

Dear Member

COUNCIL - MONDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

Please find attached, for consideration at the next meeting of the Council, taking place on Monday, 7th September, 2020, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Please bring this document with you to the meeting.

Agenda No Item

5. **Reports of the Cabinet**

2 September 2020 - (Pages 3 - 16)

Note – this includes two proposed amendments to the Reports of the Cabinet that will be tabled by councillors

Yours sincerely

Democratic Services Manager

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REPORT OF CABINET

(Meeting held on 2 September 2020)

1. COVID-19 RECOVERY – REPORT FROM THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (MINUTE NO 114)

The Cabinet are pleased to announce, as part of the recommended Emergency Budget, an increase in the Councillors Community Engagement Grant budget to £1,000 (currently £600) for one year only, to enable each councillor to provide specific support to those within their own local community that would gain most help from this.

Furthermore, the Cabinet is also pleased to confirm that the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Infrastructure has committed £15,000 of funding to support Hythe Ferry, to help maintain this much valued local service.

Cabinet welcome the positive update on the phased reopening of leisure centres, including comments from both staff and customers on the success of making the facilities “COVID secure.”

2. EMERGENCY BUDGET 2020/21 AND UPDATED MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2020/21 – 2023/24 (MINUTE NO 115)

The Cabinet, having considered the ongoing work and recommendations from the COVID-19 RECOVERY – Finance and Resources Task and Finish Group, is recommending to Council.

The Cabinet would like to thank all Members and Officers who contributed towards the development of such an Emergency Budget following the extraordinary challenges presented by COVID-19.

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) *That the 2020/21 Revised General Fund Budget totalling £20.117m as outlined within the report and Appendix 1 be approved;*
- (b) *That the revised MTFP: 2021/22 onwards, as outlined in the report and Appendix 2-4 be adopted;*
- (c) *That the Revised General Fund Capital Programme of £13.414m as set out in Appendix 5 be approved;*
- (d) *That the Actions Required as set out in the report, be progressed; and*
- (e) *That the reporting timeline as set out in section 10 be agreed.*

3. PARTNERSHIP FOR SOUTH HAMPSHIRE STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND (MINUTE NO 116)

The Cabinet approved the actions and budget requirements to enable work to prepare a Statement of Common Ground for the strategic planning of southern Hampshire, which replaced the partnership for Urban South Hampshire.

Whilst the potential risks of engaging in this partnership are noted, these are outweighed by the benefits to the District and residents from a wider strategic approach to spatial planning policy within the South Hampshire area.

4. CHANGES TO THE CURRENT PLANNING SYSTEM CONSULTATION (MINUTE NO 117)

The Cabinet noted the key elements and implications of the Government consultation on changes to the current planning system, and delegated authority to the Chief Planning Officer to respond, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Infrastructure.

The Cabinet note the concerns raised particularly with regard to affordable housing requirements and welcome the Portfolio Holder's and Chief Planning Officer's commitment to address this as part of the consultation response.

The "Planning for the Future" white paper will be the subject of a future report to Cabinet.

5. VISION FOR THE WATERSIDE (MINUTE NO 118)

The Cabinet endorsed the Vision for the Waterside document, subject to the amendments outlined in Report 8 to the Cabinet Agenda, particularly in relation to graduate retention and investment in arts, culture and heritage.

Authority was delegated to the Chief Planning Officer to make minor amendments to the document in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Infrastructure, in response to any further amendments resulting from the County Council and National Park Authority decision making processes.

The Cabinet welcome this document as a starting point for the aspirations for the Waterside, which will no doubt be followed by supplementary planning documents as plans develop for the area.

6. ELECTORAL REVIEW OF NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL – DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS – CONSULTATION RESPONSE (MINUTE NO 119)

The Cabinet, having considered the work of the Electoral Review of the District Council Task and Finish Group, is recommending to Council. This was supported by both a series of workshops throughout 2019 and 2020 and a questionnaire exercise for all councillors.

Whilst it is noted that the draft recommendations do not please all councillors, the Cabinet considers the consultation response to be sound.

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) That the "Electoral Review – LGBCE Draft Recommendations – Consultation Response" (Appendix 1 to Cabinet Report 9 of the Cabinet Agenda) be approved and submitted to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as the Council's official response to the LGBCE consultation; and***
- (b) Authority be delegated to the Executive Head of Governance and Housing, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make further editing changes, corrections and updates to the document prior to submission.***

**COUNCILLOR B RICKMAN
CHAIRMAN**

Proposed amendment to the Report of the Cabinet – 2 September 2020 – Item 6 – Electoral Review of New Forest District Council – Draft Recommendations – Consultation Response – Lymington and Pennington Wards

Cllr Corbridge will move, Cllr Dunning will second:-

To replace the Central section of the draft consultation response with the following:-

3. CENTRAL

3.1 The LG BCE draft recommendations identify the following wards for this area:-

Ward Name	Number of councillors	Variance 2025
Beaulieu, Boldre, East Boldre & Exbury & Lepe	1	3%
Brockenhurst & Denny Lodge	1	5%
Lymington Town	2	6%
Lyndhurst & Minstead	1	4%
Pennington	2	9%
Sway	1	-1%

3.2 Beaulieu, Boldre, East Boldre & Exbury & Lepe

3.2.1 The Council welcomes the adjustment made in other areas of the District, alongside a proposed Council Size of 48, to accommodate a ward which does not split Boldre Parish. The council confirms its support for the ward boundaries as it enables good electoral equality, strong boundaries and reflects local community identities and interests.

3.2.2 Having consulted local ward councillors, including comments from Boldre Parish Council, the Council requests that the ward name be amended to **Forest & Solent** to reflect the rural and coastal nature of the parishes it represents.

3.3 Brockenhurst & Denny Lodge

3.3.1 Whilst this ward does not support a single ward for Brockenhurst as a self contained community as proposed by the Council, the parishes are neighbouring and it facilitates the warding pattern well in the remaining area. The Council confirms its support for the ward boundaries and name.

3.4 Lymington Town & Pennington

3.4.1 As highlighted at 3.1.2, the Council welcomes the adjustment made in other areas of the District, alongside a proposed Council Size of 48, to accommodate a ward which does not split Boldre Parish. However, local ward councillors have not reviewed the proposed ward pattern based on a Council Size of 48 and the removal of the Buckland ward.

3.4.2 Following this review, an alternative warding pattern is proposed in the Lymington & Pennington Town area. The proposals and supporting evidence are outlined at section 4 below. If adopted, the proposals would not require any adjustment in other areas of the District warding pattern. Furthermore,

the Council requests that the ward name be amended to **Lymington** to reflect the two ward arrangements. The removal of the Buckland ward from the current arrangements removes the need for any distinction between the “town” centre of Lymington and other areas.

3.5 **Lyndhurst & Minstead**

3.5.1 The draft recommendations adopt the Council’s proposals for this ward without amendment. The Council confirms its support for the ward boundaries and name.

3.6 **Sway**

3.6.1 The draft recommendations adopt the Council’s proposals for this ward without amendment. The Council confirms its support for the ward boundaries and name.

4. **LYMINGTON & PENNINGTON PROPOSALS**

4.1 The Council’s proposals for this area in response to the LGBCE draft recommendations are as follows:-

Ward Name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2025)	Variance 2025
Lymington	2	6,639	8%
Pennington	2	6,560	7%

4.2 **Lymington & Pennington**

4.2.1 The proposed boundary changes accommodate the loss of Buckland ward and approximately divides equally the electorate between Lymington and Pennington wards, within parameters. Pennington ward remains a broad mix of rural and semi urban electorate spread between the coast and hinterland including some New Forest National Park designated area.

4.2.2 Lymington remains principally a ward for the town of Lymington. The boundary to the south of the A337 at Stanford Hill remains the same, moving the central section east to the clearly defined geographical linear feature of the A337. This enables the incorporation of the majority of the current Buckland ward into the proposed Lymington ward. The northern boundary remains the same. The small section west of the A337 to be included in the Lymington ward uses the clearly defined footpath off the A337, continuing to follow this behind Woodley Gardens before re-joining the existing boundary of polling district LA. These proposals address many of the local concerns in response to the draft recommendations and secure good electoral equality.

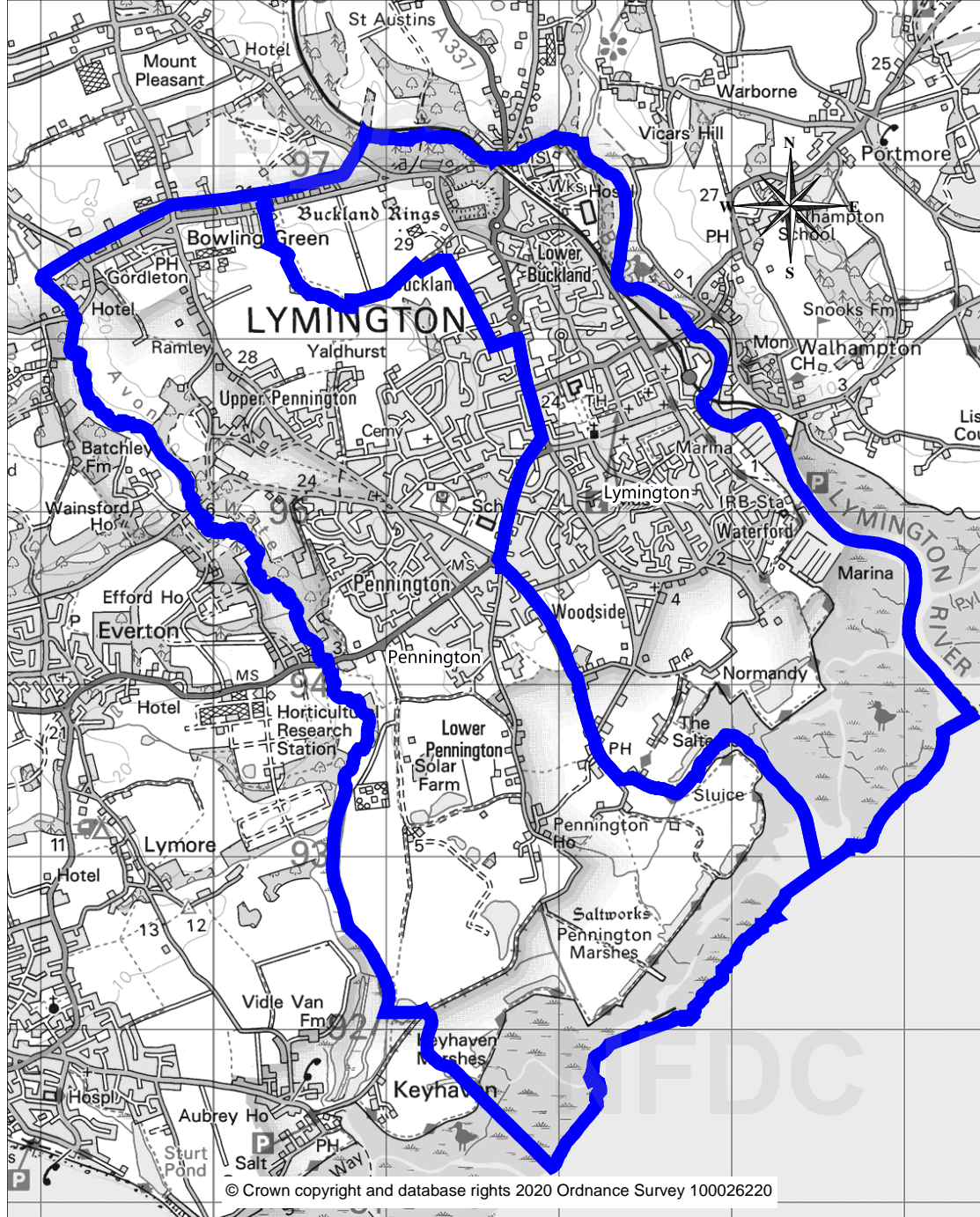
Summary

Ward Name – Draft Recommendations	Ward Name – Council Proposal (Bold & <i>Italic</i> where alternative is proposed)	Number of councillors	Electorate (2025)	Variance from average %
Lymington Town	<i>See alternative proposals below</i>	2	6,512	6%
Pennington	<i>See alternative proposals below</i>	2	6,682	9%


Alternative warding pattern proposals

Ward Name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2025)	Variance from average %
Lymington	2	6,639	8%
Pennington	2	6,560	7%

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 <p>New Forest DISTRICT COUNCIL</p> <p>Tel: 023 8028 5000 www.newforest.gov.uk</p>	Title	
	Date 01/09/20	Scale 1:30000

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Proposed amendment to the Report of the Cabinet – 2 September 2020 – Item 6 – Electoral Review of New Forest District Council – Draft Recommendations – Consultation Response – Hythe and Dibden Wards

Cllr M Wade will move, Cllr Dowd will second:-

To replace the South East section of the draft consultation response with the following:-

7. SOUTH EAST

7.1 The LGBCE draft recommendations identify the following wards for this area:-

Ward Name	Number of councillors	Variance 2025
Butts Ash, Dibden Purlieu, Furzedown & Langdown	3	-9%
Dibden & Hythe	3	-8%
Fawley, Blackfield, Calshot & Langley	2	-7%
Hardley, Holbury & North Blackfield	2	-8%

7.2 Butts Ash, Dibden Purlieu, Furzedown & Langdown and Dibden & Hythe

7.2.1 Whilst the draft recommendations adopt much of the Council’s proposals for these wards, local ward councillors have reviewed the ward pattern based on a Council Size of 48.

7.2.2 Following this review, an alternative warding pattern is proposed in the Hythe & Dibden Parish area. The proposals and supporting evidence are outlined at section 8 below. If adopted, the proposals would not require any adjustment in other areas of the District warding pattern.

7.3 Fawley, Blackfield, Calshot & Langley

7.3.1 The draft recommendations adopt the Council’s proposals for this ward without amendment. The Council confirms its support for the ward boundaries and name.

7.4 Hardley, Holbury & North Blackfield

7.4.1 The draft recommendations adopt the Council’s proposals for this ward without amendment. The Council confirms its support for the ward boundaries and name.

8. HYTHE & DIBDEN PROPOSALS

8.1 The Council’s proposals for this area in response to the LGBCE draft recommendations are as follows:-

Ward Name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2025)	Variance 2025
Hythe South	2	5,812	-5%
Hythe Central	2	5,548	-10%

Dibden & Dibden Purlieu	2	5,560	-10%
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8.2 Hythe South

8.2.1 This ward is in effect a suburb of Hythe and focuses around a number of large estates on the southern boundary of the community and makes a logical geographical ward covering the southern portion of Hythe and Dibden. It comprises polling districts HJ and HO, and the majority of polling districts HK1 and HN. In this ward, minor adjustments have been made where polling district HN meets HP, and where polling district HK1 meets HI and HM, to ensure electoral equality is achieved across the three wards in Hythe & Dibden. Further supporting evidence for this ward is noted below:-

- In ecclesiastical terms the St John's church of Hythe with its satellite place of worship in St Anne's, on Netley View, caters for the spiritual needs of the ward. Whilst for Dibden Purlieu and Dibden, it is St Andrew's church, in Dibden Purlieu, with its secondary church All Saints in Dibden. So the Hythe South ward is aligned within the spiritual boundary of St John's Church.
- Waterside Primary school, on Langdown estate, serves the eastern portion of the ward, whilst Wildground, located in Butts Ash, serves the western half of the ward, both schools' catchment areas are focused in this ward leaving Hythe primary to serve Hythe and the two Orchard schools to serve Dibden and Dibden Purlieu.
- The grouping of the larger older estates of Langdown, Netley View, Roseberry Avenue and Furzedown have a strong commonality in social make up, which in turn leads to a mutual set of community needs, which differ from other parts of the village.
- There are 3 Public Houses, which serve as social focal points in the ward and are used for the most part by locals within walking distance whilst other establishments serve the other parts of the community in both Hythe and Dibden/Dibden Purlieu.
- The shopping in this ward is done predominantly in Hythe, whilst in Dibden and Dibden Purlieu most of it is done in Tesco at Dibden or Dibden Purlieu centre. Netley View has its own Post Office and convenience store, which serves the northern section of the ward
- The play area facilities on the "Navy Fields", Blue Bell on the Birds estate and Forest Front plus the Skate Park on Forest Front are again mainly used by the children and youth of the adjoining estates.

8.3 Hythe Central

8.3.1 This ward comprises polling districts HI, HK2, HL, HM, and a small number of electors from HK1, south east of Langdown Lawn and South Street. Further supporting evidence for this ward is noted below:-

- It makes sense for Hythe to be unified and to avoid the confusing current boundaries, particularly at South Street.

- In ecclesiastical terms the St John's church of Hythe is located in the centre although most of its parish is in Hythe South. The other churches, which serve Hythe are Cornerstone, Saint Michael's Catholic Church and the Family Church.
- Hythe Primary School serves this ward and its catchment area is Hythe itself.
- This ward has a number of retirement homes and newer developments than in Hythe South, particularly on the water front, mixed with older 1960s developments, which were the beginning of Hythe's expansion.
- The community is served by two supermarkets, health centres, a Community Centre, cafés, pubs, restaurants, two NFDC car parks, transport links via bus and ferry, garages and MOT centres and a shopping centre with pedestrian zone which contains a high number of independent traders.
- The Tuesday market attracts a good mix of local and visiting shoppers.
- There is no real understanding of the arbitrary division into Hythe East and West and this proposal would make sense to residents in unifying the village to reflect the community. This falls mainly within the SO45 5 area.
- It has the largest play area in Ewart Recreation ground as well as the base for the village cricket team.

8.4 **Dibden & Dibden Purlieu**

8.4.1 This ward comprises polling districts HG, HH, HP and a small number of electors from HN, as previously mentioned taking the boundary with Hythe South marginally south. Further supporting evidence for this ward is noted below:-

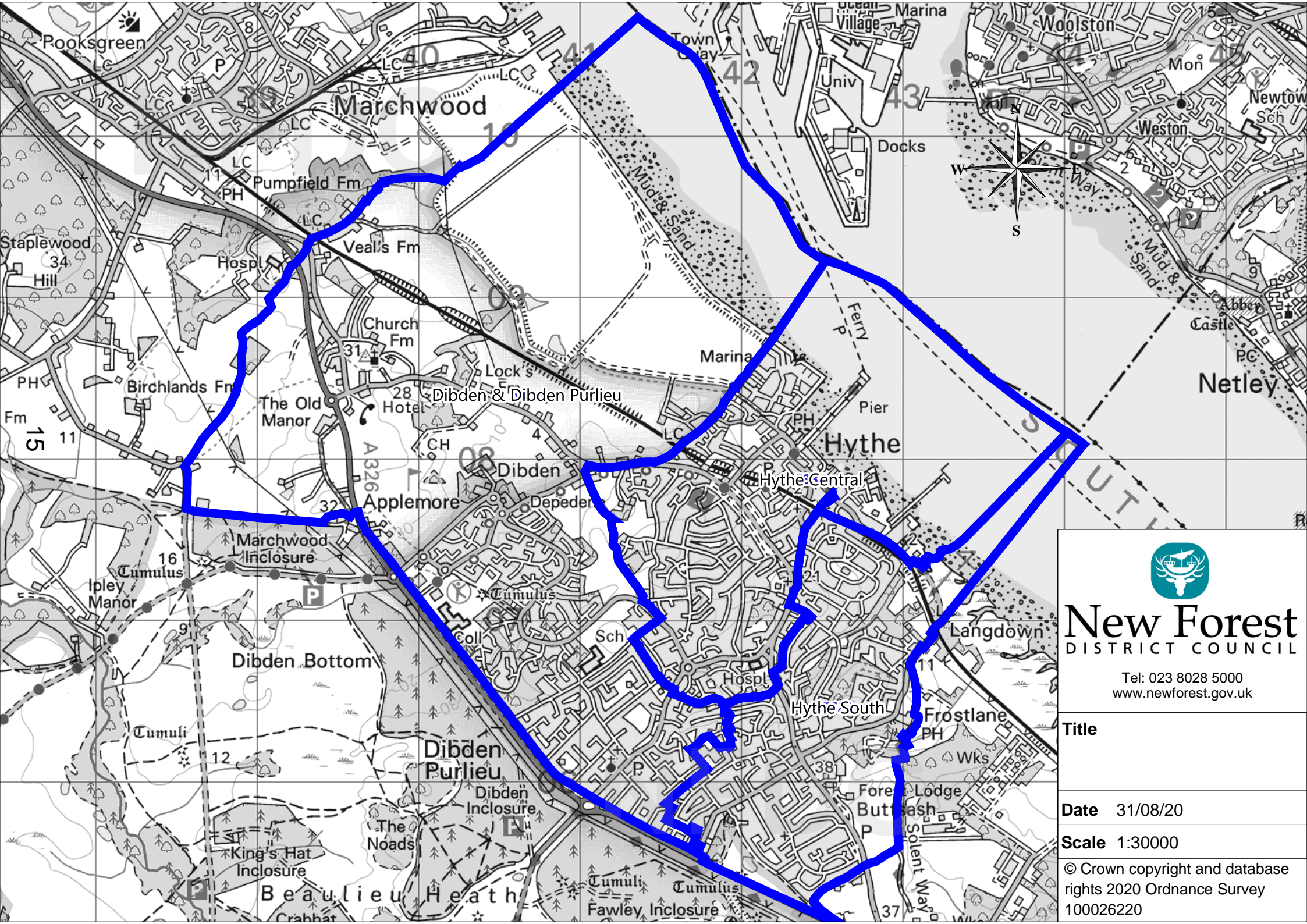
- Dibden Purlieu and Dibden is a distinct community with Orchard Infant and Junior schools, Noadswood and Applemore Secondary Schools along with Oaklodge and Greenwood Schools.
- In ecclesiastical terms St Andrew's church, in Dibden Purlieu, with its sister church All Saints in Dibden.
- Dibden Purlieu centre has the community hall (WI hall), medical centre (Forestsideside) , pub (Heath), garage (Tesco Express, Shawfix and Balmer Lawn, Dibden Purlieu) and viable independent shops (including a Butcher, Pharmacy, café, DIY store, hairdressers, Post Office etc.).
- Dibden has the Tesco super store, which is used by people from across the community however more so from those living outside Hythe Centre.
- The local Leisure Centre is in Dibden widely used and appreciated by the whole community.
- The housing developments in Dibden are newer than those in the other two proposed Hythe wards giving them a distinct community identity.
- There is a number of retirement homes in the Dibden Purlieu area.
- The two play areas, Fletcher Close and Orchard Wild Garden, both in Dibden are individually different from those in other areas reflecting the developmental design of their time.
- The golf course is one of the main social hubs within this ward, reflective of its more rural aspect than the other two proposed wards.

Summary

Ward Name – Draft Recommendations	Ward Name – Council Proposal (Bold & <i>Italic</i> where alternative is proposed)	Number of councillors	Electorate (2025)	Variance from average %
Butts Ash, Dibden Purlieu, Furzedown & Langdown	<i>See alternative proposals below</i>	3	8,403	-9%
Dibden & Hythe	<i>See alternative proposals below</i>	3	8,517	-8%

Alternative warding pattern proposals

Ward Name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2025)	Variance from average %
Hythe South	2	5,812	-5%
Hythe Central	2	5,548	-10%
Dibden & Dibden Purlieu	2	5,560	-10%



New Forest

DISTRICT COUNCIL

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