

Shells Cottage
Shells Lane

COLYFORD
EX24 6QE



Dear Sir / Madam,

We feel it is important that
a community is able to retain
its unique individuality, and
to be responsible for its own
affairs

We therefore fully support
the boundary proposals,
together with a strict observation
of the 'Green Wedge'

SHARON E. DONCASTER
JOHN A. WHITEING

COLYTON CHAMBER OF FEOFFEEES

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Registered Charity No. 1169081



ESTABLISHED 1546



Please reply to:

The Bailiff

Town Hall Office

Market Place

Colyton EX24 6JR

Communications, Digital Services and Engagement Team,
East Devon District Council,
Blackdown House,
Border Road,
Honiton EX14 1EJ

4 October 2022

Dear Team Members

Re: Colyford Governance Review

The Feoffees have been following the Review with close interest, principally because of the geographic area in which the Feoffees can give financial support to organisations and individuals.

This is governed by its Constitution which currently stipulates only the parish of Colyton which at present includes Colyford. If Colyford Parish Council comes into being, the Feoffees would need to convince the Charity Commission that it is appropriate to include Colyford Parish Council within its geographic area of operation. If the Commission did not agree, organisations and individuals within the Colyford Parish Council area would be excluded from any financial help from the Feoffees.

When the Feoffees have discussed the Governance Review it has been apparent that individual Feoffees have been approached by some people in Colyton to try to answer questions covering the following matters:

1. An explanation as to why the Review has been launched by East Devon D.C. and what it is hoped to achieve by possibly making Colyford a separate Parish Council. What would be the advantages to both Colyford and Colyton, please?

2. Will there be a division of the current Colyton Parish Council assets and liabilities between the new Colyford and Colyton Parish Councils and what would the basis of division be? Will there be a legally binding Transfer of Assets order in place?

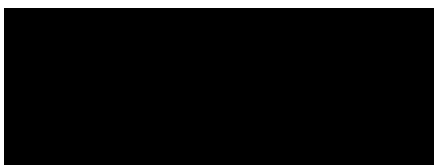
3. Has East Devon D.C. carried out a proper financial evaluation of the potential outcome of the Review - quite a few people in both Colyton and Colyford are concerned that an increase in Council Tax could arise if Colyford Parish Council is established. There is concern also that if no increase in Council Tax occurs there could be significant pressure to reduce spending on service provision.

4. It would be very helpful to know if East Devon D.C. is making arrangements to support the new Parish Councils with setting new Council Tax levels and/or guidance on reducing expenditure on services.

Colyton Chamber of Feoffees have done as much as they can to answer questions from the public about the Review and have tried very hard to avoid discussions concerning any political aspects of the Review.

You will note from the above, however that there are still some very large and difficult areas which individuals find difficult to understand and upon which to formulate their views. Anything that East Devon District Council can do to provide more simplified information on these matters before the local Elections next May 2023 would be appreciated greatly.

Thank you.



John Mills
Chairman

From: Joy Gardiner [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 November 2022 11:05
To: Colyford Community Governance Review
Subject: Colyford GR

Dear Sir

I wish to OBJECT to the proposal of a split of Colyford from the Parish of Colyton.

Following your communication, after your analysis of the questionnaire, I was shocked to see this review was continuing. Less than 29% of Colyford eligible residents were shown to be in favour of a Colyford Parish Council. Many residents thought this was just a pre questionnaire and then when the full facts were available they would get to vote either for or against this change. How can residents have been expected to give an opinion when it was just an idea and no factual evidence was supplied or what the change would entail?

I was appalled to see the governance review was to go ahead for the following reasons:

- 1) This initial action was instigated by a pressure group under the guise of the Colyford Residents Association which I believe to be against the rules of the outline of this process. Many on the CVRA committee of this organisation have personal problems and dislike for councillors on the Colyton Parish Council and are using this to divide the parish.
- 2) The CVRA then went on to choose what was supposed to be an independent chairperson for the steering committee. This again was not the case. Independence has not been shown by the Chairman or steering group as a whole. A senior member of the EDDC cabinet, said in April 2022, that this change to the Colyton Parish Council was a foregone conclusion and a Colyford Council would happen! Where is the independent thinking there?
- 3) When information has been sent to all Colyford villagers it has been proved to be fictitious and misleading to the extreme.
- 4) This action has become a very divisive issue between residents in Colyford. Those not in favour of a new Colyford council are afraid to object in case of recriminations and feel too intimidated to write to you.
- 5) It is not in the interest of Colyton or Colyford residents to split the council financially. The result of two councils will be an increase in the administration costs and potentially an increase in the council tax.

I urge you to recommend the GR stops now and we will continue, as one, with historically the very successful Colyton Parish Council.

Yours sincerely

Joy R Gardiner

Coly House, Swan Hill Road, Colytord, EX24 6HE



Apple Garth
Popes Lane
Colyford
Devon
EX24 6QR

To: East Devon District Council

Re: **Colyford Community Governance Review**

Date: 1nov22

As the final consultation period concludes I feel compelled to express my support for the formation of a Village Council for Colyford.

Since the positive feedback from the earlier consultation the community of Colyford has come alive; it is almost as if the shackles are off and we are looking towards a bright future.

For years the Colyton Parish Council have neglected Colyford. They have cash in hand of over £163,000, registered assets of over £900,000; although many assets are only valued at £1 and most have historic valuations, therefore their total assets could easily be £2m! They hold land and property, all in Colyton; but why should a Parish Council have this wealth when it is public money.

As there are many more parishioners in Colyton than Colyford the majority of councillors will always be from Colyton, they use the weight of numbers tactics and favour Colyton in all matters.

Here in Colyford we only want what is ours. We want to govern ourselves rather than be governed by others.

We are proud of our ancient heritage, we are equipped to build a new council and we are witnessing the renaissance of our community.

With kind regards
John Vieth

BRIAN AND SUSAN LOWE
2 KINGSHOLME COTTAGES
COLY ROAD
COLYFORD
EX24 6 QD.



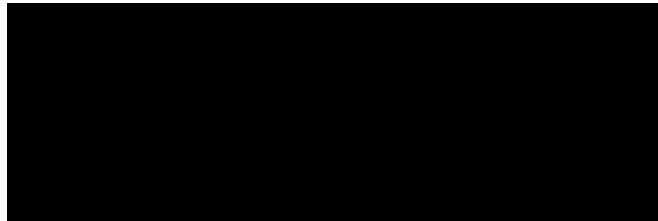
31st august 2022.

Dear Sir,

We are very much in support of Colyford having its own Parish Council and feel that this will benefit the residents of Colyford as the needs of the village and community can and will be addressed.

We have always been a part of Colyford and their thriving community and feel that this can only have a positive impact on the village.

Yours faithfully,



From: jacqueline.mccullough [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 November 2022 09:51
To: Colyford Community Governance Review
Subject: Colyford Split

Attention of: Henry Gordon Lennox

Dear Mr Lennox

As a resident of Colyton Parish I am somewhat concerned about the future of the parish.

1. I object strongly to the separation of Colyford from Colyton Parish.
2. I object to the arbitrary re-drawing of boundaries, specifically Colyford seeking to lay claim to the three fields owned by Colyton Parish located on Sidmouth Road, opposite Ashdown Caravan Park. History shows through well documented minutes, that Colyton Parish reclaimed the common land improving it into valuable arable/grazing land. Colyton Parish provided a source of water which allowed settlement of the area. The income from these 3 fields, let on an agricultural business tenancy, provides income for the upkeep of the cemetery.
3. Everyone within the Parish should have been consulted on all the issues at stake. Sadly, it would appear that this has not been done. Surely EDDC can insist that all voices are heard in a fair and democratic manner, through a written referendum.
4. Are Colyford residents aware of any unintended consequences of the move to separate from Colyton Parish? One fears for the future that in all probability they will not be able to maintain the quorum of councillors and will no doubt end up being absorbed into Seaton.
5. The Parish as a whole is stronger together - they can take proactive measures to preserve the green wedge which lies between Seaton and Colyford. Together they can preserve the rural parish and maintain its unique characteristics.

Yours sincerely
Mrs J McCullough
Colyton

From: Meryl Robinson [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 October 2022 13:32
To: Colyford Community Governance Review
Subject: Colyford Governance Review and Colyton Parish Council

Dear Sirs,

I am a resident of Colyford and have been following the process regarding the possibility of Colyford forming it's own parish council. I feel that I should write directly to you to register my misgivings at the way Colyton Parish Council (CPC) are handling the process and in effect wasting money and resources.

1. I understand from the Parish Council meeting minutes of 26th September, that the CPC believe that the residents of Colyton were not given the knowledge to respond effectively to the survey from EDDC. I find this somewhat surprising as one of the councillors wrote to the residents outlining the dangers of the parish being split, and warning that this was the only opportunity to put forward their views.
2. Given that everyone received the same information at the same time, had the same opportunity to answer the basic question of whether they were in favour of Colyford forming it's own parish council, I feel that the attempt now to hold a poll is unnecessary. Surely it would only ask the same question again?
3. If a poll is now to be held, who covers this cost? I would be most unhappy if this were to be footed by Colyton Parish Council as this would be a totally unnecessary expense, duplicating what has already been asked. To wastefully spend parish money is one of the many reasons why I feel that Colyford would be better controlling it's own precept.

As I feel strongly that information has been available throughout this process, I urge you to ensure that the timescales are not derailed in an attempt to change the outcome of the original EDDC survey, due to general apathy of parish residents.

Yours sincerely,

Meryl Robinson
[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: Alison Mason [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 October 2022 19:25
To: Colyford Community Governance Review
Subject: Proposed Colyton Parish Council Vote on separate Parish Council for Colyford

We are residents of Colyton Parish and are aware that Colyton Parish Council are intending to press ahead with a formal Parish vote on the proposed new Colyford Parish Council which is currently subject to a formal Community Governance Review (CGR) consultation process.

This process has confirmed community support for the creation of a Colyford Parish Council.

Colyton Parish Council are proposing a Parish vote, which is not part of the CGR process, and therefore will, at best, be an advisory process with no material benefit. The Parish Council are pursuing this course as they say the consultation, administered by EDDC, was unfairly conducted and that Parishioners did not know what they were being consulted about.

We strongly disagree with this assertion for the following reasons.

- The consultation document issued by EDDC was very clear in seeking to identify the level of community support for the proposed Colyford Parish Council and all Parishioners were given ample opportunity to consider the matter and ask questions of the Parish Council if they wished to obtain further information or advice from them.
- The Parish Council circulated a detailed letter, which was hand delivered, to all Parishioners advising them of their views and reasons for opposing the formation of a separate Colyford Parish Council which all Parishioners had ample opportunity to consider. The results of the consultation still showed substantial support for the proposal.
- The Colyton Parish Council advice to Parishioners was very clear and concluded: "The opinion of Colyton Parish Council is that the two communities are far stronger together as one Council than they would be apart as two, and encourage everyone to complete and return the EDDC survey on this matter as this is the only way that an informed decision can be made. **This will be your vote**" and ended with "Please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk or Councillors if you have any questions"

We therefore feel that a further Parish vote is an absolute waste of public funds and resources. Additionally, it will have no valid part to play in the CGR process.

Given the above we consider the proposed vote cannot be justified and is therefore ultra vires the statutory powers under which CPC operate. No doubt your legal team will advise in this respect.

We feel this exercise is no more than a thinly disguised, divisive attempt, to confuse and disrupt the formal consultation process currently being undertaken and should not be permitted to proceed.

Kind regards,

Peter and Alison Mason

Date: 22 August 2022
Direct phone: 01395 517569
Direct email: colyford@eastdevon.gov.uk
Our ref: ColyfordCGR/HGL



Kenneth Underdown and Jean Marion Underdown
Orchard End
Road Green
Colyton
EX24 6DT



Dear Sir / Madam

Draft Proposals arising from a Community Governance Review of Colyford

Following an earlier period of consultation and a meeting of the Cabinet on the 13th July 2022 please now find enclosed the Council's published proposals with regard to the intention to create a new Parish Council for the area of Colyford. These are the subject of a further period of consultation and the Council would welcome any views you may have.

I am writing to you individually because my records show that your property falls within close proximity to the proposed boundary as shown on the plan attached to the enclosed public notice. The Council is required to ensure that the boundary of the proposed new Parish Council best reflects community identity and interest. As a result I am keen to hear from you on whether you consider that you have a closer association with Colyford or with Colyton, together with the reasons why. The views you express will help me formulate my recommendation on whether the boundary should be as described in the notice, or whether it should be varied to account for your views or the views of others. Please note that I will publish all views received. A SAE is enclosed for your reply or alternatively you can email your views to colyford@eastdevon.gov.uk. Whether you write or email, please ensure that you include your name and address so that I am able to identify your property.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Platinum

Blackdown House, Border Road, Phone: 01404 515616
Heathpark Industrial Estate, Email: csc@eastdevon.gov.uk
Honiton, EX14 1EJ [@eastdevon](http://eastdevon.gov.uk)
DX 48808 Honiton

Download the free East Devon App
to access council services at
eastdevon.gov.uk/app

East Devon – an outstanding place Chief Executive: Mark R Williams

If a new Parish Council is approved then they will set their own Parish Council Tax and there will also be some consequential changes to the number of councillors representing Colyton Parish Council.

The 3 month formal consultation period will end on 22 November 2022.

If you would wish to discuss this matter, please let me know.

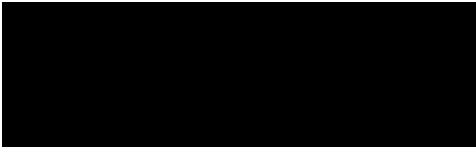


Yours faithfully

Henry Gordon Lennox
Strategic Lead – Governance & Licensing

East Devon District Council.

Dear Sirs, I find it upsetting after regaining my late husband death at your Council office in Honiton in May 2019, that you are sending this letter to me. As for Colyford if they wish to back with Colyton that is up to them, when I came to live in Colyton, Colyford had two pubs a Post Office & a Chapel & little more, so good luck to them. Yours faithfully



From: Sylvia Wainwright [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 November 2022 20:58
To: Colyford Community Governance Review
Subject: Governance Review

For the attention of Henry Gordon Lennox

I write to express my disapproval of how the Colyton & Colyford Parish Council split is being conducted. The electoral role vote of Colyford residents showed around 25% in favour of a separate parochial council. Surely this is an unrepresentative group of people inflicting their opinions upon a silent majority? The existing Parish Council has been in existence since 1894, historically I feel we should retain this identity.

Sincerely
Keith & Sylvia Wainwright

Sent from my iPad

From: Jill Warner [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 November 2022 18:23
To: Colyford Community Governance Review
Subject: Governance Review - consultation on creating a new Parish Council for Colyford

For the attention of Henry Gordon Lennox

Dear Sirs

I am writing to register my complete opposition to the move to create a new Council for Colyford, and sever our historic ties with Colyton Parish Council.

This whole thing was generated and engineered by a small but determined group of relative newcomers to the village. They show absolutely no respect for our existing Parish Councillors, whom they arrogantly seek to replace. They may well have followed due process and obtained the requisite number of signatures to generate a Review, but this number still represents a minority of parishioners.

I, and many of my friends and neighbours, do not want this, and do not wish to be represented by these people. I sincerely hope it will not go through.

Jill Warner

Sent from my iPhone

From: helen warner [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 November 2022 22:03
To: Colyford Community Governance Review
Subject: Governance Review - consultation on creating a new Parish Council for Colyford
Attachments: IMG_7087.jpeg; IMG_7088.jpg

For the attention of Henry Gordon Lennox.

I am writing to register my total opposition to the formation of a Colyford Parish Council.

I grew up in Colyford and have a deep love for my village and the historic connection that we have with Colyton. I do not see any reason for the formation of a Colyford Parish Council, but my additional objection to the movement, is the questionable motivation of the people behind it, and I will explain further.

The people who have applied to form a Colyford Parish Council, are not from Colyford, Colyton or in most cases even from Devon and seem to know nothing about country life. They may have done some research on the internet and looked up the Magna Carta, they may have formed a 'Residents Association' but this does not make them local or qualify them to represent an ancient countryside parish. Their misguided notion of 'giving something back' is actually having the opposite effect. They are trying to take away our history, our identity as part of the Parish of Colyton and our voices. While they may have been able to get a small number of people to agree in principle to the idea of a parish council for Colyford, they do not represent many generations of families who have quietly lived here for many years. As an example, in the most recent consultation meeting, when challenged on a point by a local farmer, Mr. Julian Thompson (member of the proposal committee) repeated back to the gentleman his words in a mock, Devonshire accent designed to publicly humiliate him. This may seem like a small thing, but you only need to look at the recent case of John Bercow to see how insidious and dangerous this type of behaviour is, especially in terms of a person in a position of supposed power. [John Bercow: 'Serial bully' mocked Parliamentary staff by mimicking 'voice and words', investigation finds \(inews.co.uk\)](https://www.inews.co.uk/news/bercow-mocked-parliamentary-staff-by-mimicking-voice-and-words-investigation-finds/) At the same meeting, a lady commented that many older village residents weren't on social media and therefore weren't always aware of the meetings or proposal updates. This was met with very little sympathy and no constructive solution to reach out to everyone, regardless of their age, financial status or technical abilities. Hardly inclusive. They acknowledged in their proposal, that the Localism Act and Guidelines states that the feeling of the local community and the wishes of local inhabitants are the primary concern, but their actions do not reflect this.

I would also like to draw your attention to some twitter posts made by another member of the Colyford proposal committee Ian Priestly, which are politically motivated and offensive. In my opinion, these are not a people of repute, they do not represent the people of Colyford and I am very concerned for the future of the village, should these people be put in charge.

So, yes they got a certain number of signatures but this cannot surely just be a numbers game. If there really was a dire need for the formation of a Colyford Parish Council that was evidencable e.g. the village had been struggling for many years financially, materially and had lost it's sense of community, then I agree, there would be a case for us breaking away from Colyton. But this is just not the case. This group of newcomers have made something out of nothing and moreover, the disrespectful behaviour they have displayed in the short time that the proposal has been going on,

leaves me with the only conclusion that they have their own personal motivations for creating this council which have nothing to do with the security and future of Colyford.

I urge you to act in the interest of the real residents of Colyford who do not want this.

Sincerely,

Helen Warner

From: Andrew Parr [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 November 2022 18:07
To: Colyford Community Governance Review
Subject: Colyford governance review

Dear Sir,

I wish to object to the proposed creation of a new parish council for Colyford

1. There should have been a proper referendum held on the proposal. The questionnaire sent out last spring gave no facts about what was involved. Of the comments made by residents 200 were opposed to a new council and only 43 in favour. Despite this EDDC decided that there was enough support to recommend a new Colyford PC.

2. The proposed boundary for Colyford is far too big. Colyford was never a parish so there is no historic boundary. Therefore the obvious way to draw this is to use the electoral register and draw the boundary around those registered to vote in Colyford.

4. Colyton PC will be left to maintain nearly all the parish assets without the precept from Colyford. If the new council is created there should be no transfer of assets to Colyford.

Yours Andrew Parr

From: val pady [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 November 2022 16:56
To: Colyford Community Governance Review; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: The proposed Colyford split from Colyton Parish.

FAO Hailenry Gordon Lennox .

Dear Sir, I wish to object in the strongest possible terms to the proposal of a split of Colyford from the Paritsh of Colyton. We have endured several unpleasant meetings where the so-called Colyford Steering group people (with no code of conduct constraints) having displayed very rude and unacceptable behaviour towards the Parish Council--acting as though they have the blessing of the East Devon District Council for the split (Incidentally with the Leader of the EDDC sitting mutely by witnessing it)

The Parish do not consider that the full community have had a proper opportunity to state their views-- a suggestion of a referendum has been rejected by East Devon which suggests that East Devon is encouraging the split, A split of Colyford from the Parish will leave the Parish in a weakened state. Is this what East Devon want?-- claiming as they do to be an Investor of people? I predict that this arrangement--if it goes forward will collapse after just 2 years through lack of support-- how will the District Council deal with this?--having backed this pressure group to form its own council. I urge you to allow Colyton Parish Council to conduct a referendum to reveal the true feelings of the community.

On a further matter related to the proposed split--In correspondence with the Clerk of Colyton PC. it was stated that the 15 acres of land owned by the Council at Stafford Common would be transferred arbitrarily to the newly formed Colyford Parish Council.

I object to this move and would encourage the Colyton Council to legally challenge this from the following evidence in the

Parish Council minutes. It can be seen that in 1896 the Council began enclosing what was a poor scrubby heather, gorse and bracken area known as Stafford Common much frequented by Gipsies and turning it into valuable and useful farmland by dint of hard work and investment--letting the land to farming tenants. The minutes show how the Council brought piped water to these newly hedged and fenced fields which improved their value--eventually buying the land from the Pole Estate.

To my mind and many others it would be criminal to simply take this land and give this 15 acres of productive land (one of Colyton's most valuable assets yielding a valuable rent--used to maintain the Parish Cemetery)--whereas Colyford would have no amenity/facility to spend it on. Please take notice that any such move would be legally challenged.

Sincerely,
Colin Pady.

From: val pady [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 August 2022 10:54
To: Colyford Community Governance Review; [REDACTED]
Subject: Governance Review of the formation of a Colyford Parish Council separate from Colyton Parish Council

Dear Mr Henry Gordon Lennox,

In response to your letter of 22nd August 2022. I do not envy your position of having to adjudicate and gather comments on this matter--where a relatively small number of people exercise their right to propose a radical change in how the Parish of Colyton is governed.

I was born in Colyford in 1943 and in 1970 was nominated and elected to serve as a Councillor for Colyton Parish--having now served for 52 years representing Colyford on the Parish Council but having regard to the 10 square miles making up the total Parish.

From 1943 to 2014 I lived and farmed in Colyford, as did my parents and grandparents--moving to my present house Skylarks in 2014 on retirement.

I was awarded the Freedom of the Borough of Colyford having 3 terms as Mayor and being a founder member of Colyford Goose Fayre.

My longstanding allegiance is with Colyford--historically part of Colyton Parish since 1894 for very good logical reasons. Most of the Parish amenities are centred in and around the town of Colyton--the cemetery--the allotments--the playing fields with 2 play parks--the recreational gardens all supported by income from the Parish precept--all coming from properties whether they are in the remote hamlets of Purlbridge, Watchcombe, Holyford and Colyford.

or the scattered farms of the Parish whose inhabitants all have the benefit and use of these amenities.

Each and everyone of these properties contribute to the administration of Colyton Parish. A system which has worked well for 128 years--a balanced administration of a Parish with 13 Parish Councillors drawn from

the wider Parish including Colyford with a full time qualified Clerk on an agreed Salary

What is being proposed with Colyford splitting away from Colyton has blatant disregard for the historical facts and a system of administration which is highly successful.

The proposal of a separate very small

Colyford Parish Council will be a duplication of time effort and funds

with a new Parish Clerk/Handyman/Hire of meeting room

and the appointing/electing of 7 Councillors--for what purpose or benefit?

As residents close to the proposed arbitrary boundary--my wife and I object to our house being placed outside Colyford and yet the

Sewage Works which are closer to the village are not included--

Surely Colyford should have this fragrant facility included!!

I object to this splitting of the Parish for no benefit whatever--

Proposed by what I regard as a 'pressure group'--the newly formed CVRA-(Colyford Village Resident Association)On your original letter

announcing the Governance Review you stated that the actions of 'pressure groups'

would be taken into account and assessed for their worth==Have the East Devon Council taken note of this--Do they recognise the CVRA as a 'pressure group'? This group

who are behind this proposal have a very badly thought out agenda which if implemented will weaken the administration of the Parish--Imagine a group, who on a whim proposed

that Upottery and its surrounding territory applied for a governance review to be separated from the

e East Devon District Council to form the N.East Devon District Council--

It would weaken the District Council.

So with the splitting of Colyford from Colyton Parish Council. If you are truly an investor in people you will see

that this proposal is not in the best interests of the people of Colyton Parish.

Another question which needs answering is--How small does a Council have to be to be unworkable?

Because the boundary of the proposed Colyford Parish Council at 1.5 square miles is so small there will be nothing to administer. I hope East Devon will reject this proposal as unworkable

In addition I would like to comment on two other matters. First--the 15 acres of land to the south of the Sidmouth Road

and to the West of Leacroft Farm is owned by Colyton Parish Council and should remain so.

The revenue from the rent of this land is used directly to maintain the Cemetery.

Also the Childrens Play park in Colyford is on land leased to Colyton Parish

on a 12 year rent at a 'peppercorn' rent from myself. The successful

and well used Play Park (in use from 2017) is administered and maintained by Colyton Parish Council and should remain so. I have no intention of transferring the lease.

I

hope that these comments will be shared with all members of the Governance Review to show what an ill-thought out proposal this is and that it should be rejected.

Colyton Parish is an example of a well run rural Parish and to alter it in the way suggested will weaken it and do lasting harm.

Sincerely,

Colin Pady.

,

Treetops, Fairview Lane,
Colyford,
Colyton,
Devon.
EX24 6RB

Dear Sir

With regard to the draft proposals for a Community Governance Review of Colyford these are our views.

I have lived in the Parish of Colyton for all of my life and my wife for thirty four years. In that time, we have been residents of both Colyton and Colyford and we have always felt we have been very well served by the Parish of Colyton.

We currently live in Colyford in close proximity to the proposed boundary but we have the strongest of ties to Colyton. We have a Mother, Daughter, Son in law and Grandchildren living in Colyton. Our youngest son was born in Queen Street, our six children all attended Colyton Primary School, and our Daughter married in Colyton Church and had her celebrations in Colyton Town Hall. Our children have been members of Colyton Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scouts.

Over the years we have run a business in Colyton, run a Dairy Farm in Colyton and for Forty-Five years I have been an on-call Firefighter at Colyton Fire Station and I am currently the Station Commander. Now as part of a large family and with our multitude of Grandchildren in tow we attend Colyton carnivals, bonfire nights, pantomimes and events in the Town Hall, Reece Strawbridge Centre and Church. We look out of the window of our property and see beautiful Colyton, watch the Tram running along the Coly/Axe valleys to Colyton Tram Station and listen to the bells of Colyton church ringing joyfully out from the Town. Our daily lives revolve around Colyton and all of the wonderful things it has to offer, we consider ourselves so fortunate to live here in this magnificent place and know that many others feel the same.

We cannot see that we would be better served by creating division between Colyton and Colyford with the creation of even more Councillors. We can see no benefit in pursuing this agenda when energies and finances could be used for more important things, especially given the turmoil our Country is currently facing. What justification is there to divorce Colyford from Colyton when both have so much to gain from remaining united, surely our unity is our strength as it has been for so many years. It saddens us to consider being separated from our magnificent Rebel Town.

Yours Sincerely

Mr David & Dr Janet Hill

Mr Mark Williams
Chief Executive Officer
East Devon District Council
Blackdown House, Border Road
Heathpark Industrial Estate
Honiton EX14 1EJ

R J Robinson
Woodmans Croft
Seaton Road
Colyford
EX246QW

29 October 2022

Dear Sir,

I have been informed that Colyton Parish Council are proposing to hold a referendum in the whole parish in order to ascertain the “true wishes” of residents regarding the establishment of a Parish Council for Colyford.

Referring to the letter originally sent round to all residents, it is clear from my reading that the votes cast then would decide the matter. I cannot see any justification for the Parish Council expending further ratepayers money on a simple repetition of the first poll and I object to this whole wasteful attempt to reverse the already expressed will of the residents and potentially delay the progress of establishing a Colyford Parish Council.

I therefore request that you step in and put an end to what appears to me to be a waste of time and money.

Yours Faithfully, R J Robinson