

**NORTH DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL
HILL FORTS WARD
REPORT TO PARISH COUNCIL
February 2019**

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Trailway Grant

The North Dorset Trailway is to receive £70,000 of legacy funding from NDDC. This funding will be used to support the extension of the Trailway through land acquisitions. The Trailway, one of North Dorset's most innovative projects, is popular with local residents looking to get out and about and do something healthily with friends and family. It also brings visitors to the area to the benefit of our local shops and pubs.

Blandford Market Place Grant

North Dorset District Council agreed a grant of £70,000 for improvements for Blandford Forum Historic Market Place. There have been many reports of the pavements being slippery when wet, their replacement has been something that Cllr Byron Quail and Cllr Nocturin Lacey-Clarke have been championing. The area provides a space for the twice weekly markets as well as being an important venue for open air events.

LGBTQ+ History Month

To mark LGBTQ+ History Month North Dorset District Council are flying the rainbow flag outside their offices to celebrate the achievements of LGBTQ+ community as well as recognise the prejudice they still face. We will continue to work to make sure North Dorset is a place free from discrimination and stigma.

Blandford Camp

Last week we had confirmation from Simon Hoare, MP that Blandford Camp will be remaining open. A clerical error had created rumours about the bases future after the MOD marked it for disposal.

Pimperne Neighbourhood Plan

Piers and Sherry were both pleased to steer Pimperne's Neighbourhood Plan through Full Council in January. The Plan received 87% support at its referendum and is a tribute to all the hard working volunteers that gave up their time for the village. It is now in force and forms a full part of the Council's planning policy.

Dorset Council Media campaign

As we get closer to the 1st April Dorset Council will run a communication campaign to ensure residents know about the new council and what it means for them. The messaging will be clear and simple to explain the changes and provide the information people need to access services. The campaign will include leaflets, posters, a radio campaign on Breeze and Wessex FM, ads on bin lorries and other council vehicles, social media and email and the web site.