

Bridport Town Council – Parish and Ward Boundaries

Bridport Parish/Ward Boundaries From April 2024

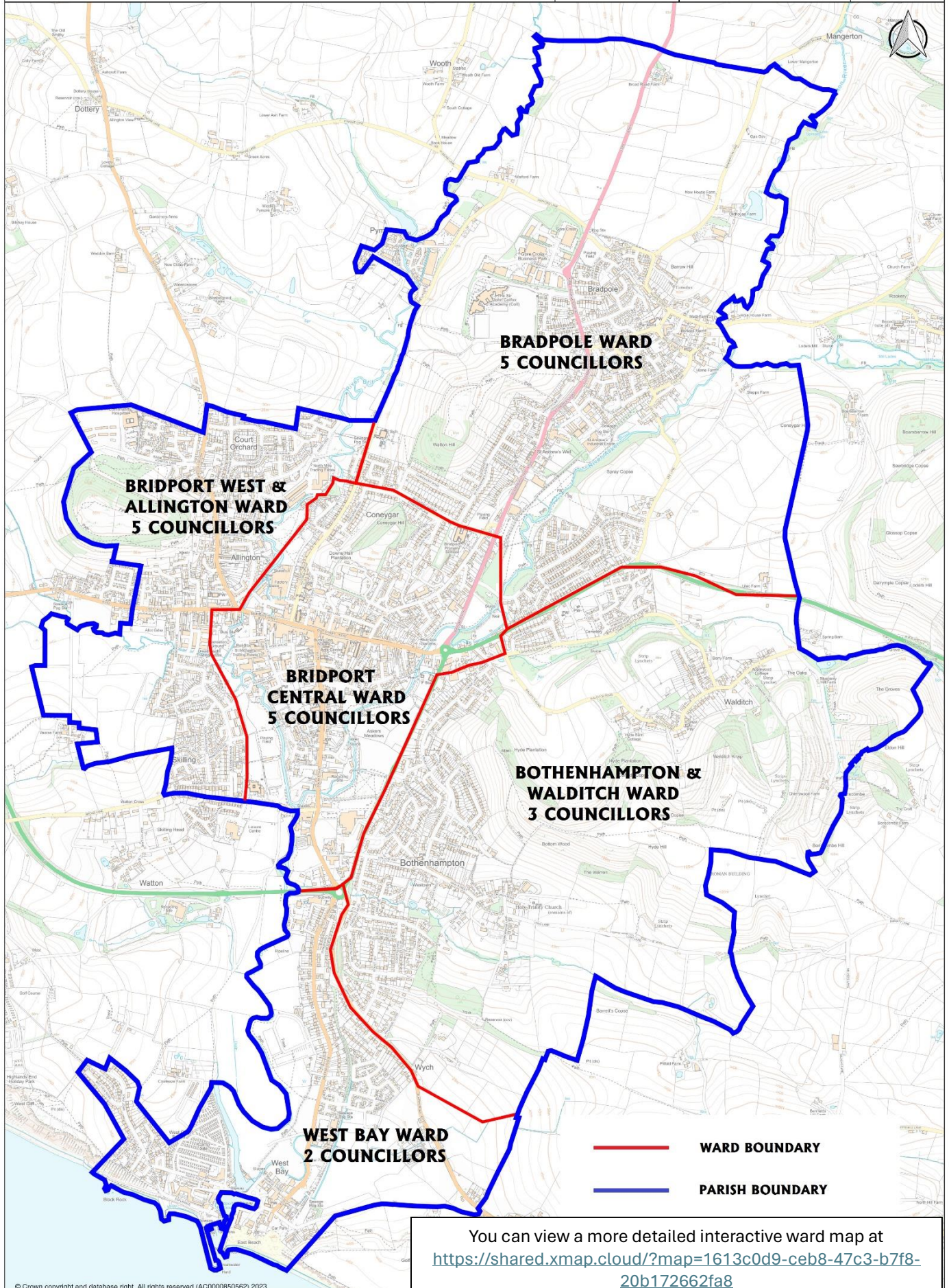
Bridport

Author:

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PARISH
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Bridport Town Council Ward Descriptions

Bothenhampton & Walditch

The ward is the same area as the former parish of Bothenhampton & Walditch, and covers the eastern parts of Bridport, from Walditch village (a conservation area) in the north east, to Bothenhampton Nature Reserve just north of Burton Road. Other key areas include:

- A mix of traditional and newer residential areas around Lower Walditch Lane, Crock Lane, Maple Gardens, and Coopers Drive;
- Bridport Cemetery;
- Jellyfields Nature Reserve; and
- The village settlement of Bothenhampton (a conservation area).

The ward is bounded by the A35 to the north and west, and Burton Road to the south. To the east is rural land in Burton Bradstock parish.

The traditional village area of Bothenhampton is a former civil parish. It is separated from the town only by the River Asker and the A35 Bridport by-pass.

Walditch is a small village, about 1 kilometre to the east of Bridport. The name Walditch is derived from an older term Waldyke, which alludes to the village's location: Walditch is located in the valley of a curved hill that encompasses the village. The hill has a dry stone wall still partially in place, which continues over towards Bothenhampton.

In the 2011 census the civil parish—which includes the settlement of Walditch—had a population of 2,131.

Bradpole

The ward lies to the north of Bridport, stretching south as far as the northern edge of the town centre. Its boundaries encompass virtually all of the former civil parish of Bradpole in addition to:

- The entire settlement of Pymore;
- The residential areas around Wellfields Green, St Katherines Avenue, on the East side of Watton Hill;
- Gore Cross Business Park;
- The Sir John Colfox Academy and St Catherine's Catholic Primary School;
- Watton Hill;
- The commercial/industrial/residential areas along St Andrews Road; and
- The residential area centred on Jessopp Avenue.

The ward is bounded by rural land to the north, the River Brit and Pymore Road to the west, Coneygar Lane/East Road/Dorchester Road to the south, and to the east the parish boundary with Loders parish.

Prior to 1st of April 2024 Bradpole Parish included the villages of Bradpole and Pymore as well as the Eastern section in and around the King Charles Estate and, to the west, the area around Claremont, including St Catherine's Primary School. Apart from these residential areas the Bradpole Community also encompasses The Gore Cross Business Park, The Colfox Academy, The Pymore Light Industrial Estate and, of course, a section of the beautiful Dorset countryside including Watton Hill.

After 1st of April 2024 a new Bradpole Ward of Bridport Town Council came into being encompassing much of the old Parish areas to which was added St. Andrews Trading Estate, St. Andrews Road Commercial Centre and the adjacent residential areas.

The population of Bradpole Civil Parish in the 2021 Census was 2319. This compares with 2239 in

2011 and 2270 in the 2001, a largely unchanging picture. The new Ward of Bradpole is expected to have a population in excess of 3000.

Bradpole has a historic core of deep sunken lanes and stone houses to the east, occasional brightly painted houses feature along sloping street, adding to the traditional village scene. To the north, west and south lies the 20th Century residential developments. Architectural design in these areas varies from bungalows on large plots of land to tight terraced two storey houses. Bradpole old village was designated as a conservation area in 1993. A Bothenhampton, Bradpole, Symondsbury & Walditch Conservation Report was published and adopted in 2007.

Pymore Village

In the 18C Pymore flourished as a centre producing shoemakers twine and flax sailcloth. The Victorian School was built in 1870 by a member of the Gundry family. Ownership of the factory changes hands over the years finally closing in 1955. In the 1980's the site was sold for development, there was strong opposition, but the site was eventually developed into what we see now a pleasant residential village in its own right but still maintain a light industrial presence. For further information regarding Bradpole Ward please visit Bradpole Community Website www.bradpole.org.uk

Bridport Central

As the name implies, this ward covers the central area of Bridport with Coneygar Hill at its northern edge, the A35 and Sea Road North to the south and east, and St Mary's Field/Plottingham/Victoria Grove to the west. Within that area lie:

- The town centre including the main retail area Town Hall, Bucky Doo Square, the main car parks, and West, East and South Streets;
- Cultural venues – Bridport Arts Centre, Bridport Museum, Bridport Library, the Lyric Theatre, and the Electric Palace;
- The Town Council premises at Mountfield, the Tourist Information Centre, and Plottingham Depot;
- Bridport Primary and St Mary's Primary Schools;
- St Michael's, Dreadnought, and East Road Trading Estates;
- Asker Meadows;
- Bridport Football Club; and
- Morrisons superstore.

The traditional centre of Bridport was established by The King of Wessex, better known as Alfred the Great, as a fortified burgh in the late 9th Century. In 1253 Henry III made the town a Royal Borough, later confirmed by Elizabeth I and James I. The predominant industry in the town was rope making and in 1213 King John demanded that Bridport produce ropes and cables, night and day for his army and navy. This industry was later to expand to trade all over the world, including Newfoundland. Today in the 21st century, the rope and net heritage continues through a number of businesses that make fishing, sports and sporting nets, cargo restraints and specialist nets.

Bridport West & Allington

The ward covers the western side of Bridport, stretching from the Court Orchard and Dibdin View estates in the north west of Bridport, to the Skilling estate south west of the town centre. In between, key locations include:

- The built-up parts of the former parish of Allington (incorporating the Cherry Tree estate, Bridport Hospital, the Hazelmead 'eco-home' estate, and Allington Hill);
- North Allington and West Allington, large parts of which are in the Bridport Conservation Area;
- Bridport Medical Centre on West Road; and
- Most of the site for the Foundry Lea development (formerly known as Vearse Farm).

The ward contains the North Mills trading estate.

The traditional settlement of Allington has been a small hamlet since the 1200s.

To the north of the ward Bridport Community Hospital is built on the site of the former 'Isolation Hospital'. To its east is Cherry Tree, a compact estate comprised largely of two-storey semi-detached houses on small plots, with tight roads often ending in cul-de-sacs. Further east are the Court Orchard estate, built as a traditional council housing estate, and the more recent development of Dibden View. The Hazelmead eco-home development is west of the hospital.

Moving south, the main residential area is the Skilling estate, the first part of which was built as a result of housing shortages following the First World War. Subsequent development has created a relatively dense mix of bungalows, houses and flats. Other small suburban districts, typical of their period, include St. Swithun's with its numerous flats, and North and West Allington.

West Bay

West Bay ward runs from the Crown roundabout at its northern apex, down both sides of West Bay Road, to the coastal settlement of West Bay. The area is home to:

- The historic Bridport Harbour, dating back to the 13th century;
- Two beach areas – East Beach (including the iconic East Cliff) and West Beach;
- Three housing estates – Wanderwell, Meadowlands, and West Cliff;
- West Bay Discovery Centre; and
- A range of tourist attractions, that draw holidaymakers, divers, anglers, sailors, fossil hunters, and water sports enthusiasts.

West Bay was originally known as Bridport Harbour, and lies about 1.5 miles south of Bridport town centre. The area is part of the Jurassic Coast, a World Heritage Site.

The harbour has been moved twice: it was originally 1 mile inland, then was moved to the coast beside the East Cliff, then was moved again 270 metres (300 yd) along the coast to the west, where it is located today.

The previous main commercial trade of the harbour – exporting Bridport's ropes and nets – declined in the second half of the 19th century. When the railway arrived in 1884, attempts were made to provide the settlement with the facilities of a resort, and today West Bay has a mixed economy of tourism and fishing.