



Clerk to Council: Mrs Jacqueline Hughes
Parish Office, D'Urberville Centre, Colliers Lane, Wool BH20 6DL

Elisa Allen
PETA

26/11/2018

Dear Ms Allen,

Thank you for your letter asking for Wool to be renamed Vegan Wool. After some consideration the Chairman and I have rejected adding this item to our upcoming agenda.

Whilst the council respects PETA's passion for animal welfare it, we have asked local opinion and there is no appetite to change the village name.

The village of Wool has never been named after the wool industry but after the Anglo Saxon word for a spring as in a well. Had PETA engaged with the council before using it as a means of promoting their investigation into the wool industry we could have enlightend them of that fact.

The Parish of Wool incorporating Bovington and East Burton is a mixed rural community with light industry, the army and agriculture as its local employers. Like many rural areas we have issues of a lack of affordable housing and of employment opportunities for the youth of the area as well as social isolation for our aging population. At this time the Parish Council is working hard on the local issues that concern it's population such as planned new housing developments for the village and the need to ensure any development comes with a mix of social and affordable housing as well as good infrastructure to support the Parish and local employment opportunities.

We understand we have been used as a means to highlight a PETA campaign but regret that in doing so PETA has diverted the time and energy of the Parish Council without consideration of the impact on the council's resources and time having to manage the full impact of the resulting media response to this story, when the Council's time should be spent on serving its local community

As a Parish Council we have limited resources, a part time Parish Clerk and a Council made up of Councillors who give their time and energy freely for the local community. We would ask PETA to consider the implications of their actions when they next choose a local village or town as a vehicle to promote their activities and the impact it has on that community.



We would suggest that you donate the offered cruelty-free blankets to one of our many local homeless shelters. They would be better utilised by people in need and possible gain you some respected publicity.

Yours sincerely,

Jacqui Hughes
Wool Parish Clerk