



BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

To: All Town Councillors
Members of the Public & Press

Dorset Council Councillors

Dear Member

TOWN COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Town Council Planning meeting which will be held in the **Corn Exchange**, Market Place, Blandford Forum DT11 7AG on **Monday 18th May 2026 at 7.00 pm** to consider the following items. This meeting will also be available to view online using Microsoft Teams [using this link](#).

Claire Commons
Town Clerk
11th May 2026

A G E N D A

Prior to consideration of the following Agenda, there will be a democratic quarter of an hour, which may be extended at the discretion of the Committee, during which time members of the public may speak. During the course of the meeting, members of the public and our elected representatives from the Dorset Council may indicate they wish to speak, and, at the discretion of the Chairman, and with the approval of the Members, they may be allowed to do so on points of information only. The Committee may on occasion invite members of the public to comment on specific issues where points of information or their particular knowledge on a subject might prove of benefit to the Committee.

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, belief or disability), Crime & Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights. Disabled access is available.

All in attendance should be aware that filming, recording, photography or otherwise may occur during the meeting.

1. Public Session
2. Apologies
3. To receive any Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations
4. [Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd March 2026](#)
5. [Appendix A – New Planning Applications \(refer to draft Appendix A attached\)](#)
6. Appendix B – Dorset Council Decisions on Planning Applications and Applications Awaiting Decisions (distributed prior to meeting)

7. Site Visits/Dorset Council Planning Meetings
8. [To receive a recommendation from the working group on Dorset Council's consultation on ward boundaries](#)

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

15th May Mayor Making Ceremony

Minutes of the Town Council and Committee meetings are available from Blandford Library, the Town Clerk's Office and at www.blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk.

Twinned with Preetz, Germany



Town Clerk's Office
Church Lane, Blandford Forum
Dorset DT11 7AD



Twinned with Mortain, France



Tel: 01258 454500 • Fax: 01258
454432
Email: admin@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk
www.blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk

PLANNING APPENDIX A – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS
Planning Meeting on Monday 18th May 2026

	Application & Date	Application Details	Comments/ Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan 2011-2033
1	P/HOU/2026/01518 Mr Yarwood Deadline: 12/05/26 (Extension granted until 20/05/26)	9 Park Lands Blandford Forum DT11 7BA Erect extension, replace existing garage door with wall, window and door	Blandford + NP Policies: B10 Design Code: CA2 Built Form Code: 11, 15, 16, 17
2	P/LBC/2026/02189 Mrs Lear Deadline: 28 th May 2026	25 White Cliff Mill Street Blandford Forum DT11 7BQ Replace French doors.	Blandford + NP Policies: B10 Design Code: CA2 Built Form Code: 15 & 17

To receive a recommendation from the working group on Dorset Council's consultation on ward boundaries

At the town Council meeting held on 27th April 2026, Councillors made the following resolution:

It was PROPOSED by Cllr H Miéville, SECONDED by Cllr L Hitchings and AGREED (7 in favour, 3 abstentions, 2 against) that

The Town Council forms a working group to consider the consultation on ward boundaries.

It was not specified if the group had delegated authority or were to report back to Planning, hence – for transparency – it has been added to this meeting for ratification.

As a reminder, the information provided in the original report is below:

On 24th March 2026 Dorset Council launched a 10-week public consultation inviting proposals for new council wards and ward boundaries. This will close on 1st June 2026.

After they have considered all representations made to them during this consultation, they intend to publish draft recommendations in September 2026.

DC will then hold a further period of consultation on the draft recommendations. The final recommendations are expected to be published in March 2027.

The new electoral arrangements will come into effect at the local elections in May 2029.

[Please click this link for more information](#) and see information below that was sent to us from Dorset Council:

If you represent a local organisation or community group in Dorset, please pass this message on to your members or anyone who you think might be interested in the review. You can share the message by email or through social media by using the buttons at the bottom right of the page.

What is an electoral review?

Our electoral review will recommend new electoral arrangements for Dorset Council. We will propose:

- the total number of councillors elected to the council in the future;*
- the number of wards;*
- the number of councillors representing each ward;*
- ward boundaries; and*
- the names of wards.*

How to get involved

This is a public consultation and we welcome views from individuals and organisations across Dorset on where they think new ward boundaries should be drawn.

*We are minded to recommend that **82 councillors** should be elected to Dorset Council in the future.*

*This is no change from the current number of councillors. We are now inviting proposals to help us draw up a pattern of wards accommodate **82 councillors**.*

In drawing up new electoral wards, we must balance three legal criteria, namely:

- to deliver electoral equality: where each councillor represents roughly the same number of electors as others across the county;*
- that the pattern of wards should, as far as possible, reflect the interests and identities of local communities;*
- that the electoral arrangements should provide for effective and convenient local government.*

We will treat all submissions equally, and judge each case on its merits and against the legal criteria. If you wish to put forward a view, we would also urge you to ensure that evidence supports your submission.

For example, if you wish to argue that two areas should be included in the same electoral ward, make sure you tell us why they should be together, providing evidence about community facilities, ties, organisations, and amenities, rather than simply asserting that they belong together. There is more advice on [our website](#) about how you can get involved in the consultation.

Our website features [technical guidance](#) that explains the process and our policies, as well as guidance on how to take part in each part of the process.

We have also set up a webpage dedicated to the review of Dorset, where you can find all the relevant information, access interactive maps of the current ward boundaries, and give your views.

Recommendation

The working group's recommendation is as follows:

We believe that the current arrangements are adequate at the present time. However, we note that the development North of the by-pass may give rise to future reflection on whether to have two wards in Blandford- one to the North and one to the South.

It is recommended that Councillors consider the recommendation from the working group and the Town Council responds to the consultation accordingly.

Becci Brady
Committee Clerk
11th May 2026