



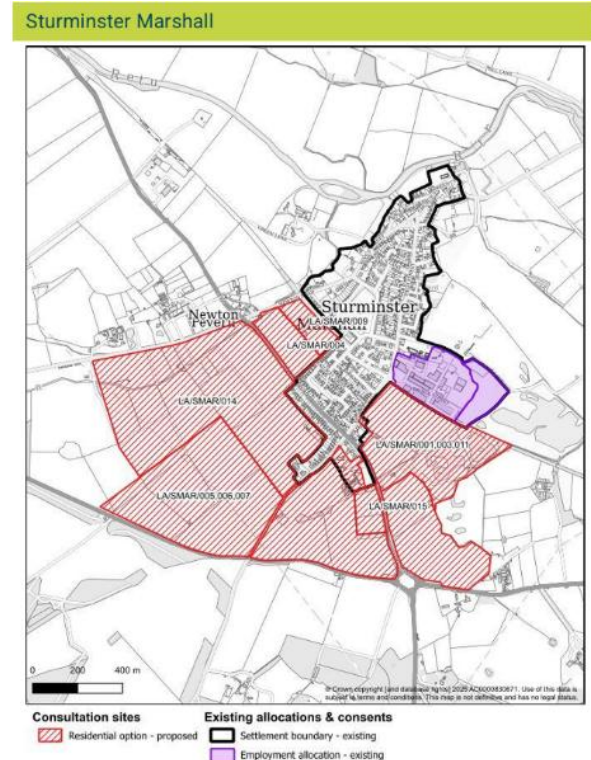
Welcome to our September Parish Council newsletter!

Dorset Local Plan Consultation Now Open

Dorset Council is preparing a new Local Plan to guide future development across the county. The consultation looks at how they could meet development needs across the Dorset Council area and identifies opportunity sites for new homes, employment land and traveller sites. It also identifies areas of opportunity for wind and solar power.

The consultation is now live and will run until 13th October 2025. We strongly encourage everyone in the community to read the proposals and submit their views.

Multiple sites have been suggested around Sturminster Marshall (shown in the map here). Please note that these sites are only suggestions at present, and no decisions have been made. However, this scale of development could significantly impact our local infrastructure, roads, services, and environment. It is vital that local residents' views are heard during the consultation.



Cllr Will Chakawhata and the Parish Council will be running a **drop in session** on Thursday 18th September from 5-8pm at the Memorial Hall.

Please take a few moments to review the Local Plan and respond to the consultation.

 **Deadline: 13th October 2025**

 **Respond online:**

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/dorset-council-local-plan-options-consultation-2025>

Local Transport Plan Consultation

Dorset Council and BCP Council have been working together on a new joint Local Transport Plan (LTP) to ensure that our transport systems meet the expectations of everyone and to identify the most important issues for future investment.

The new draft Local Transport Plan 2026–2041 sets out the vision for improving transport and travel over the next 15 years. This plan will replace the previous LTP for Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset (2011–2026).

 **Consultation ends: 13th October 2025** [Local Transport Plan 2026 to 2041 - Dorset Council](#)

Could You Be Our Next Parish Councillor?

Do you care about Sturminster Marshall and want to help shape its future? A vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council, and we'd love to hear from anyone interested in getting involved.

The vacancy will be filled by co-option at the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 2nd October 2025.

If you'd like to put your name forward, please contact the Parish Clerk at sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk by 23rd September 2025.

Community Litter Pick

Join us for a community litter pick on Saturday 4th October at 2pm. Meeting point: Memorial Hall. Litter pickers and bags will be provided.

Upcoming Road Closures

- White Mill Bridge (24-hour closure): 8th – 19th September
- Dullar Lane: 3rd – 4th November

The next Parish Council meeting is on Thursday 2nd October at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall