

## **Designation Statement for the Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Plan**

It is the intention of Knowlton Parish Council, which includes the parish of Wimborne St Giles, to establish a Neighbourhood Plan encompassing the area shown on the attached map and outlined in red.

The proposed boundary as submitted to Dorset Council for designation was deliberately chosen, and the Parish Council are aware that it does not coincide fully with the civil parish boundary. We can confirm that this was our intent. The Parish Council considers that the proposed boundary better relates to the settlement of Wimborne St Giles, its community and infrastructure than the parish boundary, and it is this area which the Parish Council are looking to focus on specifically in our Neighbourhood Plan for Wimborne St Giles.

The proposed boundary overlaps with two other Parish Councils. Knowlton Parish Council wrote to both formally on 27 January to seek their consent to include part of their parish under our Neighbourhood Plan umbrella. We now have written consent from Vale of Allen Parish Council and Cranborne & Edmondsham Parish Council for this purpose.

As with several similar areas nearby in East Dorset, the designated area for this Plan has a significant history related to the estate of St Giles from at least C17th onwards. Not only does the estate now enjoy the revival of St Giles House in the park but also has responsibility for a large amount of domestic accommodation in and around the village - and also in some of the extended points around the estate - to support employees and their families. This, and both social housing and some housing sold into private ownership, make the community within the boundary both diverse and active.

The major observable activity is farming-related with other forms of rural husbandry, although there are already a number of other enterprises which have slipped into place without spoiling the outlook. The access to countryside is both broad and enticing for both locals and visitors, as are the historical items of interest which dot the landscape of the designated area.

The intention of the Neighbourhood Plan is to ensure that the residents of all ages and backgrounds enjoy a comfortable environment and comfortable and appropriate accommodation in later years as well. Wherever needed, we seek to ensure that families can remain in reasonably close proximity as children grow and the elderly find that they have different needs for life which can be met without upheaval. We also intend to ensure the protection and sustainment of the village facilities enjoyed by the residents and visitors.