

Dorchester Town Centre Masterplan

West Dorset District Council has appointed Feria Urbanism to prepare a town centre masterplan. Feria have already been meeting with a wide range of local organisations, but the next stage will involve wider public consultation that all are welcome to attend.

Drop-in consultation events are scheduled to take place at the District Council offices in South Walks House on

Thursday 15 November 6pm-9pm

Friday 16 November 9am-5pm

Saturday 17 November 9am-1pm

Please come along so that your views can be taken into account in shaping the future of the town centre.

Moonbury Rings 2019

The 20 July 2019 will mark 50 years since the first moon landing and as part of a weekend of lunar celebrations Dorchester Arts will present *Apollo: One Giant Leap* - a huge outdoor musical event in Maumbury Rings.

Written by local composer Geof Edge and describing the dramatic events of the Apollo 11 mission, the piece will be performed by more than 400 children from Dorchester schools, accompanied by professional musicians- and the audience will have a chance to sing too...

In October Dorchester Arts launched its first ever crowdfunding campaign to raise £5,000 towards the project, and would greatly appreciate everyone's support to help achieve lift-off! You can find out more and make a donation at www.crowdfunder.co.uk, search for Moonbury Rings 2019.

The weekend of 19-21 July will also include Dorchester's annual outdoor cinema event,

with moon related films, as well as a visit from the Museum of the Moon, a seven metre touring artwork by UK

artist Luke Jerram (see my-moon.org for the background to how the Museum of the Moon came about).



Autumn Events 2018

Wednesday 24 October - Tirah Memorial Service

11.00am Tirah Memorial, Borough Gardens

Wednesday 7 November - WW1 Homecoming Day

10.30am - 4.30pm, Corn Exchange, High East Street

Sunday 11 November - Remembrance Sunday

11.00am War Memorial, South Walks Road

12.30pm German War Memorial, Fordington

4.00pm Requiem Eucharist, St. Mary's Edward Road

6.45pm WW1 Beacons of Light, Salisbury Fields

Saturday 24 November - WAND Reclaim the Night

6.30pm -10.30pm Town Hall, High East Street

Thursday 6 December - Christmas Cracker

6.00pm - 9.00pm Town Centre

Thursday 20 December - Carols in the Gardens

6.30pm Borough Gardens (weather permitting)

Elections May 2019

The Local Government elections in May will be the first opportunity to vote for councillors for the new unitary Dorset Council.

The Boundary Commission are currently completing their work on new ward boundaries for both Unitary and Town Council seats.

If their final decision, due on 23 October, follows their original proposals, the town will elect 5 councillors to the new 82 strong Dorset Council.

Their proposal broadly splits the town in two on a line that follows Weymouth Avenue to South Walks Road then along Icen Way up to the River Frome, with electors in Dorchester West voting for 3 councillors and Dorchester East for 2 councillors.

For the Town Council these two wards are split further into North (electing 7 councillors), West (5 councillors), East (5 councillors) and South (3 councillors) Wards. A ward map will be available on our website once the boundaries have been fixed.

If you are interested in standing for election to the Town Council in May 2019 and would like to know more about the role of a town councillor please contact the Town Clerk at a.stuart@dorchester-tc.gov.uk for more details.

Dorchester News

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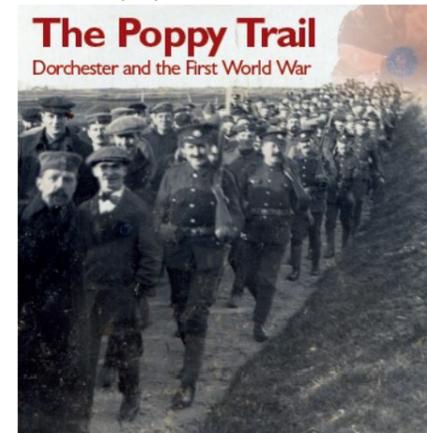


Autumn 2018

WWI Trail unveiled

Working with the Keep Museum and volunteers from the Heritage community the Town Council has developed a trail that recognises the places and people in the town that took part in the wider WW1 effort.

At Poundbury the Council has worked with the Duchy of Cornwall to dedicate the Holmead Walk green space, which has stunning views to Maiden Castle, as a Centenary Field - part of an initiative co-ordinated nationally by Fields in Trust.



Elsewhere, a series of information boards have been created for some of the key WW1 sites around the town, with a map that links these together with other locations on which plaques have been placed.

The Poppy Trail leaflet will be launched at our **WW1 Homecoming** event on **7 November**, then available from The Keep Museum and also downloadable from our [website](http://www.dorchester-tc.gov.uk).

It presents a timely opportunity to understand and remember the impact The Great War had on our town.

Marking the end of the Great War

Dear Dorchester Resident,

This year Dorchester will join the nation in commemorating 100 years since the end of the war to end all wars, a day with added poignancy as Remembrance Sunday falls on Armistice Day, 11th November.

On behalf of the Town Council I invite you to join us on Remembrance Sunday at the War Memorial at South Walks Road, just ahead of 11am.

I am sure the roads around the memorial will be full, you may not be able to see the wreaths being laid, but you will hear the names of the 72 Allied and 18 German soldiers who died in 1918, and you will share a moment of peace with friends, young and old, that you will hopefully remember in safety and free from the conflicts of war for many years to come.

Orders of service will be available from our website for you to download, print off and bring along with you.

The town will commemorate the Armistice in many ways over the coming weeks, please see our website for details of other services, a beacon lighting, as well as community and other events.

I hope to see you at some point during the commemorations.

David Taylor, Mayor of Dorchester

Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal launches on 26 October, with house-house and street collections through to Remembrance Sunday. In 2017 Dorchester raised £27,362, a tribute to the generosity of our community.

The RBL always need new volunteers; if you can help with collections, this year or next, contact [Paul Buckland](mailto:Paul.Buckland@btinternet.com) on [01305 250011](tel:01305250011) or send an e-mail to crossbank@btinternet.com.

The funds raised this year will be as valuable and relevant as they were 100 years ago. A big Thank You again for your support.

Peace Sculpture

To mark 100 years since the end of the war the Council has commissioned a sculpture from Dorchester resident Mike Chapman, to be sited opposite the War Memorial.

Titled "All You Need is Love", it echoes the piece Mike created when he was invited to visit our twin town Lubbecke in Germany in 2014.

The sculpture is carved from local Portland stone and will stand on a stainless steel plinth; in all it stands 1.6m high. It is due to be unveiled in late October.

It's not too early to find out about **CHRISTMAS SCOUT POST!** Help with deliveries or post your cards in the yellow boxes

5—19 December 2018 25p per card. Deliveries to Dorchester and local villages www.dwdscoouts.org.uk/scout-post

Visit our website at www.dorchester-tc.gov.uk

Local Plan Review and North Dorchester

In September the Council considered its response to the West Dorset District Council Local Plan Review Preferred Options consultation exercise, in particular the proposal to find land for over 3,000 new homes.

Policy DOR15 proposes a massive site to the north of Dorchester, roughly 50% bigger than Poundbury. Coupled with existing plans for new homes in the town this would increase Dorchester's population from 20,000 today to over 30,000 in 20 years time.

The Town Council cannot support Policy DOR15.

We recognised that the site might not actually meet the needs of prospective new residents; nor will it contribute to resolving the problems it will cause for Dorchester town centre, as our infrastructure cannot cope with growth on this scale.

Specifically the Council expressed concerns about

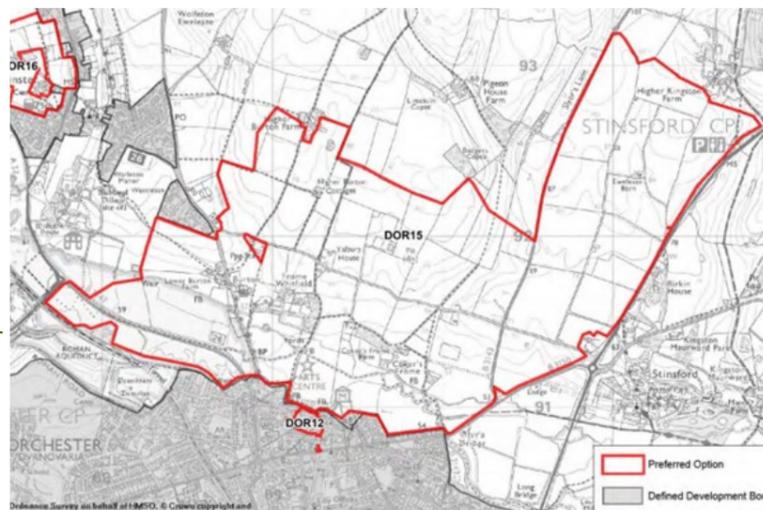
- the sheer scale of the site, effectively the size of a small town, and why it needs to be bolted onto Dorchester
- how plans for "affordable" housing, at 80% of market value, would be far out of the reach of our workers
- the road that will run east to west through the development, how it will link up with the A35 and A37 and whether it will help reduce the traffic volumes that currently blight High East/West Street
- the impact of additional worker and shopper traffic, created by the development, on the town centre
- the loss of the last remaining edge of the historic town, as documented so eloquently by Hardy, and the impact of development on the wider countryside
- the lack of comment on how the development would contribute financially to the burdens it would place on the town's cultural and community facilities
- the absence of clear guidance on the quality of design of the settlement

The Town Council believes that the costs of properly addressing the above are likely to result in the scheme not being financially viable.

As a consequence the District Council risk being put under pressure at a future date to remove the developer's planning obligations, resulting in a scheme that neither provides a good quality of living for the residents on the site, nor contributes to resolving the problems that will come with a further massive growth of the town.

West Dorset District Council will now consider all the responses it received and prepare a final Local Plan that will be subjected to an independent inspection in 2019.

You can up keep to date with the latest information related to the local plan at www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk, search for **West Dorset Local Plan Review**.



Dorchester Civic Society

One of the groups that the Council looks to for views, advice and support on planning and heritage matters is the Civic Society.

The Society exists to provide a forum for local people to share ideas and opinions and show they care for Dorchester's special character and its future.

It is independent and non-political and aims to involve people of all ages and backgrounds and would particularly welcome opportunities to involve younger members of the community.

Over the last few years the Society has built an events programme that has allowed its members to hear directly from some of the town and district's key decision makers as well as receiving contributions from speakers facing very similar issues in other parts of the country.

The Society was instrumental in the setting up of the Dorchester Architectural Heritage Day in September and its members have also helped steward events such as the Bath Architecture Students Exhibition last November. To find out more about the Society's activities and get details of their latest series of lectures visit www.dorchestercivicsociety.org.uk.

Visit our website at www.dorchester-tc.gov.uk

County Museum closes for rebuild...

Dorset County Museum closed its doors on High West Street on 1 October, with work to commence shortly on a transformational £14.9M redevelopment.

The current Victorian Hall and other existing spaces will be refurbished and an intriguing in-fill building will double the Museum's floor space, creating new galleries, a dedicated learning centre, a state of the art collection store and a new library, cafe and shop.

Local fundraising continues, so if you would like to know more about the project or are interested in making a donation you can find more online at www.tomorrowmuseumfordorset.org or contact Gabriella Crouch at development@dorsetcountymuseum.org



Preparatory work started this summer, when archaeological investigations at the rear of the site uncovered a part of Dorchester's first Roman road network.

...and reopens at Brewery Square

Tomorrow's Museum for Dorset is going on tour around the county, with its first stop at Brewery Square, where it will be open from 20 October until February 2019. Please go and take a look.

Tomorrow's Museum will then travel to Weymouth before appearing at festivals and events during summer 2019. It will then continue its tour.

Finally Tomorrow's Museum for Dorset will reopen in High West Street in time for summer 2020.

Visit our website at www.dorchester-tc.gov.uk

The Great Field

Construction starts this winter on the open park space between old and new Poundbury in the west of the town.

The Great Field will have a large children's play area, 1,200 metres of shared pathways and 450 trees, with parkour obstacles and an amphitheatre also incorporated into the landscaping design.

The majority of the costs will be met from planning s106 contributions made by the Duchy of Cornwall, who are also working with a local group to build a multi-use space in the centre of the space.

Subject to planning approval and good weather conditions the park will be finished by Easter 2019.

A new hub for Football in Dorchester

Following a busy summer as a building site The Avenue has been transformed with a new artificial turf pitch and floodlights. It reopened at the end of July in time for School Holiday soccer sessions.

Pitch usage has risen from just under 6 hours a week and is now topping 50 hours, with 700 users a week of all abilities aged from 6 to 60.

The pitch and stadium are regularly featuring on national TV due to Yeovil Ladies move to Dorchester, bringing World Cup standard women footballers to a local audience.

Every child in town can now train and play in a stadium environment through the clubs 20+ youth teams, with well established walking football (come on Grandad, get yer' boots on!) and Kixstart Ability Counts also moving in.

Kingston Maurward's students and AFC Bournemouth's ID Academy are also on site, as is the increasingly popular Soccer Sixes league.

There is something for everyone, and if there isn't yet, there soon will be. Come and take a look!

Dorchester Town FC

Check out our new Pitch

Saturday 17 November @ 3.00pm

Dorchester Town FC v.

Chesham United FC

£5 Admission for One Person

BRING ME WITH YOU

www.dorchestertownfc.co.uk

