance, the group felt that the residents of Friars Cliff would identify more closely with the Christchurch parish along with the remaining areas of Mudeford and Stanpit.

28.4. The Group had regard to the draft recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) in relation to the wards for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council. It was noted that the LGBCE were recommending that the boundary in the Mudeford Sandbank area be drawn through the harbour entrance and thus ensuring that the whole of the Sandbank is contained within a single ward of East Southbourne and Tuckton.

28.5. This sandbank area was included within the proposed Mudeford and Stanpit parish in the draft recommendations and the group considered whether it should be included within the proposed Christchurch parish with the remainder of the area or whether it should be excluded and designated as an unparished area.

28.6. A community governance review provides an opportunity to resolve anomalous boundary issues and to bring about improved and more effective and convenient electoral arrangements and delivery of local services. As a consequence, the Task and Finish Group agreed to seek the views of the Mudeford Sandbank Beach Hut Association. The Chairman of the Association responded by letter dated 10 August 2018 with the following comments:-

"I have been made aware of the CBC Community Governance Review as it pertains to the allocation of Ward Boundaries. As I understand it there are two possible outcomes regarding the Ward Boundaries that affect Mudeford Sandbank. These are that the Sandbank in its entirety is contained within one ward or alternatively split between the East

Southbourne and Tuckton Ward and the Mudeford Ward along the existing boundary line between Christchurch and Bournemouth.

Having consulted with the MSBHA committee I can confirm that the decision of the committee is that the Sandbank should be represented by one ward only to maintain community cohesion which is of paramount importance.

This is also borne out by the responses I have received from members.

I trust that our decision as the largest stakeholder group on the Sandbank will be supported by the Council's decision."

28.7. Whilst the Task and Finish Group were reluctant to exclude the northern tip of Mudeford Sandbank from a new parish, it was accepted that in the interests of improving the delivery of local services that the sandbank should remain unparished and the parish boundary be drawn through the harbour entrance.

29. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

29.1. It is RECOMMENDED that a new separate parish of Mudeford and Stanpit should not be established.

CHRISTCHURCH

30. BACKGROUND

30.1. The consultation document advised that the existing area was unparished.

31. DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

31.1. The draft recommendations approved by Council were:-

(a) To create a new parish of Christchurch with a total of 15 councillors

(b) For the parish to be divided into 3 wards: Grange (3 councillors), St Catherine's and Jumpers (6 councillors) and Priory (6 councillors). The ratio for electoral equality is 1,355:1 on the projected electorate.

(c) The style of the parish be Town Council.

32. SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED

32.1. Respondents were asked the following questions in relation to the proposed parish of Christchurch.

(a) Should a new parish of Christchurch be created?

(b) Do you agree with the boundary of the new parish?

(c) Do you agree with the warding of the new parish?

(d) Do you agree with the style of the new parish being a Town Council?

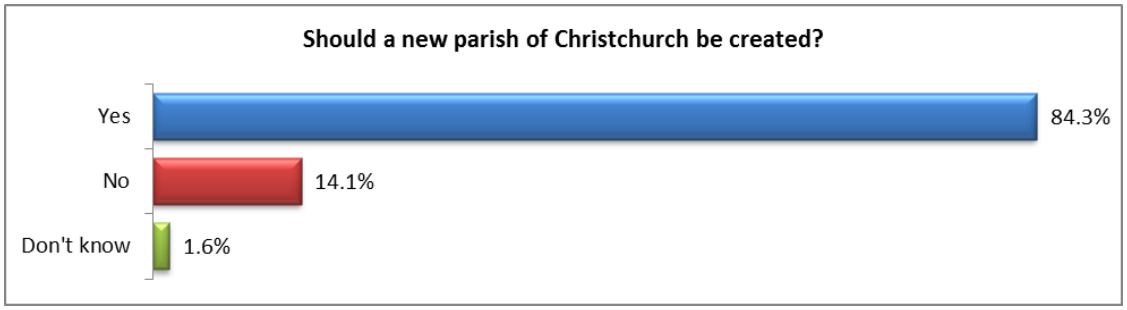
(e) Do you agree with the overall number of councillors for the new parish?

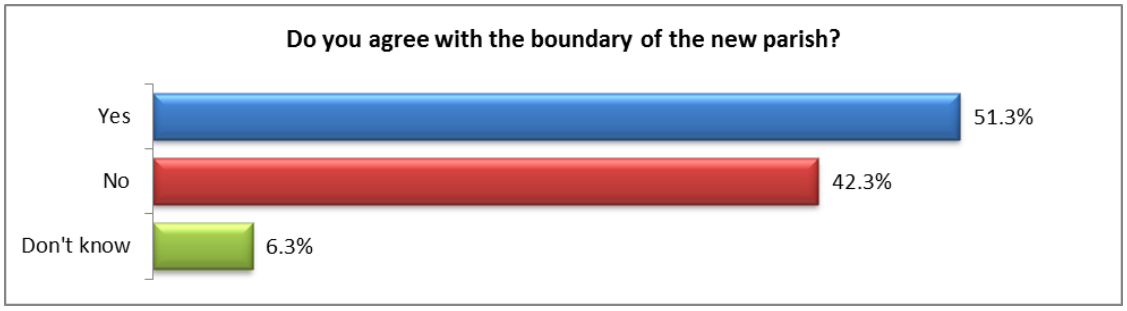
(f) Do you agree with the number of councillors per ward for the new parish?

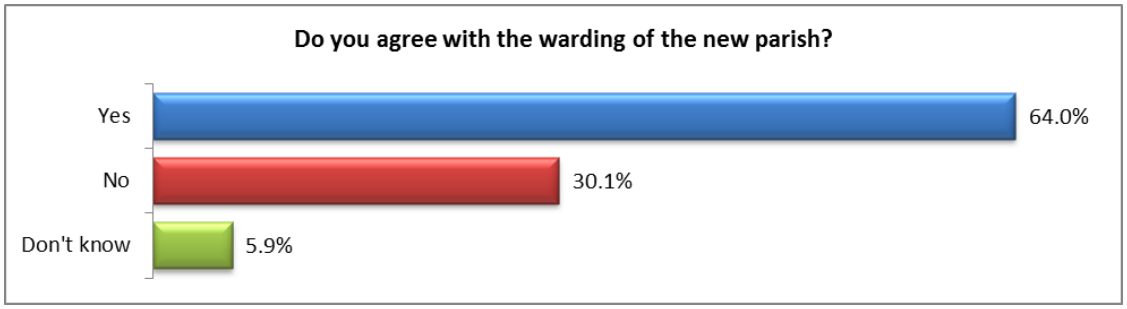
(g) Do you agree with the names of the parish wards?

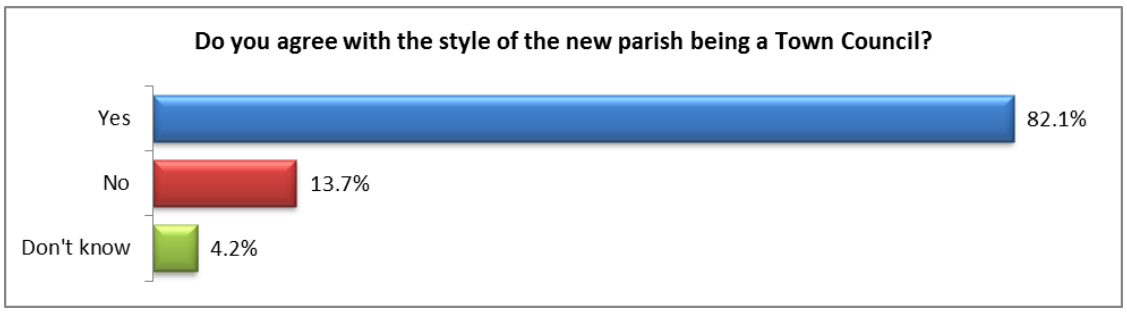
(h) Do you agree with the name of the new parish council being 'Christchurch Town Council'?

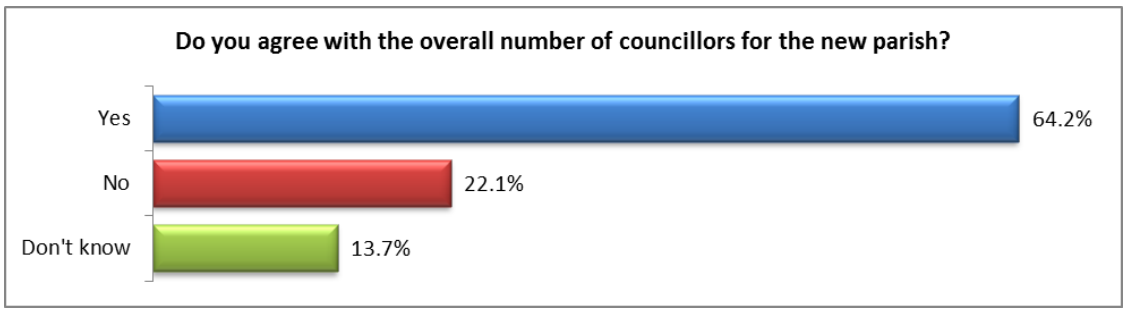
32.2. The charts below show the overall response to each of these questions.

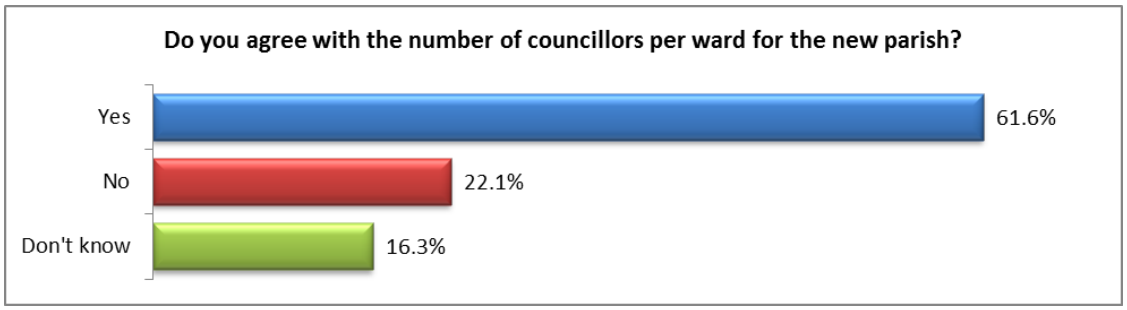


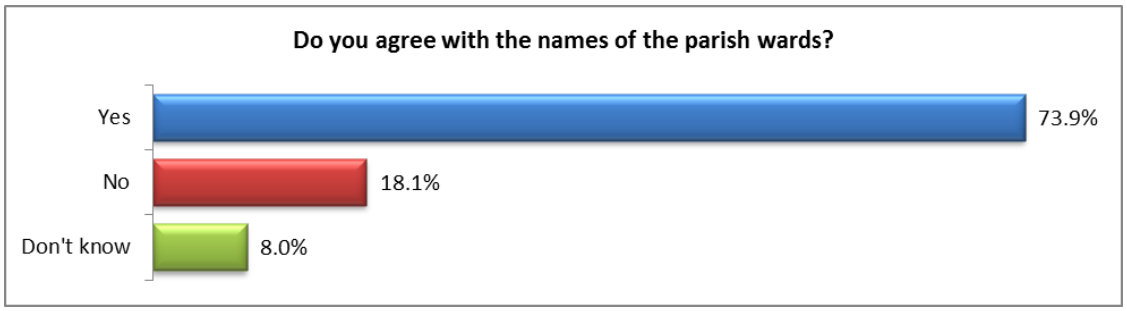


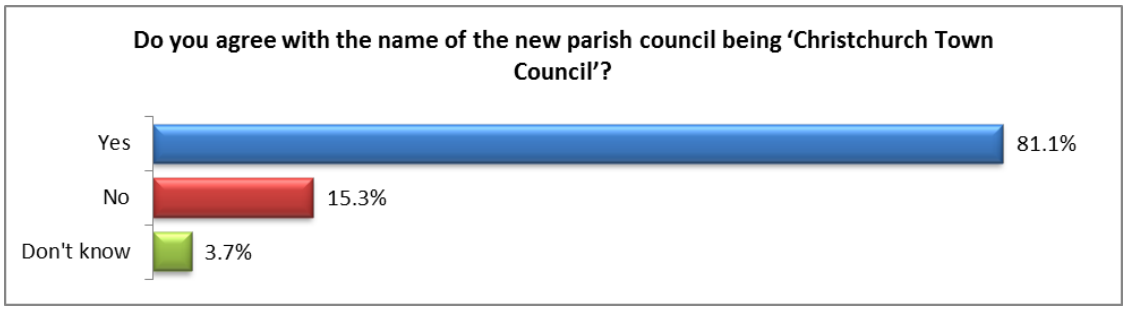












32.3. Each respondent was asked if they had any other comments in relation to the parish of Christchurch. There were 91 comments received which are set out below. Any personal or identifying remarks have been removed.

1	This should cover the whole town.
2	I'd like to see the area east of Somerford Road be part of the proposed Mudeford and Stanpit parish.
3	I feel the Jumpers & St. Catherine's and Priory wards are too large and should each be "halved" to function easier and give a closer sense of identity and belonging.
4	Christchurch Town Council should include the wards proposed for Mudeford and Stanpit. The name of the council should reflect the inclusion of all the wards and probably not exclusively Christchurch.
5	There is discussion on inclusion yet you now want to create a new area?
6	This should be extended to include Mudeford and Stanpit proposed parish, for historical and geographical reasons. This is the indivisible heart of the town. But Jumpers is late 19th century development so there could be some division there, whereas St Catherine's is an ancient constituent part of Hurn. I would wish both these wards to go into Hurn, their historical parishes. St Catherine's is also rural so identifies better with Hurn.
7	How many parish councils do we need? Surely we should be able to function as a community within the one Council, we are all Dorset residents!

8	I would prefer to see one Town Council taking in the whole of the un-parished area
9	I think the whole of Christchurch apart from Burton and Hurn should make up one Town Council
10	I feel that the current parishes both in Christchurch and Bournemouth should be removed, in line with Poole. There is no requirement for them as they just add another unnecessary level of bureaucracy. I don't feel that the current approach, which is essentially a popularity contest, that allows the same people to hold both the position of a County/Parish Councillor and Borough Councillor. I feel that warding, as another level above the parish level will only create greater divides between the community as a whole and will cause fracturing of a unified community.
11	I don't feel that creating a new parish council is necessary. It adds an additional layer of bureaucracy that isn't required or needed. As a resident in this area I don't want to pay an additional precept. I also think we should be reducing the number of councillors across Dorset (as the reorganisation will do) so think adding additional councillors at this level is unproductive.
12	There are no town or parish councils in the two larger authorities Christchurch will be merging with in 2019. Any consideration of corporate governance should be made by the new authority, not the demising one. There has been no parish council here for forty four years and no justification for creating one now.
13	There have been no town or parish councils in most of Christchurch for forty four years. It seems extremely divisive that a demising authority seeks to change its corporate governance in its eleventh hour.
14	The Town council should be responsible for planning in the parish.
15	The boundary of the new Christchurch Town Council should include Mudeford and Stanpit.
16	See comment on Highcliffe - Do not agree that a new parish is required. Difficulty in recruiting councillors and potential for Unitary to off load costs to ease its budget.
17	I'm against the idea. Waste of money.
18	Leave well alone
19	What would be the benefit of creating a Parish, other than to create more positions of power for elected councillors who will inevitably receive payment from tax payers even if only expenses. I just don’t see the point?
20	Do away with all unnecessary Parish Councils and do not create further bureaucracy. This is a waste of money, proceed with formation of the 2 Dorset Unitary Councils.
21	One Town Council for the whole of Christchurch Borough
22	I would query the boundary with Mudeford as per previous comments. Grange ward could be renamed Somerford ward. Query the boundary of Jumpers and St Catherine's with priory. Maybe there's a reason for this not going direct along Barrack Road or intersecting Barrack Road? The councillor to population ratio seems quite high compared to other areas and considering this area has some deprivation it may be wise to increase numbers if possible.

23	I support the need for a Town Council to represent the Town of Christchurch. This will be absolutely vital after the Borough Council's demise.
24	The number of councillors at 15 seems out of proportion to the ratio of councillors to the total population of the ward compared to the other wards. This is the central area of Christchurch so it will be dealing with many issues which affect the whole of the Christchurch population. The ratio of Hurn parish council to the electorate (88:1) is so different from this proposed ward. I think there should be more representation for this area as a whole. The priority should be at least one more councillor for the Grange ward.
25	Why make a Parish at all? There is no benefit and council tax, which is already much higher than other councils, will rise even more with no say in this by residents. I see no point in this at all and it smacks of regression rather than progression.
26	There are no further comments about the boundaries as I have made previously. I think it is very important that the ecclesiastical parish boundaries should be taken in to consideration. Although I think the ecclesiastical parish boundaries should change when considering Mudeford and Somerford.
27	I think Christchurch should include the Mudeford and Stanpit wards to avoid too many smaller wards which would be easier to disregard higher up the government chain.
28	I think that the creation of a town council included Stanpit and Mudeford is the best solution. Having said that I think the idea of giving all residents of Christchurch a say in the new system of local government in the Bournemouth area is to be applauded. We need to stand up for our town and not be swamped by our larger neighbours.
29	I strongly feel Christchurch Town Council is the best title as it reflects the nature of the area. Boundaries/wards and number of councillors I'm not sure but the residents should be represented in a workable ration depending of course on how many people step forward to be councillors. Mudeford and Stanpit should be part of this Town Council and not a separate parish.
30	This creates a Christchurch Town Council
31	Christchurch Citizens Association agrees with the recommendations for a Christchurch Town Council but to include the Mudeford Ward area. The reasons for this have been explained earlier. To create a Christchurch Town Council will be to the benefit of its residents from Mudeford to St. Catherines's Hill, including the Grange, in that the town centre is the central area for many amenities such as shopping, entertainment, business, community use (Druitt Hall) Historic (the Priory and its surrounding area, Old Town Hall, Christchurch Quay and its links to sailing and boating including the areas of Mudeford). As a Town Council we would be allowed to retain the Borough's present historic regalia going back over 900 years to when the historic charter was given to the people of Christchurch. We would want to retain a Town Mayor which we understand is possible if we were to create a Christchurch Town Council. If we were to lose these historic links then all our history will be lost to perhaps a new Unitary Authority as well as all the regalia
32	Feel Mudeford and Stanpit should be included
33	Mudeford and Stanpit
34	Should join with Mudeford and Stanpit

35	Seems acceptable
36	I absolutely disagree with this proposal. I propose a split into two areas - bounded by the railway line. So we have Town covering the Town Centre and Somerford (both areas requiring a proper focus) and St. Catherine's covering more of a residential area. This is not withstanding the somewhat unrepresentative of the major component of the local residents association. If this split is deemed unlikely, the Hurn Parish should be joined into the North of the Railway Line St. Cats area. I definitely do not agree that a Town council - being biased in favour of retail - should cover a residential area.
37	Mudeford and Stanpit should be included in this Parish.
38	Priory Ward should have more Councillors to reflect the greater population density.
39	I disagree with the warding of the new Christchurch Town Council as I believe that Mudeford and Stanpit should be included within this proposal both for historical reasons and for economies of scale thus enabling the Town Council to achieve more and have a stronger voice .
40	Christchurch must retain a 'Town Council' to ensure that the town will continue to have a mayor.
41	I strongly feel that we should keep the borough as it is with a parish council for Burton and Hurn as it is now with the Borough council changing to a Town council with the two existing Parish councils under the umbrella of the town council as it is in Wiltshire and Cornwall.
42	It is even more important than Parish Councils be established and/or retained in order that local communities be better represented when the new "Super Council" designed to subsume the identity of Christchurch as a separate Council comes into being. This is especially important given the reduced representation that Christchurch will have on this new Super Council.
43	Boundary between Priory and Jumpers/St Catherine's seems odd. Area north of railway between Barrack Road and Fairmile Road looks as though it should be part of Priory ward.
44	Mudeford, Purewell and Stanpit should definitely be included into the Christchurch Town Council. Creating a Christchurch Town Council will be to the benefit of its residents from Mudeford to St Catherines's Hill, including the Grange, in that the town centre is the central area for many amenities such as shopping, entertainment, business, community use (Druitt Hall) Historic (the Priory and its surrounding area, Old Town Hall, Christchurch Quay and its links to sailing and boating including the areas of Mudeford). As a Town Council we would be allowed to retain the Borough's present historic regalia going back over 900 years to when the historic charter was given to the people of Christchurch. A Town Mayor should be established if we were to create a Christchurch Town Council. If we were to lose these historic links then all our history will be lost to perhaps a new Unitary Authority as well as all the regalia as mentioned earlier.
45	All the proposed parishes should be referred to as community councils. Indeed for Christchurch parish to be called town would give the false impression of it being superior in status to other newly formed bodies, especially as Christchurch borough is to be absorbed into Bournemouth and Poole unitary authority
46	The ratio of electoral equality seems unduly large

47	Christchurch Town Council should include Mudeford & Stanpit.
48	This should also include Stanpit and Mudeford.
49	We believe that there should be a Christchurch Town Council to support the office of the Mayor of Christchurch. We believe this council should be funded by the Unitary Council rather than the community of Christchurch Town.
50	Boundary should include Mudeford and Stanpit and the name should be Christchurch Harbour Town Council. Should this not be popular, then I would agree with the name being Christchurch Town Council. All that aside, I prefer Christchurch to remain as it is and has been for hundreds of years.
51	I would like to see a SINGLE Town Council encompassing all wards in the district except for the existing parishes of Burton and Hurn. I feel this is essential to retain Christchurch's identity in the event that we are forced to amalgamate with Bournemouth and Poole.
52	I believe this council should include Stanpit and that consideration should be given to extending that to include Mudeford
53	I totally agree with the Council's recommended Option 1 for a Single Town Council with the existing parishes of Hurn and Burton continuing. The boundaries should be those of the existing Borough. It is probable that the existing wards are OK and, maybe, the councillor numbers. This is particularly important if the amalgamation of Christchurch with Bournemouth and Poole goes ahead (against which I am one of the 84% not in favour). The Single Town Council is the correct way to continue the existence of our ancient chartered status.
54	There is great disparity between the new 'parishes' when it comes to representation by a councillor. Could this not be modified to be more fair.
55	The boundary should be at Purewell roundabout otherwise there will be an overlap between Stanpit & Mudeford and Christchurch
56	We see Mudeford as part of Christchurch and wrong to sever
57	So important to keep Christchurch as it is. The events held during the year bring so much to holiday makers as well as residents.
58	Mudeford and Stanpit are part of Christchurch with the Quay
59	I agree with the wards as proposed but believe it will have more influence in a wider unitary authority if combined with Mudeford and Stanpit. Too many Councillors.
60	Think this is a good idea!
61	The boundary should be curtailed as shown in red on map above. See previous.
62	Christchurch Borough Council?
63	Once again this proposal introduces totally unnecessary bureaucracy and it should be abandoned.
64	Town Council must include Mudeford. Christchurch centre for shopping, community use, history, Old Town Hall, the Priory Church. All historic regalia retained & town mayor

65	Please see comments for Mudeford - None of these changes are wanted! We the residents of Christchurch voted against this local governance reorganisation (84%). It is totally undemocratic and has been a scam from the start and must be stopped! The total loss of control of our ancient borough of Christchurch is terrifying. Our thanks go to our Councillors who are still fighting this and to Sir Christopher Chope and Alistair Somerville-Ford
66	Christchurch is the centre of the Borough, historic and shopping facilities. Please include Mudeford
67	Please see comments for Mudeford - As decided during the recent poll 84% of Christchurch residents voted not to support the Local Governance Reorganisation. Therefore I consider all of these to be unwanted, unlawful changes.
68	Christchurch Town Council should include Mudeford & Stanpit.
69	I would like to see Mudeford in this Town Council so they can work better together
70	As already stated Mudeford and Stanpit should be part of Christchurch Town Council
71	I agree with all that is suggested, if it means we can still have a Mayor and don't mind paying the extra rates but a lot of people might not be able to afford it
72	This was a paper questionnaire and 'Town' was circled in the questions section and an arrow drawn to the comments section where the words *'Not v clear which part'* were written.
73	I feel this should include Stanpit and Mudeford
74	Town Council should include Mudeford, Stanpit, Purewell (original by way Soton - Poole). St Catherine's joined with Hurn. Names or wards might need reviewing. Friars Cliff - 1/2 Mudeford 1/2 Highcliffe & Walkford
75	Councillor should live in Christchurch Parish and NOT neighbouring areas
76	This is an excellent idea but as a Mudeford resident I want to be part of a Town Council. The links with Mudeford are strong and should be remembered as part of our local (? – illegible)
77	I think Mudeford would be better with Christchurch Town.
78	Like this idea!
79	The principals underlying my comments in general are:- the current proposed total of 51 councillors is too many. I propose a total of 37, more than sufficient for a total population of 50,000. Electors should be treated equitably and fairly. This means equal weight not only within parishes but between parishes. Therefore I have proposed numbers which give a fairer weighting across the current CBC area as a whole. It cannot be right that Councillors in some parishes represent 3 times as many electors as in some e.g., Burton compared to Christchurch. The more important questions of governance not addressed, namely: Which services will be provided by each parish? What budgets will be available? How will Councillors be supported to run parishes? What will be the relationship with other tiers of local government, in terms of influencing mainstream, budgets to reflect local preference?

80	Christchurch has a fine history which much of it must be retained with it character
81	Retain historical and community links
82	Like this idea
83	Would be nice to have Mudeford with this Town Council.
84	This will be my parish council as I live near the Railway Station. I feel it is important it is a Town Council if this enables assets to be retained and the history protected. I appreciate the need to progress but the balance between the two is possible. I do think the development of the police station should not be considered in isolation from that of Fountain roundabout and the upper section of the High Street. Multi-Way traffic lights would help with traffic flow but essential to retain some parking for that part of the High Street.
85	I think this parish should include Mudeford & Stanpit.
86	Mudeford and Christchurch have the same sea front and history together
87	All good ideas
88	Stanpit and Mudeford are a part of Christchurch Town Centre with the connecting quay and harbour
89	I think Mudeford should be part of the Town because of its shared history creating 1 larger Town Council to stand for local matters
90	I think there should be more councillors for the population
91	Should include Stanpit and Mudeford

33. TASK AND FINISH GROUP CONCLUSIONS

33.1. The Task and Finish Group considered the responses to the consultation on the draft recommendations and concluded that the majority of respondents agreed that a Christchurch parish should be established.

33.2. Due to the lower level of support for creating a parish of Mudeford and Stanpit, as referred to in the previous section of this report, consideration was given as to whether to include all or part of the area within another proposed parish. Particular consideration was given to Friars Cliff being within the proposed Highcliffe and Walkford parish, but on balance, the group felt that the residents of Friars Cliff would identify more closely with the Christchurch parish along with the remaining areas of Mudeford and Stanpit.

33.3. To include the areas previously proposed to form the Mudeford and Stanpit parish within the Christchurch parish, alterations to the draft warding arrangements were required to ensure electoral equality.

33.4. The Group felt that Friars Cliff should remain as a separate ward. Electoral equality could be maintained using the proposed draft Christchurch parish wards, amalgamating the proposed draft wards of Mudeford Quay, Mudeford Wood and Stanpit Marsh into a single ward, and re-drawing the boundary between the polling districts of MFA and MFB transferring 226 electors to the Friars Cliff ward.

33.5. Adopting a revised parish including Christchurch, Mudeford, Stanpit and Friars Cliff, the table below illustrates the revised electorate, ratios and variances

achievable within acceptable electorate equality. Maps detailing the proposed boundaries of these wards are appended to this report.

Parish Ward	Electorate 2022	Seats	Elector Ratio	Variance from Average
Friars Cliff	2,708	2	1,354	-0.4%
Grange	4,090	3	1,363	+0.3%
Jumpers and St. Catherine's	8,176	6	1,363	+0.3%
Mudeford and Stanpit	2,787	2	1,394	+2.5%
Priory	8,061	6	1,344	-1.1%
	25,822	19	1,359	

33.6. The Group had regard to the draft recommendations of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) in relation to the wards for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council. The proposed parish boundary excludes the northern tip of Mudeford Sandbank as detailed in paragraphs 28.4 to 28.7.

34. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

34.1. It is RECOMMENDED that the following community governance and electoral arrangements for the unparished areas of Christchurch, Mudeford, Stanpit and Friars Cliff be approved:-

(a) a new parish of Christchurch be established;

(b) the boundary to the new parish of Christchurch comprise the area designated on the map appended to this report;

(c) the name of the new parish referred to in (a) above be Christchurch;

(d) the parish of Christchurch should have a parish council;

(e) the style of the parish council for Christchurch be set as a Town Council;

(f) the name of the council be Christchurch Town Council;

(g) the parish of Christchurch be divided into five parish wards, comprising the area designated on the maps appended to this report, and named respectively:-

(i) Friars Cliff

(ii) Grange

(iii) Jumpers and St. Catherine's

(iv) Mudeford and Stanpit

(v) Priory

(h) the Town Council for Christchurch consist of 19 councillors;

(i) the number of councillors elected to each of the respective wards be as follows:-

(i) Friars Cliff – 2 councillors

(ii) Grange – 3 councillors

(iii) Jumpers and St. Catherine's – 6 councillors

(iv) Mudeford and Stanpit – 2 councillors

(v) Priory – 6 councillors

(j) a Christchurch Borough Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order be prepared in accordance with the above recommendations and that the Order be effective from 1st April 2019 save for those recommendations relating to parish electoral arrangements which shall come into force on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2019.

35. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS RECEIVED

35.1. The table below includes the responses received to the question *'Are there any other comments, observations or suggestions you have about these proposals?'*

1	I feel that a single Christchurch Town Council covering the whole town (minus possibly Turn as an "outlying" area in the present borough) will be more effective in retaining the identity of Christchurch and representing the local area.
2	Our e-mail survey indicated a general lack of interest in this topic and a reluctance to stand for councillor amongst our members.
3	These proposals will cause division and unrest between the various parishes and can only lead to further fragmentation rather than a unified district.
4	Leave as is, it sort of works, any change that has been proposed will create problems and any so called amalgamation has always turned out badly in the past.
5	Make sure Friars Cliff appears in the name of the parish council in which it is placed.
6	Please make voters aware that parish precepts can increase without any limit as opposed to borough and county council tax.
7	Where is the option to have one large Town Council will all remaining areas? It's unfortunate having spent time with the residents associations in the first instance to explain the review, that a second meeting after submissions was not arranged to go through the residents' proposals.
8	We are currently being made to be part of one larger authority yet Christchurch wants to break up its own ward? The councillors need to accept what's happening, stop fighting this change and stop being obstructive and start working for the people you supposedly represent.
9	The most important is to keep Mudeford and Stanpit as part of the Town Council.
10	I strongly disagree with Parish Councils and do think that the public should be given some indication of the financial burden that you will be putting on to council tax payers to create so many 'talking shops'.
11	I believe that some form of qualification should be required, above just the political affiliation of the proposed councillor. The system should move away from a glorified popularity contest.

12	The majority of Christchurch have not had town or parish councils for forty four years and there is no justification for creating them now, especially as the council is demising in 2019 and any corporate governance review should be conducted by the new authority across the whole of it area. It appears as though existing Christchurch Councillors are seeking to cling on to power in any guise they can. There are not renown for representing their constituents and have been extremely secretive and self serving.
13	The majority of Christchurch have not had town or parish councils for forty four years and there is no justification for creating them now, especially as Christchurch council is demising in 2019 and any corporate governance review should be conducted by the new authority across the whole of it area. This review appears extremely divisive at this time by a council which has a poor record of representing its constituents.
14	The democratic rights of Christchurch people have been undermined by the amalgamation of Christchurch with Bournemouth, it is important that firm control of development be controlled by those most affected by the plan, hence my opinion that local town/parish councils should have these powers.
15	This is a device to make things difficult for the Unitary. Organisations already have difficulty recruiting/retaining committee members. If parishes are to be introduced they need to be much bigger along the lines suggested by SAMRA. Parishes have the potential to be given duties merely to offload costs from the Unitary as was done in North Dorset when that council ran into financial problems.
16	Stop fighting the imposed change and embrace the Unitary body for what it is. Try to make it work before undermining it with extra layers of local government that we don't yet know we need.
17	As someone who used to work for Christchurch Borough Council and who lives close by and who still has strong social links to the borough, I am really pleased to see such detailed and well prepared work to support the communities in the area. Given the Borough will undoubtedly be abolished in the near future - I only hope these changes can be brought in a swiftly, seamlessly and efficiently as possible so that the residents, many of whom are family and friends of mine, can go about their lives without disruption, but also be supported and have their voices heard.
18	Just leave things as the government wants the Stop messing with things
19	Unitary councils are being established to cut costs for services and residents. The formation of parish councils will just lead to higher council tax charges for residents. Christchurch residents already pay a higher tax rate than Bournemouth and Poole residents and unless it is decided Christchurch tax is reduced for parity we will be paying even more than now. We will have councillors on the unitary council - leave it at that. We do not need parish councils or a town council.
20	I don’t understand why any individual parishes are required, other than to afford special privileges for individual areas as already occurs for Burton etc. The Council is duty bound to save expenditure, not increase it by way of creating unnecessary division of the Council.
21	Yes Mudeford and Stanpit is to small should be joined with Town or Highcliffe
22	Waste of time and money.
23	Do away with all unnecessary Parish Councils and do not create further bureaucracy. This is a waste of money, proceed with formation of the 2 Dorset Unitary Councils.
24	Why the need for Parish Councils in such a small area when one Town Council would cover all?

25	I believe this is totally unnecessary and a further waste of taxpayers money especially when all public services are being cut year on year. The money and energy in implementing this proposal should be put to better use.
26	The proposal is a waste of time and money. It is a fantasy that will add more bureaucracy and additional expense to the whole community. Our streets are full of weeds and recreation grounds full of litter. Christchurch Borough is as incompetent as our disgusting MP and as such is of little benefit to the residents. Why keep something that is clearly broken!
27	I'm currently chair of governors at (redacted) school. If any changes are made as a result of this consultation, which could impact the school or Mudeford & Stanpit council, I'd be happy to speak with the relevant officer.
28	It seems like a lot of money being spent to create this proposal and implement it, and I do not personally feel this is a wise spend of money at this time of austerity. I also feel that Christchurch Council is so far removed from what residents and businesses need, I do not feel they have the best interests of those that live and work here. Selling off the car parks will not help business in our town. Trying to keep our town thriving needs to be the priority. I do not see the implementation of this plan as a good return or spend of or taxes at this critical time for our town.
29	Christchurch is becoming a town of old people with younger people not having a voice. More crusty old councillors serving an elitist, self-serving new Parish really is a retrograde step and will alienate the Parishes themselves. It will do nothing to engage most members of the community and cost us a whole lot more. Who thought up this daft idea?
30	Christchurch is a neighbourhood with a unique identity it therefore must retain autonomy.
31	As it looks like the borough of Christchurch will cease as we know it, it is very important that the Parish of Christchurch as a Town Council maintains its Mayor. This will help Christchurch keep its identity and History. The Town Council can then work with the many organisations within its boundaries to promote and improve the community identity and not be swallowed up by a larger unitary authority.
32	This needs a lot more publicity than it has received, if it wasn't for Christchurch Eye I wouldn't have heard about it.
33	It is difficult to fully comment as I am not especially familiar with the different areas/boundaries but am extremely concerned that the residents of Christchurch and surrounding areas DO NOT KNOW about all this and the implications if parishes are not established. I identify with Christchurch Town Centre as my home and area but accept that Christchurch has other areas which should be included. Priory ward does reflect the historical aspect of the town centre and is therefore an acceptable ward name.
34	Support local resident Associations for Highcliffe and Mudeford and breast an operating Town Council with specific responsibilities.
35	Some of the tick questions are difficult to answer because if you do not agree it's hard to differentiate. For example the number of councillors and wards when we are wishing to change the parish councils to 2 rather than three. It is felt that it would be easier to run and fund two new parishes rather than 3 and that 2 will have the ability to have more influence.
36	I do hope the forms and our online submissions will be acted upon and the comments taken into consideration - feel that the last consultation was not fairly considered
37	We do not see any reason for change if it works leave it alone.

38	I agree with the proposals, but go for 4 bodies not three.
39	My overall preference would be for one Christchurch Town Council covering the whole of the current Unparished areas of Christchurch as I feel that would give it a stronger voice in any future Local Government situation. I also think that such a Town Council would be able to achieve more for the residents. I also think that it would be easier to fill Parish Councillor seats. If Highcliffe And Walkford wish to set up their own Parish I think that it should include Friars Cliff as a natural continuation of the coastline. I am concerned that forming too many new Parishes will in effect dilute their effectiveness and make it difficult to fill councillor seats, currently the Borough Council has 24 councillors the proposals as set out in this document require 51 candidates a large number, also with so many Parishes there would be a lot of varied administration issues to deal with.
40	The proposals seem sound and should provide the opportunity for local input to the Tier 1 authority. CBC currently has 24 councillors representing the whole borough. Under the proposed Option 2 model, retaining the existing parishes of Burton and Hurn and creating 3 additional parishes, Christchurch Town, Highcliffe and Walkford Neighbourhood and Mudeford, Friars Cliff and Stanpit Community, the total number of parish councillors will be 51. This total does not include any representatives from the Christchurch area on the new Unitary Authority. Getting this number of people to volunteer to stand as councillors may be an issue initially. Time is short to negotiate which services can be devolved to the new parishes and all the associated administration and resources put together for the new parishes to be effective on start-up. The CBC timetable gives less than 8 months (which includes any Christmas closure period) for a lot of work to be undertaken with a lot of unknowns to be resolved
41	My principle reason for supporting the proposal is that with the likely advent of the Unitary authority to replace the Borough Council, we will need more local representation than we have been used to. The parish areas must not become poor relations of the distant urban parts of the Unitary and we can best ensure that by establishing strong local parish councils.
42	Christchurch Council should make sure all there wonderful assets are protected from any takeover by Bournemouth yes I did say takeover and if this means transferring all the facilities to community trusts or parish/town council to prevent them being sold on for development they should urgently start the process and make sure the elected Councillors make the decisions and NOT the officers who seem to make their own decision despite what they are elected to do
43	If the merger of Dorset councils goes ahead we definitely need new local councils to look after the interests of Christchurch residents.
44	I don't understand enough about how it should be decided how many councillors are needed and what the best ratio of electors per councillor might be. There seems to be a great variation, e.g. between Hurn parish and the proposed Christchurch parish. Should boundaries and the number of councillors be reconsidered to even things out?
45	In my opinion it would be unworkable and not in the best interests of Christchurch Residents to have more than another two Parishes. It would cost more money and not represent the present and historic links we have with our Ancient Borough
46	I hope Christchurch Borough remains as is...not part of Bournemouth/Poole.
47	In view of the fact that the existing Christchurch Borough is to be merged with Bournemouth and Poole councils, in the first instance there is merit in the existing borough being given some identity within the new authority

48	It is essential that Highcliffe and Walkford Parish council is created so that the community can have a degree of self-determination and to avoid the "swamping" of powers from the larger neighbouring councils. (borough and unitary).
49	I think the creation of Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council is an excellent idea.
50	Basically the creation of Parish Councils is a good one. It gives more control to local residents.
51	Am very concerned that the Highcliffe and Walkford area should have a voice and representation in order not to be subsumed by a possible new unitary authority based in Bournemouth. Assets and funding need to be transferred to the parish council in order to protect the interests of the local people and also the facilities and character of this area which I do not believe will be safeguarded by the new administrative authority in Bournemouth.
52	Although against any increase in numbers of councillors in principle, it is believed that we need a separate body who can challenge proposals and provide checks and balances which may enable us to maintain the lifestyle and environment that we presently enjoy.
53	There has been very strong support for a Highcliffe and Walkford Community Council at recent HRA public meetings and it is clear that residents of the area would welcome greater self-determination of the area's development and maintenance. We have already identified a sufficient number of residents who will stand as councillors.
54	The sharing of information must be complete and unedited. Any attempted manipulation of opinions that is discovered must be challenged.
55	I believe that there is large and increasing support for a parish council for Highcliffe and would be very concerned if we do not achieve this local semi-autonomy
56	I am certainly in favour of having a parish tier of local government to deal with local issues.
57	In general we do not consider that an extra layer of councils is necessary, as it will create further expense for the community and there is unlikely to be sufficient interest in the community to provide the councillors required.
58	Obviously I am not happy with the amalgamation with Bournemouth and Poole. It is my opinion that it will be a disaster for the Borough that I love. We therefore need to retain as much of our heritage and community as possible.
59	I question the timing of this review given the circumstances regarding the possible amalgamation with Bournemouth and Poole (which incidentally I do NOT support). No matter what happens, it will be better not to fragment representation of Christchurch's interests.
60	I am disappointed that the survey does not expressly provide for respondents to choose Option 1, despite it being one of the Council's recommendations.
61	As previously said the boundaries seem unclear to me
62	I believe that too many parish councils will reduce the potential for play a meaningful and influential role in a unitary authority. The conurbation of Christchurch, Mudeford and Stanpit should be retained, ideally within with Highcliffe and Walkford
63	The proposals are unnecessary and should be abandoned.
64	More information needed
65	Just 2 new parishes/towns

66	Please see comments for Mudeford. I am very much against this local governance reorganisation for Christchurch - None of these changes are wanted! We the residents of Christchurch voted against this local governance reorganization (84%). It is totally undemocratic and has been a scam from the start and must be stopped! The total loss of control of our ancient borough of Christchurch is terrifying. Our thanks go to our Councillors who are still fighting this and to Sir Christopher Chope and Alistair Somerville-Ford
67	Please see comments for Mudeford. I am very against this Local Governance Reorganisation for Christchurch - As decided during the recent poll 84% of Christchurch residents voted not to support the Local Governance Reorganisation. Therefore I consider all of these to be unwanted, unlawful changes.
68	Two new parishes would be ideal for Christchurch
69	I appreciate being consulted. On a different note, but related matter, I am STRONGLY in favour of Christchurch joining with Bournemouth and Poole for larger-scale administration.
70	Council's should all be Parish except Christchurch Town. There is enough confusion with all the changes Parish/Merging with B & P Boundary changes
71	Councillors should live in the Parish they wish to represent AND not elsewhere
72	Mudeford should be part of Town Council
73	I think this is a very good questionnaire. I only hope people will take the time to reply to such an important subject!
74	Please see additional comments under Christchurch proposals
75	Would consider helping in an admin capacity. As an ex local authority officer I am aware of the workings of local authorities
76	I am willing to help with Highcliffe Residents Association but do not think, at my time of life that it is appropriate to stand as an elected representative. Young people are needed for this role.
77	I support the creation of Christchurch and Highcliffe Town Councils, to provide a local democratic voice for these areas after the creation of the new BCP unitary.
78	Forming parish councils throughout the borough of Christchurch is essential if we become part of the unitary council next year.

36. FUNCTIONS AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS

36.1. If the Council approves the establishment of the proposed new local councils, it will be necessary to determine the schedule of assets to be transferred and initial services. This will allow for the precept requirements to be calculated for year 1. It is proposed that the Task and Finish Group continue to work with officers to discuss these issues and a report be brought back to full Council in due course.

36.2. Although, the level of council tax is not a determining factor for a community governance review, it was acknowledged that an indication of the likely cost of parish and town councils would be beneficial. The average Band D Council tax charge nationally for parish and town councils is £45.24, with many not charging a precept and the highest charging over £360.

36.3. The existing parishes of Hurn and Burton charge £27.78 and £13.08 respectively. It is anticipated that if new parish and/or town councils are established in Christchurch, the Band D Council Tax charge would be similar to the two existing parishes. This will depend, however, on the services ultimately delivered.

37. IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Plan & Council Objectives

37.1. The matter under consideration impacts upon the Corporate Plan in the following areas:-

SC1 - Help our communities to be stronger and more resilient

Legal

37.2. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (Part 4) devolved power from the Secretary of State to principal councils to carry out community governance reviews and put in place or make changes to local community governance arrangements. The Community Governance Review was undertaken in accordance with this Act.

37.3. To implement the outcome of the Review, the Council will be required to draw up a Re-organisation Order with accompanying maps. The Orders establishing the new councils and defining the boundaries will need to be made by 14 September 2018 to ensure the LGBCE has due regard to the new parishes when making their final warding recommendations. It will also enable sufficient time for the changes to be reflected in the electoral register.

37.4. All maps included in this report are produced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction in fringes copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings Christchurch Borough Council. Licence: 100024379. 2018.

Environmental

37.5. There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

Financial and Risk

37.6. It is vital that the Governance Review is undertaken in accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and the Guidance produced by the Ministry for Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

37.7. Failure to adhere to these could result in the Review being open to challenge and judicial review.

Equalities

37.8. The questionnaire asked respondents to indicate whether they considered there to be any positive and negative impacts from the proposals in relation to equalities or human rights. The responses in this regard are set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

Consultation and Engagement

37.9. The community governance review process was undertaken in accordance with the published guidance and included two periods of consultation with stakeholders and other interested parties. This report includes details of the responses received which have been used to inform these recommendations.

38. CONCLUSION

38.1. Members are asked to consider the final recommendations of the Task and Finish Group and to make a recommendation to Council. It will be necessary to draw up Reorganisation Orders and maps detailing the extent of these changes.

Appendices:
Appendix 1 – Respondent comments in relation to equality and human rights
Appendix 2 – Maps detailing the boundaries of the parishes and parish wards referred to in this report (circulated separately)

Background Papers:
Published works

Appendix 1

Equality and Human Rights Comments

The table below includes the responses received to the question *'Are there any positive and negative impacts from these proposals in relation to equalities or human rights?'*

1	The whole situation has become ridiculous and will only cost every resident considerably more money rather than the supposed saving.
2	The Council are there to represent all local residents not to participate in the current trend of so called human rights and equalities and should provide a good service to all.
3	The lower the councillor to population ratio the better the people can be represented. With the prospect of high level decision making moving to PBC is very necessary for people with protected characteristics to be represented locally with best possible effect.
4	Meetings at time and place need to suit age, commitments availability. Use of communication technology as much as possible to ease access of representatives to meetings.
5	My only comment would be consideration of the age demographic of the current borough. A very large proportion of the population are elderly and not accustomed to using the internet, nor receiving information by email. As much as possible must be done to get this worthy and important information out to the community - local press, radio, leaflets/magazines, posters etc. It would be a dreadful waste if so much hard work went into these commendable proposals but was then not passed onto the communities it affects as widely as possible.
6	The proposals will have a negative impact due to fractionalising services.
7	It is important all ages of the community voice are heard. The introduction of a youth/young persons council might help with this; similar to what Ringwood Council have introduced. Christchurch has an older population, which often these people do have more time to contribute to being town councillors as they are retired, however their views might not reflect those of the younger population who, although would like to be involved in a town council, do not have the time available due to work commitments. I appreciate this is a balancing act, but it would be good to have all ages engaged in the new councils.
8	There will be less equality in my opinion and further alienation of the younger, less advantaged population. The Parishes will be dominated by old, white, middle class males. I see no benefit in this at all.
9	This area has a higher proportion of older people, many of whom have specialist needs. These needs must be addressed, or our vibrant seniors may suffer discrimination.
10	I understand that this will maintain our control over future decisions

11	It is important that all residents are represented. I do have concerns that too many parishes result in increased costs and less efficiency. It will be important that the most suitable people are elected to the role of councillors who will consider the above in an unbiased manner. The remit of the new councils should reflect positive representation and ensure negativity towards these issues is deterred.
12	This is very positive initiative and would help to preserve our Borough for years to come. The negatives are that by creating three new Parishes would diminish the influence we have in the future to preserve our future and would not represent the human rights of the people of Christchurch
13	Cannot see any negative impact from these proposals as yet
14	Human rights apply to ALL humans and not only to minority groups. We could all do to be reminded of this from time to time.
15	Whist it is difficult to produce evidence (other than minutes of the recent HRA meetings) it is clear that a Highcliffe and Walkford Community Council is wanted and regarded as necessary for the improvement and development of the area.
16	These aspects can be and should be managed by the Unitary Authorities.
17	The negative impact could be the loss of community care and pride.
18	It will be important to ensure that as diverse as possible a range of candidates feel able to stand as local representatives. The council should ensure that support is available to encourage people of working age can attend parish council meetings, that they are truly accessible and that councillors understand their responsibilities under the equalities legislation.