

BOTHENHAMPTON & WALDITCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Special Bothenhampton & Walditch Parish Council meeting held in Walditch Church Hall on Monday 28 March 1994 at 7.30pm

Present. Mr G Matthews (Chairman) Mr F Botham  
Mr R Batten Mr G Warburton  
Mr D Blythe Mrs F Ball  
Mrs D England Mr D Wilson (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Mr C Horton

Mr C Casstles

2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW

a. County Clr Rear Admiral G Pritchard gave details of the County Council's preferred option. He warned against the fragmentation of council services which could be the result of having too many small unitary authorities. The County Councils recommendation is for two Unitary authorities within Dorset, one for the rural areas of North, East, West Dorset, Purbeck and Weymouth and Portland and one for the urban areas of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. He also stressed the importance of having Town and Parish councils fully integrated into the revised local government structure.

b. District Clr D Cracknell gave details of the District Council's preferred option. It is felt that the County's option would damage the democratic representation with just one unitary authority for the whole of the rural areas of Dorset, and therefore two unitary authorities for the rural area was the preferred option.

c. Three members of the public then spoke. The general consensus of opinion was why was it necessary to have this review so soon after the last reorganisation of local government in 1974. It was very much a case of 'if it aint broke, dont fix it'.

After a comprehensive debate the following proposal was put before the council

Proposed by Clr England

Seconded by Clr Blythe

That this council supports the recommendation of the County Council for two unitary authorities, one rural and one covering Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. It is also essential that the role of town/parish councils are included as an integral part of the new structure, what ever option is finally agreed upon.

Voting: For - 5 (five) Against - 2 (two)

Motion carried.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.45pm.

Date ... 11.4.94

Chairman .....