

## Parish Boundary : Update + Action Recommended

Dear Resident

### **Background - for those new to the issue**

The major part of the Furzehill area lies south of the line down the middle of Smugglers Lane and Grange. Although rural in nature it lies currently within (the otherwise urban) Colehill Parish; and is known as the Furzehill 'lobe' of Colehill. The draft proposals of the Dorset Community Governance Review (CGR) include the recommendation that it joins the northern section of the village within the rural Holt Parish to "better reflect the local identities and interests of our community" and to "help to secure a more effective and convenient governance of the area". You can refresh your understanding of the issues by referring to the [FRA's proposal to the CGR](#) and the [CGR's draft recommendation for Furzehill](#).

The recommendation is supported by Holt parish Council and accords with the wishes of all those in our village area who responded to our poll in October 2021. However, Colehill Parish Council (CPC) is resisting the change - without itself seeking the views of Furzehill residents in particular and while, unlike Holt, declining to accept our own village poll.

### **Update + action recommended**

CPC planned to hold a formal poll of its whole electorate on the matter, asking whether there is approval for the change, but Dorset Council rejected its question as ambiguous. Instead, it is now belatedly asking the whole of its electorate to submit opinions through its website before 16 May. It plans to then hold an 'extraordinary council meeting' between 16-23 May to decide its final submission to the CGR.

23 May is significant because it is the final day on which opinions on the draft CGR recommendations will be accepted by Dorset Council.

It is important that we show CPC the strength of opinion within Furzehill; and that we expect it to respect our views and acquiesce in the removal of the Furzehill lobe from its parish.

1. Those of us living within the Furzehill lobe can do this by responding to its [webpage on the subject](#) through its [feedback form](#). A simple statement would suffice.
2. Anyone in our whole village area can attend the extraordinary CPC meeting and express a view. As many as possible should attend to maximise our chance of influencing the committee in our favour. I will write again when the date is announced.

Finally, please do not overlook submitting your views to the [second and final CGR consultation](#). You may find it easiest to deal with both jobs at once by pasting your CGR submission into the CPC feedback form.

Kind regards

Nigel Allman  
Secretary  
Furzehill Residents Association