RE; Boundary change Roydon parish council

I would like to make my concerns known regarding the proposed boundary change for Roydon. This change will affect close to 500 homes under the plan, meaning the village of Roydon will be split in half, I only found out about this when a letter was posted through the door with a notice to say we are in a proposed change area and have until 27th October to comment on this. It would be sensible for such a major change to be fair, open and transparent to all residents affected who should be informed and invited to a public meeting. I know that many people are still not aware of the situation.

There is an issue on the proposed map, where when viewed on a mobile device the new proposed boundary highlighted in yellow did not show up, in a mobile technology driven world, many people use mobile devices instead of a fat client pc and would think there is no actual change.

There is such a close community spirit within Roydon, this has caused much upset and concern to local residents, these are homeowners who bought a Roydon home in good faith that they were going to be Roydon residents for in most cases many years to come whilst pumping money into the local economy.

Points of concern to be addressed

- Increase in council tax Diss band C & D are over £130 & £146 per year more expensive.
- Increase in insurance premiums from moving to a town from a village.
- Catchment areas for the local school and early years pre-school, will these residents be forced into an already overcrowded Diss school.
- Residents of Roydon are members of Doctors surgeries at Botesdale and Kenninghall, with a Diss address they will be forced to move to an already overcrowded health centre in Diss.
- Green belt sites will be given to Persimmon or other house builders to build more new houses which will strain a town bursting at the seams already with an infrastructure that simply cannot cope anymore, We have had to live on the Long Meadow Drive development for the last three years whilst Persimmon struggle to finish the development, with no support from Diss council or South Norfolk DC with the constant issues with drainage, no roads, path ways or street lighting for the best part of two and a half years, yet Persimmon are given the go ahead for another development within the town.
- How will Church parish boundaries be affected, residents with loved ones buried at Roydon will no longer be in the same village, this personally affects me as my baby daughter was buried at St Remigius in Roydon less than a year ago, A check had to be made with the Diss council to make sure we were in fact a Roydon resident.
- There are a large number of roads and homes which have been in Roydon for over a hundred years, by moving them into Diss they lose all the history of the local community.
- residents that are aware of the proposed changes believe this is an underhand tactic to push through the boundary change and earn Diss on average an extra £650000 per year if all properties were based on a band B council tax bracket. Roydon would lose on average £600000 per year if all properties were based on a band B council tax bracket.
As a resident I would like to know who will benefit from the change South Norfolk DC, Diss or Roydon councils because the residents certainly will not.

I am asking for this boundary change to be reviewed and not given the go ahead without a full, fair and transparent review which takes local residents views into account.

Feel free to contact me on the details below if you would like further clarification on this matter.

Virus-free. www.avast.com
Dear Sirs

2nd October 2017

Notice of: OBJECTION to changing Roydon Parish Boundaries

Herewith my objection’s on above. I am bemused and frustrated not only for those directly affected but those left in the new Roydon, it makes no sense or obvious benefit to change? So why do it?

- Initially I was appalled to find out that this was happening (as a Roydon resident I only found out on the grapevine! after an initial parish meeting meeting had been held).
- Where was the letter to each Roydon resident about this change? Surely as a Norfolk Council tax payer we should have all been consulted about this change as effects all left and not just those proposed to move? Why didn’t the local parish council actually notify all in their parish? Apart from this weekend’s note in the Parish mag? TOO LITTLE TOO LATE..
- What is the reason for the changes? that has not been made totally clear? What benefit to Diss does this make, what benefit to Roydon does this make?
- I moved to the village 4 ½ years ago because it was a ‘village’ of individuality and was not conjoined with Diss, yet this boundary move brings us all closer and its higher charges?
- Is there a sinister reason for the move to benefit someone’s coffers £ somewhere in Government? as not anyone can give me a good reason /positives of the move?
• I see that we lose 4-500 x residents from Roydon (some friends who are closely affected)—so then what strain and pressure does this impact on Roydon residents left—does our council tax and other charges all go up as a consequence as less people live within the village? Surely this can only have a negative impact and increase insurance premiums and taxes our way too, not only to those who have been forced to Diss where council charges are higher anyway? Will we in Roydon then have less lighting, cleaning, waste collection etc too?

• How does this affect the local Roydon School and amenities, lighting and roads and money given from Govt to keep the village life as is? – What changes will impact on us for having a lower head count within the new Roydon boundary?

Yours Sincerely
Hi

I recently received an undated letter from you on the above subject and have a few questions.

The letter states that "Recently we held a consultation that gave our residents a chance to put forward any boundary changes they wanted us to consider".

I am one of your residents and received no notification nor invitation to be part of this consultation, so how was this process undertaken?

You say you received 631 comments from residents, this is a very small percentage of the residence to base a proposal on so I question why this has been taken forward?

Is it possible to view these 631 comments?

Since the changes you are proposing affect me and others currently in Roydon can you please advise how many of the 631 comments came from residents in the affected area?

Also can you please advise the benefits to the Roydon residents affected & any downsides to us?

Could you please also clarify the comments highlighted in red on the extract from your meeting minutes (see below).

Diss and Roydon

The Diss Town Clerk advised the Committee that Diss Town Council was seeking to create a sensible boundary between Diss and Roydon and highlighted that, although this was a sensitive issue, there needed to be a clear defined boundary. She stated that the recommendations made in the report had gone further than the representations which had been submitted. The Electoral Services Manager advised that the proposed changes would affect around 300 electors and, following discussion, it was agreed that changes proposed to the boundary between Diss and
Roydon should be approved, subject to the comments of Roydon Parish Council. It was also agreed that the number of Councillors for Diss should be increased to 14, as recommended in the report. (See Map 5, as appended to these minutes).

It was also agreed that there was no justification for a merger between Roydon and Bressingham and that the number of Councillors for Roydon remain as 9, as recommended.

Looking at the map showing the proposed boundary changes it looks as if Roydon will cease to exist, is this correct?

I understood that there has always been the intention of maintaining a clear divide between Roydon & Diss and preserving a green space between the two. If these changes go ahead I assume that this can no longer be guaranteed, is this correct?

Best Regards
Electorial Services
South Norfolk Council
South Norfolk House
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
NR15 2XE

Dear Sir,

On the 29 September 2017 my husband and I were made aware of your undated letter concerning the boundary changes you are intending to make.

We attended the meeting held in Roydon Village Hall and left feeling very aggrieved. Not only had we been totally unaware with regard to this matter but also we are both thoroughly against your proposal to change the Boundaries.

As we are both in our 80s, on a fixed income, your proposed changes would decrease our income considerably and in no way improve our situation.

Therefore please register our disapproval concerning this matter.

Your sincere,
Dear Sirs

2nd October 2017

Notice of: OBJECTION to changing Roydon Parish Boundaries

Herewith my objection's on above. I am bemused and frustrated not only for those directly affected but those left in the new Roydon, it makes no sense or obvious benefit to change? So why do it?

- Initially I was appalled to find out that this was happening (as a Roydon resident I only found out on the grapevine! after an initial parish meeting meeting had been held).
- Where was the letter to each Roydon resident about this change? Surely as a Norfolk Council tax payer we should have all been consulted about this change as effects all left and not just those proposed to move? Why didn’t the local parish council actually notify all in their parish? Apart from this weekend’s note in the Parish mag? TOO LITTLE TOO LATE..
- What is the reason for the changes? that has not been made totally clear? What benefit to Diss does this make, what benefit to Roydon does this make?
- I moved to the village 4 ½ years ago because it was a ‘village’ of individuality and was not conjoined with Diss, yet this boundary move brings us all closer and its higher charges?
- Is there a sinister reason for the move to benefit someone’s coffers £ somewhere in Government? as not anyone can give me a good reason /positives of the move?
- I see that we lose 4-500 x residents from Roydon (some friends who are closely affected)—so then what strain and pressure does this impact on Roydon residents left—does our council tax and other charges all go up as a consequence as less people live within the village? Surely this can only have a negative impact and increase insurance premiums and taxes our way too, not only to those who have been forced to Diss where council charges are higher anyway? Will we in Roydon then have less lighting, cleaning, waste collection etc too?
- How does this affect the local Roydon School and amenities, lighting and roads and money given from Govt to keep the village life as is? – What changes will impact on us for having a lower head count within the new Roydon boundary?

Yours Sincerely
With regard to the above I am given to understand by Roydon Parish Council that
the proposed changes were decided by South Norfolk District Council
following the first consultation phase which took place this summer.

The second phase of consultation is due to run from 31 August to 27 October. During this
time, residents and other interested parties can express their opinions
direct to South Norfolk District Council.

Please read below my letter to Roydon Parish Council, note its contents & confirm receipt.

Furthermore please advise why residents of the areas affected were not notified to give their opinions during the first consultation phase.

Regards
To: Roydon Parish Council

From: [Redacted]

**Proposed boundary change between Diss & Roydon affecting Tottington Lane, Sandstone Way, Potash Lane & Denmark Lane.**

I returned from holiday on Saturday 16\textsuperscript{th} September and found within my post an undated letter from South Norfolk Council concerning proposed boundary changes.

Within the letter was a statement that the council had held a consultation and given residents the chance to put forward any changes they wanted. The responses were considered on 15\textsuperscript{th} August and the proposal have been based on these responses.

I am a resident who lives within one of the affected areas, I was not consulted and prior to receiving this letter was unaware of the proposals. It appears that I was not alone and having spoken to a large number of residents in the area they are angry that this is the first communication from the Council and that the change is being proposed.

I understand from talking to one of your councilors in Diss Marketplace on Friday that Roydon Parish Council is also unhappy with the proposals. Furthermore that Diss Town Council did not include our location in their recommendation to the ‘Electoral Arrangements Review Committee’ and our locality was added by them.

On behalf of the residents of the above I would like to complain in the strongest possible terms to the proposed changes and believe that (to use South Norfolks own words)

The proposals do not reflect the interests and identities of our community nor ensure that the governance of our parishes continues to be effective.

Neither does it create the sensible boundary between Diss & Roydon that Diss Town Council desire.

There has not been enough time between my return and your Parish Council meeting to consult all residents on the matter however one of our residents will be presenting a draft petition which has received 100\% support to reject the proposals.

We trust that the Parish Council will do their utmost to support us and help to ensure that the proposal is rejected.
Moved from Diss 22 years ago, absolutely no wish to return, no advantage to do so. Why on earth consider moving boundries that have been in situ for centuries. It would be interesting to know what this is costing local government, or is the cost being met by national government!
30th Sept 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

We have become aware of the proposed changes to the boundaries between Roydon and Diss which we strongly object to. Our objections being. We chose to live in the village of Roydon 37 years ago, we raised our two daughters in the parish of Roydon. They were both baptised at Roydon church and our eldest was married in Roydon church, we have always felt we have a strong connection with the village of Roydon. We lose the right to use Roydon amenities i.e. Roydon Community Centre and Parish church and the village school. For 24 years we have delivered the Roydon Herald and village magazine to all 131 homes on our estate off factory lane. We have supported and chosen to be part of Roydon village life. Relocating our property to Diss would mean higher car and house insurance, could also have a detrimental effect on the value of our property and would most certainly make our council tax more expensive. Since birth we are both patients of botesdale health centre, Roydon is within the catchment boundaries, Diss is not. We change our address to Diss not sure how this will affect us as patients of botesdale health centre. We certainly do not want to change our GP surgery to an over subscribed Diss surgery. We want to make it very clear that we strongly object to this proposal and wish to remain as part of the village of ROYDON

Your Sincerely

[Handwritten signature]
1 October 2017

Electoral Services
South Notfolf Council
South Norfolk House
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich NR15 2XE

Dear Sirs

Community Governance Review – Roydon & Diss proposals

You wrote to me a short while ago – your letter was not dated – to let me know that our property might be affected by proposed boundary changes.

Your letter included a sentence which stated "recently we held a consultation that gave our residents a chance to put forward any boundary changes they wanted us to consider".

Your undated letter was in fact the first that I had heard of a consultation and, judging from comments made by many attending a Roydon Parish Council meeting on the 26th September 2017, I was far from alone.

Notwithstanding this communication failure, from the research I have been able to carry out since learning of the proposals, I can see absolutely no justification for any Roydon / Diss boundary changes. Roydon are clearly not seeking change and I can find no arguments from Diss that support any claim that they might have to extend their area of control.

The most important and most relevant factor in this issue that I can find comes from a recent statement reported in the Diss Express, attributed to Councillor Christopher Kemp, Chairman of the Electoral Arrangements Review Committee. He is quoted as saying:-

"we are required by law to undertake a review around every 15 years to ensure the governance of the parishes continues to be effective and that it reflects the interests and identities of our community"

On the one hand, I am not aware of any criticism surrounding the effectiveness of Roydon Parish Council. On the other, I am very aware of the depth of feeling held by so many Roydon 'neighbours' in relation to their local interests and identity.

If Councillor Kemp’s words are to ring true, the results of his committee’s review should therefore, clearly and categorically, recommend no change to the existing Roydon Parish boundaries...
Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in response to the proposed boundary change in Roydon, to formally object. If the boundary between Roydon and Diss is altered, 50% of the village of Roydon will simply disappear, leaving the remaining residents to cover the parish precept. What action has been taken to update the remaining residents on these proposed changes? Surely they too have a right to know how they will be affected?

The argument that residents use amenities in Diss without funding them is hollow—are we the only surrounding village that visits the town? From attending the parish meeting on 26th September, it is also very apparent that the residents are unclear on the amenities that Diss Town Council are referring to and furthermore, how have you been measuring the location of visitors into town?

We feel that the proposed change is being used as a chance to gain land within the Diss district for future development. Once the land at Frenze Hall Lane has been completed (planning has already been agreed) there are few reasons behind the proposed boundary changes. Is this council considered the already overstretched infrastructure for not only Roydon but Diss residents too?

Having attended Roydon Parish Council meeting, along with nearly 100 others present who all agreed that this proposed change will serve no benefit to Roydon or Diss residents.

I would appreciate confirmation/receipt of my objection and am happy to discuss any further details should this be required.

Kind Regards,

[Signature]
8th Oct 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

RE - Boundary Change

I would strongly be opposed to any change of the boundary of Roydon - I want my home/myself to live in Roydon and NOT DISS -
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 05 October 2017 20:33
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Proposed boundary change Roydon, Diss

We write to complain about the proposed boundary change.

We do not want to be classified as Diss. We would have to pay solicitors to have our Deeds changed. We like to be in a village.

We feel sorry for the people who will loose their allotments.

With thanks,

[Redacted]

Sent from Samsung tablet
From: [Name]  
Sent: 05 October 2017 13:22  
To: Review  
Subject: FW: urgent call back

Response from [Name]: Roydon resident – please leave boundaries alone does not want to move to Roydon.

Electoral Services Officer  
www.south-norfolk.gov.uk

From: [Name]  
Sent: 05 October 2017 12:13  
To:  
Subject: urgent call back
I have lived in Roydon for 34 years, very happily, and would hate to see it change from the lovely village it is.
The whole identity of the village would be changed. Why were we not consulted earlier? Very few Roydon residents would have agreed to such a change.

Many things would have to change so please leave Roydon alone!
Dear Sir,

Not being up with modern Technology I haven’t seen a map of the proposed Boundary changes, nor did we know about a meeting.

I have lived here practically all my life, my Great Grandparents, Grandparents and parents + Great Uncle + Aunts have all lived all there lives in Tottington.
I got married in Roydon Church over 60 years ago, my children, grandchildren + soon great grandchildren have all attended Roydon School.
I don’t want to live in Diss + want to know who has decided that I have to. Who decided to change the Boundary without asking anyone. & why. Why has someone decided to upset so many people people. If we are forced to be part of Diss does that mean the lane will be improved + street light + street cleaning etc etc.

Yours sincerely
5th October 2017

Dear Sirs

DISS INVASION OF ROYDON

I recently received a letter from you, with no date on it, stating that Diss would be extending its boundaries to include much of Roydon, this letter was the first time I had been made aware of such proposals. Living in a democratic country I was quite shocked that such a decision could be made without a full and comprehensive survey of the areas affected.

I attended a Parish Council meeting and was made aware that I wasn’t the only Roydon Resident to be angered by your proposals, and to feel it was being dealt with in an unprofessional manner.

Roydon is a wonderful community and DOES NOT WANT TO BE SWAMPED BY DISS

None of my neighbours are for the proposals we can see no advantage for making such changes

Roydon Parish Council has been run effectively and efficiently and is very quick to deal with any concerns that parishioners may have

I understand by law that a review is necessary every 15 years but speaking to parishioners to be affected by the proposals to move the boundaries not one of them wants the boundary change to force them to live in Diss.

The residents are preparing a petition which will categorically show that we are happy as we are, that your proposals are unacceptable

Hot under the collar resident of Roydon

[Name]

Electoral Services

South Norfolk Council

Cygnet Court

Long Stratton

NR15 2XE
Dear Sirs,

I wish to register a protest concerning the proposed new boundary between Diss and Roydon.

I see no reason for the boundary to be changed, other than to benefit Diss Town Council. There will be no benefit for the residents of Roydon.

Obviously it is a grab for land and cash.

Leave Roydon alone.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
5th October 2017
Electoral Services Team,
South Norfolk Council,
Cygnet Court,
Long Stratton,
Norwich NR15 2XE.

Ref: Opposition to proposed boundary change between Diss and Roydon.

Dear Sirs,

I write to state my opposition to the proposed boundary change above which would directly affect my property and indeed all neighboring properties. My reasons and concerns are stated below.

- Poor communication of proposals with no letter sent to affected residents explaining the proposals
- Loss of village identity. We purchased the property in Roydon and wish it to remain so.
- Financial deficit would be transferred to the remaining Roydon residents to make up budget shortfalls.
- Property values would be largely reduced in line with Diss.
- Diss Council using the boundary change to make up shortfall in its tax revenues by adding further residents to its population. This is not the answer to financial difficulties.
- Unjustified increase to the council tax bands.

We feel extremely angry about the proposal to effectively "relocate and reclassify" where we live and upset about the disgraceful move by Diss town council to improve their financial position for short term gain.

In the future I unfortunately foresee a situation where gradually Roydon will cease to exist and believe that it's residents, land, distinctive community and identity will be assimilated under the Diss branding.

We therefore strongly reject the proposed change.
From:
Sent: 04 October 2017 17:54
To: Elections
Subject: Opposition to Roydon boundary change

FAO: Ms. Tovee-Galey, Electoral Services Manager

Dear Julia,

Thank you for your prompt response to my letter (snail mail) of 22nd September. You say that there were six responses concerning the Roydon / Diss parish boundary issue, but I can only find four online. Whichever it is, and given that the four I have seen are against a boundary change, there is no way that the consultation can be seen as an endorsement of this proposal on behalf of all Roydon residents.

Will you therefore please add my voice to the opposition to this boundary change. If the purpose of the review is ‘to reflect the interests and identities of our community’ then it must be obvious from the growing dissent that this idea does not serve the interests of our community. I have spoken to many local people about this and I attended the Roydon Parish Council meeting on 26th September which packed out the village hall. I have not heard a single voice raised in favour of this idea with the exception of Diss Town Council who stand to gain financially. This does not benefit the residents of Roydon who are being ‘annexed’ and who stand to lose out on several issues including primary schooling and health centre choices.

I would be grateful for an acknowledgement of this email.

Thank you once again.

Yours sincerely,
Dear Sirs,

With reference to the undated letter we recently received from yourselves regarding proposed changes to the Roydon/Diss boundary.

In your second paragraph you refer to a consultation that gave your residents a chance to put forward boundary changes that they wanted you to consider. We were unaware of this consultation having received no previous notice from yourselves.

Were the proposed changes shown on your online survey made by the Council’s Electoral Services team or by residents and/or local communities?

As your letter purports to be concerned with electoral arrangements we wish to state that we are happy with the present parish boundary as we prefer to be served by the Roydon Parish Council.

With reference to your online survey www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/cgireview we note that the Ordinance Survey extract is obsolete and omits details of most development carried out in this area since we moved here some eleven years ago. What it does show however is that there are relatively few properties affected by the proposed changes as regards electoral matters.

However the greater proportion of the land within the proposed boundary change would if adopted come within the Diss district and is at present of an agricultural nature in Roydon Parish.

We suspect that the purpose of the boundary amendment if imposed would be to free land for future building and infrastructure purposes.

Our rear boundary is adjacent to a large named field with fields beyond and this was a prime consideration in the
In consequence of being in the "Louis Lane" catchment up to Factory Lane in the Parish of Raydon we believe we receive a lower rating valuation than Diss at the present time, a benefit we would not wish to lose.

In addition should the Cage Field behind us be subsequently granted planning permission for building development we consider that we would suffer considerable disruption and damage during the construction period and that we would suffer significant reduction in the short and long term value of our property.

Will you please clarify to us what are the real intentions of the proposed boundary changes as we are happy to remain within Raydon Parish and cannot see any benefit to ourselves in the proposed changes.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

[Signature]
Electoral Services  
South Norfolk Council  
South Norfolk House  
Cygnet Court  
Long Stratton  
Norwich  
NR15 2XE

9th September 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Proposed Changes to the Roydon/Diss Boundary Changes

I write further to your recent letter (undated), regarding the 15 year Community Governance Review and proposal to change the boundary between Roydon and Diss which, if implemented, would affect all the properties in Louie's Lane, Millway Avenue, Linden Grove and Farm Close.

We do not appear to have received any previous notifications from you regarding the review and hence have had no opportunity until now to give our views - perhaps you can clarify why we, as an involved party have not received any previous correspondence from you on the matter?

Your undated letter gives no reasons for the proposed changes - or benefits which we, as residents of this area, would receive. Please can you provide details of why the changes are proposed and what the benefits would be for us?

These changes, if undertaken would affect a considerable number of people, who from indications given to us, are very happy with the services we receive from Roydon Parish Council. We deliberately moved to the village of Roydon and not to the town of Diss and cannot see any benefits to your proposals - unless you can convince us otherwise.

There is now little time between now and the 27th October for us to consider what further action we may need to take - so would be obliged to receive a prompt reply to the questions set out above.

Yours faithfully
Dear Sir/Madam

Having received a letter informing me of the above proposed change of boundary between Diss and Roydon, which will affect my property in Tottington Lane, and finding I had somehow 'missed' the opportunity to comment, I am now contacting you.

When was this meeting which apparently the affected residents COULD have attended? Why were we not informed of this earlier. Please don't tell me I should have known about these changes before now and it is an error on my part purely because I am a busy working wife and mother and haven't read some small print somewhere. I should have been notified, in writing before this week as my property is within the boundary change and we will therefore no longer live in Roydon.

I am 100% AGAINST this change. I have lived in Roydon for over 25 years and my grandmother lived here for over 50 years: indeed my mother is currently building a new property in Snow Street having lived there for over 30 years.

For me this isn't just about increases in council tax or insurance bands, it isn't even about schools or the use of the village hall, for me it is purely about being a resident of Roydon. I love my village, I am proud to say I live in Roydon and I support the village as much as I can.

I chose to live here and I categorically DO NOT wish to suddenly have a Diss address.

And another thing, surely the village of Roydon will lose out financially if dozens of properties suddenly 'move' into Diss?

So, please advise me, what do I do now?

Looking at the proposed new boundary on the map you so kindly provided, I cannot see how any Roydon residents will benefit. Indeed, the only person who may benefit is the owner of that small parcel of land just off the old Roydon Road, formerly in Roydon, but soon conveniently to be part of Diss.

I would be most grateful for an acknowledgement of this email and confirmation of what will happen next in this ridiculous plan. Please believe me, I am not alone in feeling this way.

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Sir/Madam

I understand a survey has been posted out to the resident of Roydon asking for their opinion on the proposed parish boundary moves – I have not received one.

I live at [redacted] and I am completely against the parish boundaries being moved – they must remain as they currently are. I want to remain living in Roydon. I do not want to live in Diss.

I feel it is absolutely disgusting that Diss Council want to grab over half the houses that are currently have a Roydon postal address and make them part of Diss. As far as I can see this is just a money grabbing exercise by Diss Council – a council that appear to waste money time and time again. Roydon Parish Council, need the funds to maintain our amenities.

At the Roydon Parish Meeting, the Diss representative said that we would get the enhanced benefits – What benefits? Reduced cost of being buried in Diss Church yard? As far as I am concerned this is not a good enough reason to move the boundaries. We use the shopping facilities of Diss but so residents of Bressingham, Hopton, Rickinghall/Botlesday, Worthham, Shelfanger etc etc – is Diss Council looking to make these parishes part of Diss too? pay heavily for the car parks.

The Parish boundaries should remain as they currently are. Don’t touch our parish boundaries.
Millway Avenue should most definitely remain as Roydon.

Yours faithfully
Dear Sir,

I have been sent information about proposed boundary changes to Roydon and Diss.

I have not been informed about the changes to the area I live in. I currently live in the village of Roydon, and I very much wish to remain a resident of Roydon.

I cannot tell you how hurt and horrified I am to find that the council has made these changes to the area. The council appears to have no reason for doing this other than to make money by putting up the council tax. No thought has been given to the residents of the area or what it means to be part of a community and a beautiful village.

I moved into this area a few years ago and find that I can still very much view things in a detached manner, as I was not brought up in Norfolk. One of the reasons I chose to move here was that I believed that Norfolk had a strong sense of community. Caring for each other and caring for the environment is what I am glad to say, been my experience until now. It was also something I had not experienced in the area I was born and grew up in.

Namely, this appears to mean moving areas which currently come under Roydon and move them into Diss.

I cannot tell you how hurt and horrified I am to find that the council has made these changes to the area. The council appears to have no reason for doing this other than to make money by putting up the council tax. No thought has been given to the residents of the area or what it means to be part of a community and a beautiful village.

Please do not become as bad as the council’s of other areas such as London. Please show that you are bigger than that and actually care for residents, who appear to care for the area they live in than those of you who are paid to do so.

Don’t throw away what you have. Once it is gone it is gone for ever and it saddens me to see that you cannot see it, with the constant housebuilding and money grabbing schemes by boundary moving.

Regards,

Nicola Tullock
Hi,

I write as a concerned resident of Tottington Lane, Roydon. Why should we be picked to integrate with Diss? I do not know. Indeed, if it is correct, our rates and, possibly, insurances would rise. Leave us as we are, a village with our own identity.

Nicola Tullock
Electoral Services Team, South Norfolk Council,
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich
NR15 2XE

27th September 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,
Due to recent events that we have become aware of regarding the so called proposed changes to the boundaries between Diss & Roydon which we now wish to advise you of our objections. Our reason for living in Roydon was lower council tax, access to Roydon Primary School and our desire to live in a village rather than a town.
Now it appears you are or already have decided UNDEMOCRATICALLY to relocate my property into the electoral ward of Diss.
We have only recently been made aware of this situation after receiving a letter about the changes.
We want to make it very clear that we object to this proposal passionately and wish to remain as part of Roydon Village.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted]
South Norfolk Council  
Cygnet Court  
Long Stratton  
Norwich  
NR15 2XE  

14-September 2017

Dear Sirs,

We are given to understand that there are rumours circulating that you have carried out some form of surveys regarding the transfer of the area in which we live from Roydon Council to Diss Council area,

As we would certainly be affected by such a major (and we are sure, unwanted by the majority) upheaval, we are sure that any such surveys would certainly have included us.

We know nothing of any such surveys and must therefore assume that these rumours are just that – rumours!

However, just to be certain, would you please confirm that no such surveys have been carried out, and such an unwelcome and unnecessary transfer has not been remotely considered?

Thank you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,
29 Sep 17

Electoral Services Team
SNDC
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich
NR15 2XE

Dear Sirs

I write with regard to the proposed change in boundary between Diss and Roydon. I object most strongly to this proposal and would like to see the idea scrapped.

Although I live in Upper Oakley, I own a house in Roydon. I lived in my house for 23 years before moving out this summer. Over the years I have watched the footprint of Diss grow and have for quite some time been concerned that the close lying villages such as Roydon, Palgrave, Scole and Shelfanger would one day be subsumed into Diss. This alarm was heightened when the new development between Diss and Roydon was given planning approval several years ago.

It appears to me that as the closest of the outlying villages, Roydon is the easiest target. There is little land left between Diss and Roydon and this attempt to move the boundaries smacks of a land grab to build more houses, the result of which will be that Diss and Roydon will merge. I assume it is easier to get planning permission within the Diss boundary, as it is a town and Roydon is just a village – house building can surely be the only advantage?

Should this boundary move go ahead, I fear that the village of Roydon will lose its identity. I understand that council tax will increase for those remaining within Roydon’s boundaries and I am also told that various insurances will rise too. It appears that the only people who would benefit would be Diss residents.
I have fears about access to schooling, although this is not something I am personally affected by.

Apart from the above, there is the historical issue. These boundaries have existed for years.

I completely understand the need for more housing, which I presume is the primary driver for this proposed change, but there is also a need to keep the countryside and small village communities protected too.

I therefore wish to register my opposition to the proposed boundary change between Diss and Roydon.

Regards
10.9.2017

Dear Council
I am very much AGAINST the proposed boundary changes in Roydon. I happen to like living in ROYDON I haven’t spoken to any body how wants the change yet!

Yours sincerely

DISS ROYDON BOUNDARY CHANGE
Sirs,

I would like to comment that I am not happy with the proposed boundary changes between Roydon and Diss.

I am very satisfied with Roydon Parish Council and the excellent way in which it administers the Parish. Although it may seem from a map that we are away from the main part of the village, the Parish Council always gives full and proper consideration to our needs and issues. Indeed the Roydon Parish Noticeboard is outside our house and I know, from seeing it, that many people read it as they walk past.

We truly feel that we are part of Roydon and I would like it to retain its village and community identity. The Parish feel of Roydon is very important to us and, I believe, to others in this part of the village.

I am also concerned at the way Diss is managed by the Town Council, it is just not as close to the residents as Roydon Parish Council and, if we were to be included in Diss, I fear that our wishes may be overlooked and our needs not properly taken into account.

So, at the risk of repeating myself, I do not wish the boundary changes to go ahead, I am proud of being a Roydon resident and parishioner.

Yours faithfully,

[Name Redacted]
Morning my name is [redacted] My family and I live at [redacted] and we are not very happy about the proposed of boundary change to roydon. Living in the village for over 26 years, I bought my cottage in a village not a town. My family and I do not like the idea of living in a town. Some of the reasons are, it will cost more council tax, car insurance, house insurance, etc and what more would I get for my money if this proposal went through? Nothing! It would just cost me more to live where I've lived for the last 26 years. I have spoken to quite a few of the residents in tottington lane and they all have the same opinion as me and they are not happy. Like I've said, I've been in the lane for over 26 years and I know for a fact a lot of the other residents have been in the lane for over 40 years. I know this proposal is not just about the boundary change, it's about building more houses on land which is in roydon not diss! I’m really not happy and everyone I’ve spoken to is not happy either!

Sent from my iPad
Morning my name is [redacted]. I just wanted to make my views heard regarding the Roydon boundary changes. Please feel free to pass this onto the correct person/people if necessary.

My family and I live at [redacted] and we are not very happy about the proposed boundary change to Roydon. Firstly, as a resident I was not made aware of any proposed changes until a very brief letter arrived out of the blue. Why as a resident was I not informed of this proposed change at the beginning?

Living in a village my whole life (dickleburgh) we then decided to move from Diss to Roydon 3 years ago as we didn't like living in Diss. I bought my house in a village not a town. My family and I do not like the idea of living in a town.

I’m not prepared to pay more for council tax, car insurance, house insurance, etc and what more would I get for my money if this proposal went through? Nothing! I bought this house in Roydon.

It would just cost me more to live where I’ve lived for the last 3 years. I have spoken to quite a few of the residents in Millway avenue and Louis lane and they all have the same opinion as me and they are not happy. This sounds more like a moneymaking game for the council and I will not be part of it. I know this proposal is not just about the boundary change, it's about building more houses on land which is in Roydon not Diss! I'm really not happy and everyone I've spoken to is not happy either!

I look forward to your reply
From: Digital
Sent: 16 September 2017 11:15
To: council@council@S-NORFOLK.GOV.UK>
Subject: New enquiry via the South Norfolk website (#web-enquiry-31998)

Online feedback

Important!

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY DIRECTLY TO THIS EMAIL as your response will go to the Web Team inbox, not the person who sent the enquiry. Use the contact details (below) to respond to this message.

Enquiry date: 16/09/2017
Web reference: web-enquiry-31998
Full name: [redacted]
Enquiry: Changing Roydon Parish Boundary. We do not wish to have our boundary changed to Diss from Roydon. We consider that we are part of Royden and live on the edge of Royden Fen. We have recently moved our doctor to Bottesdale as we live in Roydon - something we couldn't do if we lived in Diss. We also believe being part of Diss would also increase costs for items such as car & house insurance.
Dear Electoral Team,

I am writing with regards to object to the proposed boundary change between Diss & Roydon.

We became a Roydon resident several years ago and there were several reasons we chose to move to Roydon rather than Diss partly as of the village rather than a town but more importantly for us was School catchment area & lower council tax. These will obviously change along with an increase in insurance premiums for house & car & not to mention the inconvenience of having to change our postal address on everything from broadband provider to driving licences & car registration.

I also find the letter you sent us misleading, stating the “631 residents” which suggests that its 631 Diss & Rydon residents where upon better inspection of the “residents response” document, there are only responses from 2 Diss residents & 2 Roydon residents. All of which do not wish to see the boundary change & are happy with the currant parish arrangements.

With regards
Nicola Tullock

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: 13 September 2017 19:43  
To: Review  
Cc: roydon.pc@tiscali.co.uk; towncouncil@diss.gov.uk; David Goldson  
Subject: Proposed Boundary Changes Roydon/Diss

Dear Electoral Services Team

Having received the letter regarding the proposed boundary changes between Diss and Roydon I have completed the online survey to register my objections to this change going ahead. On further research though I am concerned that the letter we received from yourselves states that the proposed changes are in response to comments received from residents and local communities. I have looked at these online and there appear to be 3 from residents regarding this particular proposed change but all state they are happy with the current situation and do not request any changes. The two councils involved also do not appear to mention this proposed change.

I am therefore struggling to understand why this proposal has been put forward and in view of the apparent large number of strong objections to it I hope you will seriously reconsider making any changes to the boundary at all.

Kind regards

Sent from my iPhone
Nicola Tullock

From:  
Sent: 12 September 2017 20:56  
To: Review  
Subject: Boundary Changes Roydon & Diss

I am totally against any boundary change between Roydon & Diss

I note from the online documentation no one from Roydon parish council where at the meetings concerned, until the undated arrival of the recent letter from South Norfolk Council I had no knowledge of the proposed boundary changes, talking to other residents it seems on one in the post code had been recently consulted about the proposed boundary changes.

The only reason I can see the need for any changes to the existing boundaries is for Diss to gain more council tax by moving a large number of properties into the Diss Boundary area as council tax is higher than Roydon.

Roydon Parish Council is a very well run Council, the Roydon Primary school is a good school but both will be affected by a smaller number of perspective pupils living in the new proposed boundary.
From: Christopher Kemp <christopherjkemp@yahoo.co.uk>
Sent: 05 October 2017 23:47
To: Julia Tovee
Subject: Fw: Proposed Boundary Changes.

Dear Julia,

Please see below. This is the second e-mail I have received directly from Roydon residents and I suspect that it may not be the last.

Regards,

Christopher

----- Forwarded Message ----- 
From: Christopher Kemp <christopherjkemp@yahoo.co.uk>
To: [Blurred email address]
Sent: Thursday, 5 October 2017, 23:45
Subject: Re: Proposed Boundary Changes.

Dear Mr Burrows,

The information which you seek is largely to be found in the Terms of Reference for the Communities Review which were published several months ago and which have been on the Council’s website since publication. Parish Councils were informed and a briefing was held at South Norfolk House to which Parish representatives were invited.

District Councils are required by Law to carry out a Communities review every 10-15 years. The last such review was completed in 2002.

The Electoral Arrangements Review Committee (of which I am Chairman) will be making recommendations following the completion of the Second Phase of Consultations. These recommendations will be determined by the Committee at a public meeting at which live contributions from parishes and the public will be welcome. The final decision will be made by the District Council early in the New Year.

I am copying this exchange to the Council’s Electoral Services Team to whom your representations should be submitted.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr) Christopher Kemp,
Chairman, EARC

From: [Blurred email address]
To: ckemp@s-norfolk.gov.uk
Sent: Thursday, 5 October 2017, 20:37
Subject: Proposed Boundary Changes.

Dear Mr Kemp,
I would appreciate your help to clarify some issues related to the proposed boundary changes between Diss and Roydon. I intend to formally object to the future intended changes but the process is somewhat vague from my perspective.

I would like to understand the objectives of the process that has resulted in the proposed boundary changes. In particular, I would like to know if this is being driven at central Government, the County, District or Parish level.

It would be helpful if you could identify which body has created the proposals. It is unclear to me whether the proposed changes were developed by central Government, the County Council or is it being dealt with solely by the District Council.

In addition, I would appreciate if you could help me understand the review process that is being undertaken and which body and/or committee will ultimately vote to decide whether the changes are implemented or rejected.

Finally, it would be good if you could advise to who and where I should address my objections to ensure that they are fully considered.

Thank you in advance for your help and in order to meet the deadline your early reply will be much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,
To the Electoral Services Team

I refer to an article in This Express regarding a proposed change for Roydon into a town. I do not want this to change!

I was born in a village and always lived in a village. I moved here to Roydon as it was within walking distance of town.

The friendliness amongst the people in a village has received in my book report. I would like to stay that way.

Life in town is not the same. Any problems within a village is sorted for quicker than in town.

One thing is particular is the stink from drains, which put people off. Council may think they have sorted it up.
the Corn Hall & the Mere with a view
How long will it be that someone is drown! there is always someone who
doesn't try the line of safety.

Please keep Royden as Royden don't spoil a good thing because some egg head sits at a computer & think 'I know we can pinch a quiet life into a town'.

Not on!

Yours sincerely
Electoral Services  
South Norfolk Council  
Long Stratton, NR15 2XE  

Dear Sirs,  
Re: Boundary Changes.

As a resident of Raydon I do not wish to become incorporated into Diss as being proposed in the Community Governance Review.

I do not want to pay the increased council tax that the change would allow, especially as in our area the street lighting and road drainage is inferior to facilities in the Diss area.

I believe we would be charged more for less and this is not at all fair.

I sincerely hope that if there is a majority of objectors that this will be respected, and you will leave the current boundaries as they are.

Yours faithfully

[Signature]
Re change of Boundary.

To Whom it may concern,

Please include my voice with those who do NOT wish to become part of Diss. Diss is Town, Roydon Country - I choose Roydon.

Being a Pensioner/Widow I do not need any extra expense with higher Council Tax and I believe my property would lose value becoming part of Diss.

Sorry, as you see I am not Computer Literate, hence the letter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Electoral Services
South Norfolk Council
South Norfolk House
Long Stratton
NR15 1XG
Dear Sir,

I am writing to protest against the proposed boundary changes. These will, I am informed, result in a council tax rise of £113 per year for the band that I and my partner are in.

We are old age pensioners living on a modest weekly amount. We do not have a large private pension to boost our state pension.

We live in private rented accommodation and have to put up with a rent rise every year that we have been here so far but despite this, with a little clever and creative money management and a no-frills lifestyle, we have been able to pay our bills and keep our heads above water without the help of any benefits or monetary top-ups at all.

We are also informed that the increase in council tax might not be the end of it as our house and contents insurances could also increase due
to these changes being implemented.

These proposed changes will make things almost impossible for us to continue to manage our affairs as we have in the past and this seems very unfair as we are not moving and will receive nothing more for the extra money we will be required to pay.

Please give my comments due consideration along with all the other letters and on-line surveys that you receive and note that I have registered my objections to your proposals.

Yours Faithfully

[Signature]
Electoral Services  
South Norfolk Council  
NR 15 2X E

7th October 2017

Dear Sirs,

I wish to oppose the boundary changes between Roydon and Diss.

If the boundary changes are implemented so that 43% (approximately) of Roydon properties become Diss properties, will this mean that the Roydon parish precept of Council Tax have a shortfall of 43%?

Regarding the argument that the villages surrounding Diss use the facilities in Diss - what facilities? I only use the library, but is this paid by Diss Council Tax?

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
Nicola Tullock

From: 
Sent: 09 October 2017 12:39
To: Review
Subject: Proposed Boundary Change Roydon/Diss

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I wish to add my voice to the growing number of people in Roydon who are concerned and angry at the proposed boundary changes.

I have lived in Roydon for over sixteen years and believe we would lose our identity as a village.

I also think this is just another excuse for land grabbing and further taxation for already struggling residents.

Many people are now gathering to make their voices heard and to bring this issue to the attention of the media.

I don’t think they will be quiet about it.
I would like to register my objection to the proposed parish boundary change for my home village of Roydon near Diss. This proposal has come as quite a shock to myself and many of my fellow residents as the first we knew of it was when it appeared in the local press. This seems a rather underhand way of conducting business in what I thought was a democratic society. I am aware that the decision has most probably already been made and whatever myself and my fellow residents say will not make one jot of difference but I feel I want to state my opinion for the record. Apparently it has been suggested that Diss Town Council need more revenue to cover the cost of people from the village using their facilities, the only example they can give is use of the cemetery. That is a bit feeble don't you think! I have racked my brains and other than using the local shops, the doctors surgery (when it's possible to get an appointment) and the dentist, there are no facilities I wish to use in Diss. Unfortunately I haven't yet learnt the art of levitation so I have to walk on the horrible slabs in the new heritage triangle for which I apologise.

My objection is based on the following points:
1. Hardly anybody in the village were aware of this proposal, this is my main objection because there has been no consultation with residents about how we will be affected and why this change is required at all.
2. We bought a house in Roydon village because this is where we wanted to live, not in Diss town.
3. I am concerned about the possible acquisition of land near the allotments which could be sold for housing. I have also heard talk of land being required for a bypass for Diss, could this be coming through here.
4. Obviously there will be an increase in house insurance and council tax which none of us want.

I hope the Council will seriously consider the impact on the residents who will be affected by this boundary change before giving it the go ahead. Thank you.
Dear Sirs,

Re: Boundary Changes

As residents of Roydon, we do NOT wish to be part of Diss; we retired back to Roydon, & want Village Life. We are paying the same council tax rates as Diss now!

It is obvious Diss Town Council don't consider residents, just grabbing land & houses to suit their needs.

Please consider the community of Roydon, leave the current boundaries as they are, keeping us proud of our village.

Yours Sincerely,
DISS/ROYDON BOUNDARY CHANGE

To South Norfolk Council

I am writing to you again to tell you why I do NOT agree with you changing the Roydon boundary. If this change goes ahead it will mean my council tax will increase and possibly my home and car insurance as well, as I will be classed as in a town not a village, I can’t see that it is very fair to the parish of ROYDON that they should lose all the revenue from this change, is it rich man taking over the poor mans land, seems like it.
I am a pensioner so all the pennies I get have to be spent well.
ROYDON will lose to many residents, what will happen to the school catchment area, can Diss cope with many more children ? and the doctors surgeries which I am told is hard to get an appointment at the moment, I’m also very worried that Botesdale doctors who I have been with for 46 years will say I’m in Diss so out of there catchment area (don’t have a problem getting an appointment there) I’m very worried about this.
I cant think that I use any of the amenities that Diss has to offer (can only think of the corn hall which I have only used to give blood and thats in Roydon know ! And the cemetery, I’m going to be cremated so will not use that either !) which after going to the parish council meeting on 26th September seems to be the reason Diss council wants to bring us into their boundary. Could it also be they want more land to build on ? Money ? How will Diss cope its almost gridlocked now.
After getting the letter from you about this change as that was the first I time I had heard about it (the village hall was full of people some coming in half way though the evening ALL against the change) also some had not even had your letter they got to know by word of mouth, I do think this is very wrong we should have all been told at the very beginning.
I do use the amenities in Roydon, we have a very good village hall lots of things going on and Roydon garage/shop. I do so hope you can see the very strong feelings that we all have about this boundary change and I am hoping that you will consider this and leave well alone its worked for years its not broke, PLEASE leave it be.

6.10.2017
Dear Sir/Madam,

We have been residents of Roydon for the past 20 years. We now find ourselves subject to a boundary change, which we oppose. We were only informed about the proposed change as the second phase had begun.

Seeing no beneficial reason for the change only a detrimental effect. Apart from the obvious rise in council tax, Diss requiring at least 6 times the amount Roydon does, The loss in revenue to the village and community as a whole would seriously affect the upkeep of the village and its amenities. No-one in Roydon gains from this proposition. This area has been classed as Roydon village for hundreds of years, so why change it now.

Diss, who have proposed the boundary change seem to have draw the line to encapsulate as many properties as possible, basically halving the size of Roydon for their own ends. Could the reason for this be Diss Town Council would like to build more houses in the green spaces of Roydon! Gaining land, power and money from their little village neighbours.

As far as we can see there has been no improvement in the infrastructure of Diss despite numerous housing developments. What would we gain from being within the town boundary? Would our street lights be left on all night, unlike now; would we get new lights like nearby Diss streets?

We will fight to keep our proud and historic village whole!

Yours faithfully,
Sunday 8th October 2017

To whom it may concern,

Following recent local concerns regarding Roydon facing a proposed boundary change under the 2017/18 boundary commission review, I wish to express my concerns, other than the obvious rise in council tax, as follows:

- No full residents consultation has been carried out.
- Roydon will in effect lose half its residents and community in one foul swoop.
- Diss Town Council has stated publicly that they would need more revenue in facilitating the necessary increase in infrastructure.
- Insurances will increase as Roydon becomes part of the town of Diss.

I look forward to receiving your comments on this matter.

With regards
BOUNDARY CHANGE ROYDON/DISS

My wife & I have lived in Louies Lane for 52 years and see no reason to change the boundary, which has been in existence since the 11th century. Our objections are as follows -

1. Roydon would lose 472 of their 1098 properties to Diss,

2. Council tax would rise substantially for all properties involved.

3. Roydon residents feel strongly that it should maintain its rural character and not be subsumed into Diss.

4. The land off Appletree Lane/Louies Lane is deemed as high landscape quality, and would likely be developed for increased revenue if it became part of Diss.

The first we knew of the proposed boundary changes was from social media in September 2017. We did not receive the letter which you supposedly sent to all residents involved, (as many others did not either).

We were not aware of the opportunity to make comments on the proposed changes to be considered on the 15th August 2017.
Dear Sir/Madam

Ref Proposed Boundary Change to Roydon/Diss

We are most concerned regarding the proposed Boundary Change, for which we can see no good reason and, in fact smacks of being a 'land-grab' to make up for the senseless waste of money expended by Diss with the so-called improvements in the centre and the 'Heritage Triangle'.

Although it has been stated that this is because we have access to the many amenities offered in Diss, when asked what these might be, the only advantage given at the Diss Council Office was that internment in the cemetery would be cheaper! We point to the fact that many more surrounding villages also have the chance to take advantage of these amenities, whatever they may be.

Contrary to what has been stated, there has been no residents' consultation. In fact, the first we knew of this proposal was when we received the circular letter from yourselves stating that this consultation had taken place. A neighbour then advised us of the Roydon Parish Meeting in July which we subsequently attended with a few other residents to voice our concerns and we also attended the recent meeting when more than 60 people were present.

Our understanding is that Roydon will lose over 40% of its existing properties. Why? Why change a boundary that has been in existence for hundreds of years? And for what reason? Certainly all residents are going to be affected one way or another, but no information has been received on what those changes might be and how we might be affected. Surely this should have been done?

Finally, we do not wish to become a part of Diss Town, preferring to remain as Roydon and we hope that our views will be taken into consideration before any final decision is made.

Yours faithfully
October 7th 2017

Dear Sir or Madam,

Concerning the proposed boundary changes between Duss and Roydon, I am sure that 99% of Roydon residents would agree with me to say that the boundary should stay exactly as it is now.

I have lived in two villages all of my life, Winforthing and Roydon, since I became married 28 years ago, I have never wanted to live in a town or city because I love being in the countryside.

Roydon is a lovely Village and I am horrified to think that anybody would want to change our Village way of life.

Yours,

[Signature]
Now if the powers that be are thinking that if many Roydon properties become part of Duss then the Council will gain more revenue which I can only think that this would be the only and Sole reason for the boundary change then it is fact that this would be cruel, inconsiderate, money grabbing unfairness.

Yours Sincerely
October 12th 2017

Re: Proposed Boundary Change -- Diss and Roydon.

For generations the two communities of Diss and Roydon have lived “cheek by jowl” with houses built up to the joint boundary with no problem of identity for either parish.

The only factor in the past 15 years since the last Boundary Commission review is the building of the Long Meadow estate which straddles the present boundary across the green belt. Therefore this is the only area which should be being looked at as any sort of problem for the Boundary Commission. The estate should be wholly labelled as in Roydon or in Diss. Then the status quo could be retained for the rest of the contentious changes.

There has been no full Residents Consultation carried out --- we have only been told by the Diss Town clerk that the green belt needs to be re-instated --- but there has been no total green belt between the communities for over 100 years so why , suddenly, has this become an important and urgent issue ? If the parts of Roydon on the new plan are implemented into Diss then the green belt which would be created will soon disappear under developments anyway as they are all in the local plan for housing.

Leave well alone!!

However if this is already a fait accompli the decision could be held in abeyance and looked at again in 15 years time.
This would enable Roydonians who do not want to be forcibly made Diss citizens to vote with their feet! After all, the residents chose to live in Roydon -- if they wanted to live in Diss then they would have brought properties in Diss.

Yours sincerely,
I wish to express concerns regarding the proposed boundary changes for Roydon. Roydon loses half of its residents and these numbers affect bids for transport, revenues for the Church and School and people power to vote for the issues which affect them. It would appear that Roydon will lose out in so many ways. Please reconsider the proposal. Many thanks

Sent from my iPad
Electoral Services Team,  
South Norfolk Council,  
Cygnet Court,  
Long Stratton,  
Norwich,  
NR15 2XE

October 12th 2017

Re: Proposed Boundary Change -- Diss and Roydon.

For generations the two communities of Diss and Roydon have lived "cheek by jowl" with houses built up to the joint boundary with no problem of identity for either parish.

The only factor in the past 15 years since the last Boundary Commission review is the building of the Long Meadow estate which straddles the present boundary across the green belt. Therefore this is the only area which should be being looked at as any sort of problem for the Boundary Commission. The estate should be wholly labelled as in Roydon or in Diss. Then the status quo could be retained for the rest of the contentious changes.

There has been no full Residents Consultation carried out --- we have only been told by the Diss Town clerk that the green belt needs to be re-instated --- but there has been no total green belt between the communities for over 100 years so why, suddenly, has this become an important and urgent issue?

If the parts of Roydon on the new plan are implemented into Diss then the green belt which would be created will soon disappear under developments anyway as they are all in the local plan for housing.

Leave well alone!!

However if this is already a fait accompli the decision could be held in abeyance and looked at again in 15 years time. This would enable Roydonians who do not want to be forcibly made Diss citizens to vote with their feet! After all, the residents chose to live in Roydon -- if they wanted to live in Diss then they would have brought properties in Diss.

Yours sincerely,
To Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk Council.

8th October 2017

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to oppose the proposed boundary change with Roydon & Diss.

I have lived in Roydon for 20+ years and have chosen to live there & not Diss. I prefer to live in a village & now Roydon is likely to lose its identity while being taken over by Diss. Obviously I don't know which parts of Roydon is or could be affected by this change.

Is this just a way of charging 'extra tax' which affects households & businesses.

I want to see 'Roydon' left complete and as the place I call home & have done for a long time - not to be a part of Diss if I had wanted to live there, I would have bought a house (now what I live in & have lived in in the past has)

Please leave 'Roydon' as it is: Whole.

Yours faithfully
Concerned Resident, I disagree with the proposed boundary changes in Roydon to change some of Roydon to Diss. This will be such a shame and we will lose our village identity which will affect our church, school, nurseries, businesses etc. It's also another way for you to grab potential land to build more stupid houses on which will ruin the green belt and cause havoc to ecosystems of wildlife! I am so annoyed and angry about the proposed boundary change.

Regards

Sent from Outlook
Dear Sirs,

**Parish Boundary Review: SNDC; Roydon & Diss Consultation**

I present some personal views on the provocative proposal that is currently under consultation to extend the Parish Boundaries of Diss into that of Roydon,

**Comments on background to the Consultation.**

The draft recommendations from SNDC allegedly aim to produce more uniformity in ‘electoral equality’ by amending some Ward Boundaries, and the distribution of District Councillors (DCs). However, this ‘numbers game’ has, perhaps unsurprisingly and unfortunately, produced many specific and unjustifiable proposals for changes at the Parish Boundary level. Options presented to residents have so far been limited and unexplained.

A single proposition has emerged as a result of discounting one of two suggestions for the Ward of Diss Town Council (3 DCs) and Roydon Parish Council (1 DC). Both seem to have been put forward arbitrarily, without considering the status quo as a possibility. A recommendation has been made without, and before allowing, proper resident and Roydon PC representation to be made. A Draft Order has been laid before Parliament while recommendations are still ‘subject to the comments of Roydon Parish Council’, according to an SNC Review Committee.

The ratio of resident numbers in Diss to Roydon in 2017 is approximately 3:1. This is similar to that for electors in each Parish, who are about 78% of residents, so the ratio of electors matches that of the 4 District Councillors, at 3:1. The ratio of electors would also be roughly the same in 2022, with an unchanged boundary. It has been proposed that DC numbers be reduced to 3 for the Ward which would reduce the ratio to 2:1. This represents a disproportionate loss of DCs within Diss Town Council, albeit ‘compensated’ by increased Council tax receipts, both for the Town and snd Councils. The Roydon Parish Council precept would reduce by a 40% if that percentage of residents transfer to Diss, unless tax for the few remaining residents is increased.

A reduction in collective number of Diss and Roydon DCs from 4 to 3 would roughly increase the electorate per DC ratio by 107% in Diss, and reduce it by 35% in Roydon by 2022, using an increase in the Ward electorate of 8.5%. These implications are ignored in the report papers.

The proposed boundary change between Diss and Roydon produces considerably unbalanced ratios within this Ward. They dwarf the 11% excess for the combined Ward over the average electoral ratio for SNDC, where others are within 10%. Analysis of variations within Parishes has not been mentioned, although they would be much larger than 10%. By 2022, the electorate to DC ratio would double for Diss Town Council, and represent a huge anomaly in the ‘excess’.
Objections to SNDC Proposal to change Boundary between Diss and Roydon.

1. The proposed geographic boundary change between Diss and Roydon goes well beyond simply transferring electors from Roydon to Diss. A transfer of residents, even if agree by a majority of all residents who might be 'moved', does not require transfer of large areas of agricultural land across the current boundary. Any hidden agenda behind this geographic takeover needs to be made very clear. Why would Diss need this land?

2. Roydon residents have had no opportunity to previously question the rationale for a boundary change. It is iniquitous to target selected areas of surrounding rural habitation so that it is subsumed into the geographic Town Council of Diss.

3. These surrounding areas are enjoyed for their amenity by Diss residents, just as much as Diss is patronised by rural communities. Roydon provides land for Football and Rugby clubs and the Community Woodland Trust which compliment community facilities provided in Diss, but that does not justify changing Parish boundaries. The parishes of Palgrave and Scole, are rightly not being targeted by invasive proposals.

4. Almost without exception, Roydon residents, wish to retain the boundary of their Parish, defined as a rural location which is separate from the town of Diss. SNDC have provided no explanation of how their proposed change might benefit the community overall. These disruptive changes have been supported by Diss Town Council such that the importance of consulting Roydon PC and its residents at the early stage has been covertly sidelined.

5. There appears to be no clarity or objective rationale for the Roydon Boundary changes. The prospect of unbalanced benefit, upset and loss for many local residents seems wholly unjustified. The public have not been presented with the full information or analysis which might justify such actions. Views of Roydon PC and its residents have not been considered in the Draft Order to Parliament as they were either disregarded or deferred at the preceding meeting (15 August 2017) of the Electoral Arrangements Review Committee of SNDC. I am not the only one who is concerned about the way the process has been conducted.

Proposal

The projected increase in the combined electorate of Diss and Roydon is about 8.5%. This is no reason to reduce the number of DCs, and I propose that 4 should be maintained in total. That implies an increase in total SNDC Councillors from 46 to 47, only 2% and leaves scope for 3 more, without changing the overall ‘electorate-to-Councillor ratio’ before 2022.

A boundary change with a huge loss of electorate from Roydon, is a bad recommendation, and should be rejected. A more modest, and possibly rational, adjustment might be to embrace more of the Persimmon estate into Diss if these residents agreed. Annexing non-residential land to Diss Town Council, as currently proposed, is completely iniquitous and unjustified.

Summary

I am disappointed and disillusioned by this proposal. I strongly object to the recommendations, and the way that they have been formulated and imposed on Parish residents. Democratic procedures, stated benefits and timely consideration of Roydon residents have been lacking.

Yours faithfully,
Folks,

I am concerned that the length of my feedback is too long for the online system which I have attempted to use so here it is in full via email.

(1) This can only be considered a proper consultation if residents that would be affected by any change are actually notified. We have only become aware of this because of local campaigns. I think it would have been very reasonable to write to affected households to make them aware and give them time to consider and formally respond. I feel we are having to react quickly, and at the last minute without due time to give proper consideration.

(2) Despite having spent time this morning reading previous minutes of the Electoral Arrangements committee I can find no justification or reasoning behind the change beyond the comments "Diss Town Council was seeking to create a sensible boundary" and "clear defined boundary". I’m sure that both Diss and Roydon parish councils know where the boundary is (it’s not that hard; can Diss council not cope with a few kinks in a boundary?) and I’m sure all the residents know where they live. So with no reasoning published behind the proposed changes it impossible to give considered feedback on that reasoning. There might be very valid reasons for the change but you must publish them so they can be considered.

(3) As far as I can find there has been no formal publication of how the proposed changes would affect residents. I am aware, again from local campaigns and crucially not via the council, that this would affect council tax because of the difference in precept between Diss and Roydon. Beyond that I have heard nothing and can find nothing. There must be more implications – for example who would become our parish representatives, when would elections take place so that we have a chance to affect who that representative was. Again nothing easily found from the council as to these affects. Yet again I feel you are asking us to accept a change without knowing the full facts.

(4) My wife spotted that this will pose a burden on ourselves – we will have to notify all our friends, family, banks, insurance companies, utilities etc of a change of address without actually moving. We are young enough and practical enough that we would cope but I dread to fear the mess that will happen for elderly or less able residents. Who is going to pay for all the time and effort and sorting out the inevitable mistakes – clearly we will be expected to do this.

So I find myself being asked to accept a change that has no published reasoning behind it, with no published implications to us, a cost to us in time and effort (see point 4) with no published benefits for anyone!
I therefore must reject the proposed change – give me a proper explanation of the reasoning, benefits, issues that would be fixed and clear details of how this would affect us and I could give proper consideration and may well have accepted the change.

Roydon Resident.
13th Oct 2017

Boundary changes.

46 years ago my husband & I found a plot of land in a quiet lane in Roydon, we as a family still live after building our own Bungalow.

We love Roydon our daughter married in the church and youngest Son went to Roydon School.

I have been on the church flower table for many years.

Our Garden backs on to farmland which is the green belt.

We very much want Roydon to stay as it is. Your sincerely.
Dear Sir or Madam,

We are writing to formally express concerns regarding the proposed boundary change of Roydon.

The main reason we moved to Roydon from Diss 18 years ago was because we did not want to live in a town, we wanted to live in a village.

Another reason is the history of Roydon will be decimated, and for what, money!!
Quality of life will not be the same when part of a big town.

Another reason is that if all the properties within the proposed boundary change were council or housing association owned, this consultation would not be happening as told to us by a Diss town councillor!

Why has not any information been available since whenever this proposal started?

Yours faithfully
Ref Boundary Changes
We have lived in this property for 44 yrs our youngest child attended Raydon School we attend Raydon Church, my wife is on the Flower rota and having this connection to our village is very important to us.
Our property backs on to the Green Belt area which we value very much and we feel that if this comes under Diss we will lose this wild life area joining Raydon Fen. (We are Raydon)
Dear Sir or Madam,

As residents of the above address which we have lived in for the past fifty-three years, we feel most concerned about the changes to the boundary, also the change to the council tax.

We do not share the same amenities as Riss, also living in the approach to Snow St: we have no street lighting or pavements etc.

Yours Sincerely,
DEAR SOUTH NORFOLK COUNCIL
WE HAVE LIVED IN ROYDON FOR 24 YRS & HAVE BEEN VERY HAPPY HERE & SEE NO REASON WHY WE SHOULD HAVE A CHANGE OF BOUNDARY

YOURS SINCERELY
15th October 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re: Proposed Boundary Changes
Roydon/Diss

I wish to add my voice to the growing number of people in Roydon who are concerned and angry at the proposed boundary changes.

I have lived in Roydon for over sixteen years and believe we would lose our identity as a village.

I also believe this is just another excuse for land grabbing and further taxation for already struggling residents.

Many people are now gathering to make their voices heard and to bring this to the attention of the media. I don't think they will be quiet about it.
Electoral Services Team,
South Norfolk Council,
Cygnet Court,
Long Stratton,
Norwich, NR15 2XE.

Dear Sirs,

I am strongly opposed to the proposed boundary changes between Roydon Parish and Diss Town.

The proposed boundary changes would be highly detrimental to all of the current residents of Roydon. Removing the section of the village which has a large number of residences would greatly diminish the revenue remaining for maintenance of the remaining larger and more rural part of the village. Roads, verges, lighting, footpaths and most crucially of all, the school would suffer. Taxes would of necessity have to be raised not only for the residents who would be transferred to Diss, but more importantly, for the remaining residents of Roydon. Those of us still in the village would have to foot the bill to maintain services for the large area remaining, with fewer residents to cover the costs. This cannot be fair.

I have lived in the village for more than 20 years and do not want to see these disastrous boundary changes take place. I am also concerned about the effect on the school. What would happen to the children now attending Roydon school if they currently live in the area proposed to revert to Diss? These children are happy in their present school environment and would not benefit from having to change schools. How would sufficient revenue to keep up the high standards of Roydon School be raised? I want answers to these questions.

Thank you for your consideration.
Electoral Service Team
S. N. D. C.

Hi,

My wife and I and our small child moved in to our current address (above) in May 1959. Since then our family grew by 2 more children.

It was then, I think, the first new estate in Raydon referred to as a 'bungalow rash'. We were not however 'foreigners' as my grandparents or mother were born 'Dysseans'.

Since 1959 we have watched Raydon grow with interest and have many friends in the newer areas as well as the older parts.

It would be sad to see a growing community split down the middle purely for political-economic reasons.

Therefore we both strongly stress that 'Raydon is Raydon' (just like Brexit is Brexit).

Yours faithfully,
I believe the proposed boundary changes from Roydon to Diss would be detrimental to all of the current residents of Roydon. Transferring the part of the village which has a large number of residences would diminish the revenue remaining for maintenance of the remaining larger and more rural part of the village. Roads, verges lighting, footpaths and most critically of all the school would suffer. Rates would of necessity have to be raised not only for the residents of Roydon, but more importantly for the remaining residents of Diss. Those of us still in the village would have to foot the bill to maintain services for the large area remaining, with fewer residents to cover the costs. This can not be fair.

I have lived in the village for more than 20 years and do not want to see these disastrous boundary changes take place. I am also concerned about the effect on the school. What would happen to the children now attending Roydon School if they live in the area proposed to revert to Diss? How would the revenue to keep the high standards of Roydon School be raised? I want answers to these questions.

Thank you for your consideration.
Good morning

We wish to object to the new Boundary changes due to the disruption and expense to ourselves we can see no benefit we much prefer village life and being part of the village community

Sent from my iPhone
Hello,

well I have completed survey on line which not sure how serious you read them so will have to clarify my points again in an attempt for you to hopefully sit up and take notice.

We moved to our house in Roydon 4 years ago because we wanted to be in ROYDON and not DISS.

if the boundary is changed my community charge will increase by over £200 p/a which I think is completely unacceptable. I am reliably informed our house and car insurances will increase too.

This comes at a time where I have experienced 7 years without a realistic pay rise, in fact 2 years we had a pay freeze, another example of the public having to carry the burden.

I also think, call me a sceptic, that the boundary changes are being brought in to make planning consent easier to pass and to build more properties on green belt land which is something I would vehemently object too.

Lastly I also believe that this money which would go into the Diss coffers would be welcomed to help pay for the cornhall and town centre improvements which although look ok at best, I think wasn't necessary at this time when we could least afford it. I think the money could have been better spent on more facilities for the younger ones, perhaps similar to the facilities you have the priviledge of using in Long Stratton. I think with a population of 7572 in Diss opposed to a population of 4424 in Long Stratton you don't need to be a maths genius to see where the money should have/could have been used.

I believe we are at the second stage of this consultation which surprised me as I would have thought I might of been informed earlier. Also after asking a number of residents on Louies Lane if they had received the same letter I was shocked to find out a great number had received nothing through the post. I thought this whole process was supposed to be fair, open and transparent but this clearly is not the case which makes me think the whole process must be thrown out as you haven't followed the correct guidelines for imposing changes like these.

I sincerely hope you at least acknowledge my letter and hopefully realise the importance for residents to be heard giving the importance of this decision. I also noted you had comments from 631 people, I would like to know how many of them were from Roydon residents who it potentially affects the most.

Regards
10th October 2017

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: Community Governance Review, Diss and Roydon Boundary Change Proposal

We welcome the opportunity to provide comments on this review, although we are disappointed that the matters relating to our area were not identified earlier in the process. Perhaps you will note for future reference that opening the maps with ‘proposed changes’ on some Apple devices does not actually show any changes.

We have reviewed the Terms of Reference for the Review and would particularly draw your attention to Section 2: Aim of the Community Governance Review, which states that the aims of the review are to:

2.1 Improve community engagement and local democracy

2.2 Facilitate efficient, effective and convenient delivery of local services and ensure electors across the whole district are treated equitably and fairly

Government guidance for the review includes a requirement for cohesion and emphasises local identity. It has been made clear that the changes proposed for Diss and Roydon are primarily because Diss Town Council has articulated a need to share its costs among a wider group of electors, and in particular with those who they consider benefit from the services provided by the Town Council. The proposal does not create a ‘sensible’ boundary.

We understand that the second phase of the consultation should be evidence-based. Unfortunately we have been unable to locate publication of any evidence relating to the Electoral Arrangements Review Committee’s decisions to date. There is apparently a report, however this does not seem to be available to the public and there is no signposting to it on South Norfolk’s website. The only basis on which we can evaluate the quality of the evidence and basis for decision-making is the Parish Survey, residents’ responses and the minutes of the meeting on 15th August 2017. We note that at this meeting all the members of the committee who were present apart from J Fuller made a declaration of interest and must therefore query the neutrality of this committee and whether those who made a declaration of interest [REDACTED] absented themselves during relevant discussions and decisions. It is not clear who was invited to attend or speak at this meeting, nor on what basis. Diss Town Council Clerk was present and made representations regarding Diss’ position: there was no representation from Roydon Parish Council, although we note that the Roydon Parish Council survey response during the first consultation was that no changes were wanted. We understand that Roydon Parish Council remains opposed to the proposals made by Diss Town Council. It appears that Diss Town Council made a unilateral proposal, and that this proposal was discussed by the Review Committee without ensuring that the Parish Council and affected residents were given a proper opportunity to respond or contribute to the debate prior to the Committee’s decision.

Given the lack of criteria for the evidence on which the decision was made it is difficult to understand the criteria against which you will permit objections to the proposal made by Diss Town Council, however we will lay out our objections as follows and trust that you will consider them fully:
1. The boundary proposal will place approximately 25% of current Roydon households into Diss. This would disproportionately affect the remaining residents of Roydon, with an almost inevitable rise in parish precept for them as well as those households subject to the boundary change.

2. Roydon is currently about one third the size of Diss, is in the top 10% of parishes in South Norfolk by elector numbers, and is therefore not a ‘small’ parish. It has a clear, cohesive identity which is very different from Diss, with typical village amenities including its own primary school, church, pub, village hall, garage / shop, rugby club and village newsletter. We like living in a village and use Roydon Village Hall far more often than the Corn Hall, for instance. Although our children are grown up, the Village School with its very different culture to Diss Juniors is also important to the life of the village.

3. We would strongly argue that our Parish Council takes an active interest in the whole village and creates a sense of community as well as providing local services to existing households. Although we are on the edge of the village we have a strong affinity with this community. Removal of 25% of the village will be extremely disruptive and hardly fulfils the aims of the Terms of Reference outlined above.

4. We have seen no evidence that services or infrastructure would be improved if we lived in Diss. There may also be unanticipated consequences, as it is possible that we will see an increase in house and car insurance premiums.

5. The proposed change would facilitate planning decisions which permit ‘infilling’ of the greenfield sites between Roydon and Diss, a sensitive issue over many years. We believe development of these sites would cause even more serious flooding in the Tottington Lane area, and that Roydon Parish Council have listened and responded to these concerns responsibly over the years.

6. These are ancient parish boundaries with historical meaning and there should be properly outlined reasons for changing them. Our right to be baptised, married and buried within our parish boundaries is personally important to us.

7. Having reviewed Diss Town Council’s expenditure, and considered which services are provided that are not self-funding or would need to be provided anyway for the ‘new’ households, it would appear from the information available in the public domain that the main benefits to Diss would be to get more people to contribute to the massive outlays on the Heritage Triangle and the Corn Hall. Diss already has the highest community charge in South Norfolk if free parking is taken into account for Trowse and Harleston. We do not believe a desire to raise even more money constitutes sufficient grounds for causing such a major disruption to a neighbouring parish and so many households.

We would be grateful for acknowledgment of this letter and expect to see it included as part of the evidence relating to the Electoral Arrangements Review Committee’s final decision.

Yours faithfully

To: Electoral Services, South Norfolk District Council, South Norfolk House, Cygnet Court, Long Stratton, NR15 2XE

Cc: Roydon Parish Council
11.10.2017

Dear Electoral Services Team

I am deeply saddened by the proposals to change the boundaries of Roydon. I have been a resident of Tottington Lane for 25 years. I chose this residence because it was part of a village community. I had previously lived at Scole. I look forward to receiving the Roydon Herald and support our local amenities.

As my husband died this year it is even more important to have the sense of belonging that only a village community can provide. We have no street lights in our lane and even though it has been built up in recent years it still has a rural feel.

I cannot believe that it is fair for a boundary to be changed against the wishes of the Roydon Parishioners and the Parish council!

As I no longer work it would also increase my financial outgoings - a serious worry for older residents on small incomes.

I have not met one person who is in agreement with these changes which would appear to have been proposed for financial gain only!

Yours sincerely
Electoral Services Team  
South Norfolk Council  
Cygnet Court  
Long Stratton  
Norwich  
NR15 2XE

Dear Sirs

Re South Norfolk Boundary Review

I am a resident of Roydon. It seems to me that the proposed Boundary Changes have been backed by Diss Town Council without the views of Roydon residents being heard. To attempt to enforce the proposed changes on a part of Roydon without consulting those who will be affected is outrageous.

I chose to live in a village when I moved to Roydon. I don't want part of Roydon to become Diss. What are the plans for Roydon not included in the land grab? Will I have any say in the future of the village I live in? Who will decide? Diss Town Council? Does Diss want to grab our fields to enable it to cover them with houses? Without the whole story we have no alternative but to suspect the worst.

This plan is unacceptable and I see nothing to justify a change which is against the wishes of those who will be affected by it.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]
Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk Council
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
NORWICH
NR15 2XE

Dear Sir

Ref Proposed Boundary Change to Roydon/Diss

We are most concerned regarding the proposed Boundary Change, for which we can see no good reason and, in fact smacks of being a 'land-grab' to make up for the senseless waste of money expended by Diss with the so-called improvements in the centre and the 'Heritage Triangle'.

Although it has been stated that this is because we have access to the many amenities offered in Diss, when asked what these might be, the only advantage given at the Diss Council Office was that internment in the cemetery would be cheaper! We point to the fact that many more surrounding villages also have the chance to take advantage of these amenities, whatever they may be.

Contrary to what has been stated, there has been no residents' consultation. In fact, the first we knew of this proposal was when we received the circular letter from yourselves stating that this consultation had taken place. A neighbour then advised us of the Roydon Parish Meeting in July which we subsequently attended with a few other residents to voice our concerns and we also attended the recent meeting when more than 60 people were present.

Our understanding is that Roydon will lose over 40% of its existing properties. Why? Why change a boundary that has been in existence for hundreds of years? And for what reason? Certainly all residents are going to be affected one way or another, but no information has been received on what those changes might be and how we might be affected. Surely this should have been done?

Finally, we do not wish to become a part of Diss Town, preferring to remain as Roydon and we hope that our views will be taken into consideration before any final decision is made.

Yours faithfully
Dear Sir,

Being an OAP living in the parish of Roydon, I have looked at the comments regarding a boundary change into Diss. At present, I can see nothing to be gained by myself or the parish by changing boundaries. I therefore wish to register a no change in boundaries.

Dear Sir,

I am now an OAP and have lived in Roydon most of my life and am very interested and concerned as to what effect these proposed boundary changes would have on the residents of Roydon and the Village itself.

I can see no obvious benefits and it looks as if council tax for some is going to rocket. On these facts, my vote is against these changes to the boundary. Please leave Roydon as it is.

To Electoral Services
South Norfolk Council
South Norfolk House
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
NR15 2XF
Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk District Council
Cygnet Court,
Long Stratton
NR15 2XE

To whom it may concern.

We are writing to object to the proposed boundary change affecting Diss and Roydon.

Although our house is not directly affected by this proposed change, we strongly support the residents of Roydon who will be affected and who oppose the proposals. In addition, we are very concerned that the loss of so many properties to Diss will seriously impact the finances of Roydon parish.

We hope that you will take note of the many objections to the plan, and not agree to the proposed boundary change.

Yours faithfully,
Dear Sirs

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - ROYDON & DISS PROPOSALS

Concerning the proposed boundary changes outlined in the above Review I wish to express my objection to such proposal for the following reasons;

Your undated letter was the first intimation of such proposals that I was aware of and as such indicate an intentional lack of public consultation and notice of the Review. The proposals are certainly undemocratic and draconian in approach and scope - 43% of Roydon Village ‘taken over’ by Diss Town Council.

As far as can be ascertained the reasons for change are spurious and bear hallmarks of ‘lobbying’ by Diss Town Council. This is totally unacceptable.

If the proposals were surveyed (which I doubt) it will be noticed that the ROYDON -Waveney Village Sign on the A1066 - travelling west was incorrectly sited at what is now the proposed boundary line. It should have been at the Parish Boundary as it crosses Stanley Road by Denmark Lane junction. This suggests that these proposals have been decided on some time ago and an assumption made of the consultation outcome! However, this may have caused a misunderstanding when considering these proposals, you cannot draw lines on maps drastically altering things without knowledge of, and an understanding of, the background to the lines already there.

This proposal would cause much unnecessary stress to all residents affected if proceeded with. The need to change addresses, property deeds, insurance documents and all that today's world requires is unthinkable for many and - who will pay costs involved - the District Council perhaps? This proposal would amount to forced home and family removal and probably infringes The Human Rights Act Article 8. The pronouncement that has been voiced by Diss Town Council “Roydon uses facilities in Diss” is absolute nonsense! On that basis a very large part of South Norfolk and North Suffolk should be included in these proposals!!

To sum up I suggest that this proposal is obviously driven by Diss at District and Town Council level for reasons of finance, ease of future property development (a land grab) and greater influence at District Council.

As a former Roydon Parish Councillor, I can say that Roydon residents are fiercely proud of their village and its history and community. The intention to destroy almost half of that community and tradition amounts to crass vandalism and callousness of an unbelievably high order.

I therefore vehemently object to the proposals for boundary change between Roydon and Diss and contend that the ‘status quo’ be maintained.

Yours faithfully,
16 October 2017

The Electoral Service Manager
South Norfolk District Council
Cygnet Court
Swan Lane
Long Stratton, NR15 2XE

Dear Julia,

I write in my capacity as the District Councillor for Roydon to comment on the proposal made by the Community Governance Review Committee to make significant changes to the Parish Boundary between Diss and Roydon.

The proposal has understandably raised feelings of resentment, and indeed anger, amongst large numbers of Roydon residents, particularly amongst those whose properties would be most directly affected. Eighty residents attended last month’s meeting of the Parish Council to raise their objections and demand that the Parish Council should represent their views to South Norfolk. Since then, several petitions have been raised, an action group formed and letters written to the press. Suffice it to say, concerns about the potential significant increase in parish precept have been swamped by those related to loss of identity and community cohesion. It is these latter anxieties that I wish to bring to the Review Committee’s attention.

The Boundary Commission’s Guidance on Community Governance Reviews makes frequent reference to ‘taking account of the views of local people’ and ‘reflecting the identity and interests of the local community’ (paras 8b, 33, 55, 74 and 94). ‘The impact on community cohesion is linked specifically to the identities and interests of local communities’ (para 54). Elsewhere it states ‘It is clear that how people perceive where they live – their neighbourhoods – is significant in considering the identities and interests of local communities and depends on a range of circumstances, often best defined by local residents’ and ‘Parishes should reflect distinctive and recognisable communities of interest, with their own sense of identity. Like neighbourhoods, the feeling of local community and the wishes of local inhabitants are the primary considerations’ (paras 58 & 59). Finally at para 74 the guidance sums up by stating ‘It would be difficult to think of a situation in which a principal council could make a decision (to change boundaries)… which reflects … interests in the area and at the same time threatens community cohesion’.

It is my contention that the Review Committee’s proposal must have been based on a submission made by Diss Town Council (which I have not seen) which requested changes to the boundary in order to increase substantially the number of residents paying its precept, thereby spreading the load amongst greater numbers, and also with a view to possible future expansion of the town to the North East. Constrained by the Settlement
Hierarchy in the Local Plan this would not be possible if the area concerned remained with in Roydon Parish. It is interesting to note that the minutes of the Diss Town Council meeting of 21st June 2017 stated that 'it was suggested that it would not be in the best interests of the Neighbourhood Plan and the relationship between Diss & Roydon to propose changes that Roydon Parish Council are unable to support'. This proposal, duly proposed and seconded, was not carried but the more contentious boundary change was (properly) passed. It seems that community concerns were already identified at that stage but that the financial concerns and development potential carried the day. It is also of interest that the proposal did not include Tottington Lane and Potash Lane within Diss.

DTC's minute FC0617/10 contended 'that Diss was a central hub, with Diss residents funding a significant amount of facilities and services that people who don't live in the town benefit from'. As with any other 'hub' town, residents of surrounding villages rely on Diss for shopping, banking and medical services and some leisure facilities. Most, if not all, of these are commercial activities for which townspeople and visitors alike pay. DTC's laudable efforts to rejuvenate the town (supported by grants from elsewhere) should be viewed as investments for which there will be a commercial payback. It is difficult to understand exactly what are the facilities and services funded by the town precept and not paid for by visitors. If DTC's contention is true and this is the justification for DTC's proposal, the residents of Roydon, who are to be required to contribute to these costs – unlike other surrounding parishes whose residents also make use of the town's services – should be entitled to a detailed list of those facilities and services, together with their costs. I should point out that Roydon, in turn, welcomes the residents of Diss to use our own facilities e.g the Village Hall, the Rugby Club, the pub and Brewers Green!

A simple question posed by many residents is 'What would be the benefits to the Roydon residents of the proposed boundary changes?' None have become apparent. Indeed, the remainder of Roydon would suffer from the need substantially to increase the precept in order to balance the Parish budget. This appears to be a change to the benefit of only one party.

It is regrettable that the above arguments were not made available to the Review Committee during the first round of consultation. Nevertheless I do object to its proposal, albeit with its caveat 'subject to comments from Roydon Parish Council'. Sufficient weight must now be given to the clear Boundary Commission guidelines which place strong emphasis on the identities and interests of local people and particularly their views. The strength of local resistance is significant and must be taken firmly into account. It is notable that there have been few, if any, comments of support for the proposal from the residents of Diss. The case for justifying the proposal seems to rest wholly on the financial benefits to Diss Town Council and its potential for town expansion in the future.

I therefore respectfully recommend that the proposal be rejected at the next meeting of the Review Committee and the existing boundary between Diss and Roydon be maintained.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Member for Roydon Ward
Dear Services Team,

As former long-time residents of Roydon (please redact), we feel very concerned about the proposed merger of part of Roydon with Hess. We are now elderly and don't always follow the reasoning of such things but we do not like the idea of breaking up a village to merge into an already-to-us-overflowing town. Whatever will happen to the very old 'Beating of the Bounds walk etc. - the local maps - such a shame,
Will hope you will listen to the local folk involved please & make a very careful decision.

Thanking you

Yours [Signature]

[Signature]
18/10/2017

To the understanding, I hope dear councillors who form the Diss and south Norfolk District Council community department.

I wish as an elderly person, who have lived in this, I like to think splendid village for 20 years, for it to keep its identity and boundaries.

In other words a contented parish dweller. I am sure you have your reasons for taking apart of Roydon and including it with Diss for your convenience to maintain a longer town. There are many villages and hamlets throughout Norfolk and east Anglia that been claimed by expanding.

PTO
towns, I do not know to what success
knowing money is the necessity.
putting in terms, to standards we
require in modern day life
but the wheels must keep turning.
Being old I do not really understand
the passing changes of our times.
Just spare a thought to the diversity
of people that are concerned in this
matter, there different feelings to what
the changes mean. Surely in the end
all that is needed is to be a satisfied
happy community. So we have an
option to the situation, our lives
are based on boundaries in many ways.
I suppose we should know what
the outcome will be. Its a bit-like
Brexit will we select the right
road to go down in the end.

Yours sincerely

(PS) please don't let anything you do affect
the Church.
Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to object to the proposed boundary change for around 43% of the current Roydon village for the following reasons:

I cannot see any clear rationale or evidence to support the proposed boundary change other than to ‘tidy up the boundary’ and increase council tax revenue. Much of the area in question appears to have been part of a longstanding attempt by Diss Town council to ‘land grab’. When a similar exercise was conducted in 1979 the EDP reported a very similar rationale that was put forward by Diss.

Although the residents of the areas directly impacted by the proposals did receive a notification from the council, I cannot understand why as part of a democratic process the remaining residents of Roydon, and for that matter Diss did not receive similar communications making them directly aware of the proposals. I acknowledge that this was referenced within the community ‘Link’ magazine, but surely a process which only occurs every 15 years and could have significant impacts to people’s communities and finances should include a more robust communication process. I am sure there would have been significant opposition earlier in this process from the remaining areas of Roydon had they been fully engaged in the initial phases of the consultation.

Residents have not been made aware of any knock on impacts as a result of this process, for example:

- Does this mean a change is required to the title deeds of all properties that are moved out of Roydon?
- If so, what impact does this have in terms of owners being able to sell their homes, and costs associated with making any changes prior to a sale being completed? I assume this will not be picked up by the council.
- Insurance premiums due to the fact that we could be rated as a town including data for Diss rather than Roydon.

I believe that as a result of the changes Diss town council would benefit from additional revenue, but surely this has a negative impact on the services currently provided by Roydon village, or a further increase in council tax for those residents still in Roydon.

Diss Town council have recently made the following comment on their website in response to the proposed Parish boundary review:

“Diss taxpayers help to maintain and improve many facilities and amenities including, to name a few, the Park & Mere, Market, Cemetery, the Diss Youth & Community Centre and the Corn Hall; support community groups; organise two key annual events; and, decorate the town with bunting and Christmas lights.”

Whilst they may be providing these services, could Diss Town council please explain why the parish boundary review should be used as an opportunity to increase revenue for the town from a small number of residents
that neighbour on to Diss. With Diss being a local hub, there will be always be a number of surrounding
villages who also benefit from access to these facilities but will continue to not be required to support funding
for these, so why should some of the current parts of Roydon?

Diss Town council have indicated during their full council meeting in June 2017 that it would not be in the best
interests of relations between Diss and Roydon to propose changes that Roydon parish council are not able to
support. Despite the proposal at the meeting not to approve the principle of boundary changes between Diss
and Roydon being seconded, they are still pressing ahead with in order to create protected green space
between the two parishes. This will affect some of the most longstanding areas of Roydon that it is being
proposed would become part of Diss, and with the continued push for more housing development, how long
will it be before the 'protected green space' attracts further development? There does not appear to any
evidence from Diss town council which outlines the benefits for impacted residents in making the boundary
change, despite Councillor Kemp stating in his visit to Roydon on 16th October that evidence would be a key
element in supporting any proposals.

Being a current Roydon resident whose property is close to the allotments, Roydon parish council have always
stated that they will not develop this area. If this was to become part of Diss, I am concerned that they will
build on this land in the same way the green space which has now become the Persimmon Homes estate
incorporating Long Meadow Drive was developed at the expense of maintaining greater clarity in parish
boundaries.

Roydon is a village which has its own history attached to it, with key sites such as the former brush factory,
from which a carving is now situated at the village hall due to it's links to Roydon village, and the site of the
windmill off Shelfanger Road. These together with other areas such as Tottington Lane and Potash Lane are
some of the oldest parts of Roydon village. The proposed boundary change will see the historical identity of
these longstanding parts of the village becoming irrelevant if they no longer form part of the village.

When I moved to Roydon I wanted to be part of a village, not a town and be able to benefit from the
community and lifestyle associated with village life.

As a result of the proposed boundary changes there has been widespread opposition from the current
residents of Roydon that are both directly and indirectly affected by the proposed boundary changes.

Based on the information which has been provided by the respective authorities during the consultation
period I do not see how the proposed changes provide any benefit to the residents of Roydon and request that
the proposed changes are not approved by the Community Governance Review Committee.

Yours faithfully

I am opposing the Boundary Changes as we have lived in our house in ROYDON for 48 years and do not want to live in Diss.

[Signature]

WE ARE ROYDON.
20th October, 2017

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your updated letter regarding change of boundary for my property to be included in Diss Town.

I object strongly. I married in Roydon church 69 years ago and planned to end my days here and be buried in Roydon churchyard with my husband, mother, father and sister.

I am more than worried regarding the situation legally, what is going to happen to...
b. Power of Attorney
c. Passport.
d. Bank Accounts.
e. Shares.
g. I have been a patient with Botecola Surgery for 53 years and am more than satisfied with their Service.

If all these things are charged who is going to be responsible to do and pay for this?

I would add I feel Diss Council have wasted considerable sums of money recently on the Diss Triangle hearing in mind elderly people cannot walk up the hill.

Yours faithfully,
Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Boundary change Roydon/Diss

The information the residents of the affected areas and all of the village of Roydon received to be frank was very poor in our eyes and some residents didn't even get this so called letter/notification: we certainly never received any correspondence prior to the letter which dropped through our letterbox approximately a month ago.

It didn't really tell the residents of the village of Roydon what these changes were and certainly why a change was needed at all; it simply advised the residents to look online. Not so easy for the older residents who weren't aware or didn't know how to use a computer or even own one, perhaps this was what the council wanted.

We have now spoken to a lot of residents in the village and no one is happy. We do not want this change and it certainly seems that no one else does either! There is no sensible, logical, practical reason for this change and from what we can gather, Diss Town Council's initial reason for pushing forward with this change was a comment by the town clerk that it would make the boundaries clearer!

We cannot see any advantage to the village of Roydon and its residents if this proposed change does go through: the only advantage, as usual, will be to the town council in that they will gain more land on which to allow already rich property developers to build on and more revenue from the residents of Roydon to make up for the huge amount spent in the last two or three years on projects which only benefit certain parts of Diss town.

The village will be losing 43% of its residences: a huge amount! And this loss of revenue will mean those residents who remain as Roydon will be paying a lot more council tax.

We are very concerned at the possible loss of the village identity which will affect the church, school, homes and businesses. Roydon is a historic village where residents are proud to live, who choose to live in a village, not a town, with many having decades of family connections.

We have lived here over 25 years with grandparents who lived here all their lives and who are buried at Roydon church and parents currently building a new property in Snow Street and who have lived there previously for over 35 years.

There will be a significant cost to those residents who change to a Diss address: land registry address amendments, change of address on licenses, increase in council tax, increase in property and vehicle insurance to name a few: who will cover these costs?

Our property on Tottington Lane is in a village with an excellent school, village hall and pub: all great incentives when looking to sell, and more than that we have a fabulous community spirit. The cost of hiring the village hall will double: as will the cost to be buried/interred at Roydon church, if allowed at all!

We have been informed that one reason for this change is that people living outside of Diss and paying less council tax, benefit from facilities provided by and financed by Diss Town residents. This is a ridiculous premise as surely this is the case anywhere in the country where people visit and shop/use facilities in a town? And to simply pick on Roydon residents is completely wrong as surely you should then also look at other so called connecting villages: Palgrave, Shelfanger, Scole etc...

In fact, the only facility given by the town council, when asked what outside residents benefit from,
was the cemetery! They neglected to mention that it costs double if you're not a resident!
All in all this whole so called 'consultation' process has been very poorly handled. All Roydon residents
should have been consulted at the outset and have had the opportunity to attend any meeting discussing
the proposed changes. To say that we were given the opportunity to comment is a lie and very
underhand: it all stinks of back door tactics especially when it is something as important as this.
Apparently there were 631 comments from the residents and local communities who would be affected
by these boundary changes but it turns out that this was the whole country and only 2 comments were
from Roydon.
For someone to look at a map and draw a line on it and say we will change this village and affect its
whole community is selfish and thoughtless and does not benefit anyone in the village at all.
We DO NOT want this change and we are certainly not alone!
Please include our comments in any information/evidence put forward prior to the consultation period
ending and please think about how you would feel if someone decided to ride roughshod over your
feelings and this was affecting your village and property.
Electoral Services Team  
South Norfolk Council  
South Norfolk House  
Cygnets Court  
Long Stratton  
Norwich NR15 2XE  

11th October 2017  

Dear Sir/Madam,  

Re: Proposed Changes to the Roydon/Diss Boundary Changes  

I am very disappointed that, to date, I have not received the courtesy of a reply or even an acknowledgement to the letter sent to you on 9th September 2017 (a further copy is enclosed). This matter is extremely important to us as residents living in the village of Roydon and I would ask that you now reply by return of post.  

Having spent further time reviewing your letter I am totally unable to find within the papers on your website how the Electoral Arrangements Review Committee can conclude from the responses received from the initial consultation that “some boundary changes” are wanted to those between Diss and Roydon. There are no replies on your website suggesting that such changes take place - the only replies I can find are all in favour of the boundaries remaining as they are!  

I also cannot see any benefits for those residents in Roydon in joining Diss. Indeed it appears that since you are reluctant to reply you may also be struggling to find any benefits! This silence points towards the comments being made as regards “higher rates bills for those affected by any boundary changes, as well as those left in Roydon” and “Diss only wants to make these changes to get its hand on Roydon parish land for housing development” perhaps holding a good deal of truth! All the residents in Roydon Parish are entitled to receiving a full disclosure of the reasons and I hope that you are now prepared to list these.  

I have spoken to residents both in the affected areas and those not directly affected by the boundary changes - and it appears that only a small number of residents received any notification of the first phase consultation and many not even the undated and impersonal letter you sent out last month, even though it could affect them.  

My wife and I are firmly against any changes and we do hope that you will reconsider and make no changes to the boundaries between Diss and Roydon. Should the Council still be minded to pursue the changes, then I give notice that I will seek legal advice, with a view to challenging South Norfolk Council under the Human Rights Act. Article 1 of the First Protocol: Protection of Property and Article 8: Respect for your private and family life.  

The changes suggested by the Electoral Arrangements Review Committee would:  
- Destroy the heart of Roydon as a village, by taking away around 40% of its current housing stock and residents  
- Force increases in local taxation on both those residents who are forced into Diss and those who remain within the proposed new boundaries of Roydon  
- Considerably reduce the future viability of Roydon School  
- Force higher insurance bills on the residents moved from Roydon to Diss for both home and car insurance  
- Change the environment for ever of those who are forced into the Diss town boundary  

Yours faithfully,  

[Signature]
Dear Madam,

We are writing to oppose the proposed alterations to the Boundary between Diss and Roydon.

Whilst our present home remains quite positively in Roydon, the recent development westwards (on land that was previously defined as green belt and provided a natural break between the two communities) could - under the new proposals - be extended even further, resulting in the erosion of village identity.

Having lived in Roydon since 1966 as a married couple with a family, we have experienced the strong community relationship that has existed over the years. Indeed much of our leisure time has been spent with others of a similar mind in raising funds for a new Village Hall, providing funding for reclaiming Brewers Green from what had become an overgrown unusable area, and other community interests. Involvement in the community over the years has been of great value and enjoyment to us as a family and provides a similar benefit to family life for many other Roydon residents.

We feel that the present submission by Diss Town Council to take over 40% of Roydon properties will adversely affect the desire of residents to be involved with Roydon activities.

We understand The Boundary Commissions Guidance on Governance Reviews states, "The wishes of local inhabitants are of primary importance and their identity and interests should be taken into account before making a decision to change boundaries".

Meetings in the village, petitions raised and an action group formed by residents in the village (irrespective of whether they live in areas affected by the changed boundary or not) have all resulted in unanimous feelings of resentment against what is currently proposed and the Roydon residents that are affected can see no benefit in being included within the town of Diss.

In conclusion we ask that the Review Panel takes account of the strong feelings of ourselves and the residents of Roydon and reject the boundary changes as currently proposed.

Yours faithfully,
Community Governance Review

Parish Boundary Review – Roydon and Diss

Objection

a) The proposed boundary changes are nothing more than a devious and undemocratic pretext to raise taxes on a significant number of Roydon residents. In my view, this is being done in order to grow the tax base for Diss. If Diss needs more money to pursue whatever capital projects and services the Town Council decides are desirable and/or necessary, like the profligate spending on the Corn Hall, then the right and proper thing to do is to raise the precept for Diss residents. If either the Diss Councillors or Diss residents deem that raising the Diss precept is unacceptable, then the spending priorities of Diss Town Council should be reviewed and the spending plans amended appropriately.

We live in a time of austerity and Diss Town Council; should face up to the realities and constraints of the real world. Attempting to raise taxes under the guise of boundary changes is an autocratic, improper and regressive measure that unfairly penalises certain Roydon residents, with no regard for their income level or ability to pay.

b) Please note that representatives from Roydon Parish and Diss Town Councils had a meeting in April and agreed that no changes should be made. There can be no justification for ignoring and overturning a democratic decision made by the two authorities involved. These Councils are made up of the very people elected into office in order to represent and protect the interests of the residents. It is clearly not in the interests of Roydon residents to have a 500% council tax increase unilaterally imposed on them. It is unfair, immoral and unreasonable. No Roydon resident would vote in a referendum to approve such a tax increase and the will of the people must be considered as the primary decision point. Diss Town Council should not be allowed to take a lump of Roydon to suit its own purposes. It is akin to Russia taking over the Crimea that was roundly challenged and criticised by all democratic and law-abiding governments and people around the world.

c) In my opinion, a decision made to change the boundary will not comply with The Guidance on Community Governance Review (Parish Boundary Review) Section 8 (b) because it would not reflect the interests of the local community in the area. Nor, as in Section 12, would it improve the coordination of support of citizens in the community. A very large number of angry residents expressed their wish at the Roydon Parish Council meeting on 26th September to remain part of the Parish in which many had been born and contributed to the Parish all their lives. To move them to Diss would be a travesty of justice. There would be absolutely no benefit to those Roydon residents in so doing. The only people who would benefit are the Diss Town Council and residents. This is a ridiculous state of affairs without merit.

d) A reason to justify this discriminatory change has been suggested that Roydon residents enjoy the facilities provided. This is a nefarious reason because the Roydon residents that would be affected never had the opportunity to democratically influence the facilities and services provided by Diss. The Diss Town Council has created these facilities Diss residents and not for the wider geographic area. Moreover, if this is a valid reason then it should equally apply to Palgrave, Scole, Burston, Shelfanger and all other Parishes in the area. It is plainly wrong that Roydon has been singled out and discriminated against. It completely undermines and destroys the argument for the tax increase. If the proposed changes are implemented it will not be the first blatant theft by Diss. The Long Meadow development, which the Secretary of State ruled in 1998 should not be built on (see the Survey Map), is mainly in Roydon. If it was necessary to change the boundary, the common sense
move would have been to the natural watercourse on the eastern boundary which runs north/south, but the objection by Roydon Parish Council was deliberately ignored and it was moved west so that Diss acquired the largest part of the estate.

e) Furthermore, the argument does no hold because Diss residents use the Roydon facilities. The Village Hall is used by a number of Diss organisations because Diss has no similar asset. The Playground in Roydon is also used by those Diss children who attend Roydon School as well as the village green etc. In addition, many Diss residents bury their dead in the cemetery provided by law by the Parish Council and the Parish even provides the home for Diss Rugby Club.

f) Incredulously the proposed boundary changes also include the three agricultural fields currently growing food. These do not have any residents currently using the facilities and services of Diss. This looks suspiciously like a “land Grab” by Diss to seize any future houses that might be built on this land. It is conspicuous that no other land has been incorporated in the proposal from adjoining Parishes. The fact is that there is no proposed change to any other Parish other than Roydon. It looks suspiciously like a covert step towards eventually absorbing Roydon into Diss.

g) The loss of virtually half the residential properties will financially cripple Roydon Parish Council because it will be unable to maintain all its obligations. The Parish Council will not have the option, even if it was deemed acceptable, to raise the precept by the very large amount to balance the books. It will have major consequences. For example as owners of the Village Hall, Roydon will not be able to complete the connection to main drainage, at a cost of several thousand pounds. It will be impossible to maintain the cemetery and provide street lighting as well as the allotments and so on. If the proposed changes are confirmed then it may well see the end of Roydon because it will inevitably become bankrupt as a separate authority. It will most likely lose its identity by being forced to combine with Bressingham. Something few Roydonians would wish for. We possess a strong loyalty to the fabric, history and uniqueness of our Parish and have no desire to be part of Diss where the wishes of Roydon residents would be ignored.

h) Lastly and probably most importantly, the Chairman of The Electoral Arrangements Review Committee, Councillor Christopher Kemp, was quoted in a recent edition of the Diss Express newspaper as saying “we are required by law to undertake a review around every 15 years to ensure the governance of the parishes continues to be effective and that it reflects the interests and identities of our community”. I fail to see how these changes in any way reflect the interests of Roydon residents, or how it ensures that the identity of Roydon as a community will be maintained. In my opinion, the proposed boundary changes directly contradict the objectives stated by Councillor Kemp and raises further doubts and suspicion about the motivation to try and impose unwelcome and unjustified tax increases.
Dear Council

I oppose the proposed Roydon Boundary changes for many reasons! You cannot force people!

I and other residents within Roydon specifically feel that that the communication process was insufficient with lack of information to consider the proposals ‘openly’?

What are the benefits to Roydon of the move – no case in the proposal’s defence has been made to us on this point?

We hear that the review is underway as Roydon residents enjoy the services of Diss - but make no contribution!? So none of us spend money in our local town and support the town every day economically I question?

I moved to the village 4 ½ years ago because it was a village of individuality. If the changes went ahead Roydon would lose this. We are facing a potential 43% loss of houses to the village, boundary moves, community charge increases and the very large possibility that if it went ahead the green fields around the village would be under threat longer term (including those near conservation area and fenland) and may be built upon.

No this is SO WRONG on every level!

Kind Regards,
Electoral Services Team,
South Norfolk Council,
Cygnet Court,
Long Stratton,
Norwich,
NR15 2XE

To whom it may concern,

I lived in Garboldisham for 25 years and moved to Roydon 10 years ago. I do not wish to be a town dweller or I would have move to a town.

The main concerns that I have are as follows:

* This is far too big a change in comparison to the other proposed Boundary Changes in South Norfolk. So many properties may be affected – nearly half of the properties in Roydon. The views of the Residents must be listened to. Formal Consultation Extension. Could we agree more time for consideration of the opposition?

* This will cause a loss of Village Identity and we will lose almost half of our Community. We all chose to live in a Village, that choice is now at risk.

* Each affected household may have to pay legal fees and may have to change their deeds with the Land Registry.

* We are being asked to give our objections, but we have yet to be informed of a valid reason for the proposed Boundary Change. We cannot see how it will benefit anyone from Roydon or Diss? People chose to move to Roydon as a village, not in the Town of Diss. That choice they made may now be over-ruled. Freedom of Choice may effectively be removed.

* One reason put forward is the need to have a more clearly defined Boundary on ground level and on Maps. Surely Road signs stating “in the Parish of Roydon” would do this, as it is on the current Tottington Lane Sign. There would then be no need for a Boundary Change and at considerably less cost. This is done in other areas where Boundary lines pass through Residential Areas. Signs in the relevant areas would rectify any ‘confusion’. There is no confusion as there are not any duplicated addresses (there are a number of Postmen in our group who have confirmed this).

* Another reason put forward is that Roydon Residents use the facilities in Diss - if this is the case, then surely a very large proportion of other surrounding Villages should be proposed for inclusion in Diss. Roydon residents make significant economic contribution to Diss by using its shops and independent businesses, as do other villages locally. The facilities in Diss are not ‘free’ - we have to pay for them when we use them. Roydon should not be singled out for
precept, cemetery or amenities arguments. This argument is nonsense and should be disregarded.

* Recently excavated land in Roydon unearthed a Bronze Age cremation site and settlement near to the proposed boundary. This field may be built on if the boundary change is approved. Areas of the Aldrich Brush Factory and Tolington Lane/Potash Lane are amongst the oldest parts of the Roydon Village. Roydon is noted in the Domesday Book. There is also a Mill off Sheffanger Road which was one of a number in Roydon, dating back to the 18th Century.

* Roydon actually pre-dates Diss as a settlement and has been occupied continuously since pre-Roman times. We are very upset that the Historical Boundaries are subject to change.

* The Carving from the Aldrich Brother’s Brush Factory, now at Roydon Village Hall, will have no value if the boundary move takes place as the affected roads Brushmakers Way and Aldrich Way are in the boundary change proposal.

* Many of our road names have historical links such as Aldrich Way, Brushmakers Way, (after the Aldrich brothers who owned the Brush Factory in Roydon) , Store Street (A Store was located there), Steggles Drive (named after the Farmers who owned the Roydon land), Millway Avenue (close to the Roydon Mill on Sheffanger Road).

* Losing nearly half of our Residents to Diss will destroy the Community Spirit of the Village. Here is an example of our Community Spirit – On Sunday we held a Walk around Roydon, for Residents that are concerned about the Parish Boundary Review. The Walk finished at Roydon Church. The Church allowed the Walkers to use the Parish Room of the Church and the neighbouring Pub, The White Hart, supplied free Refreshments to the walkers, even walking them through to us.

* Consultation with residents was not as thorough as it might have been: Many residents feel the consultation process has not been carried out in a democratic way. We are hugely disappointed that everyone who lives in Roydon was not made aware of the original consultation. Addressed communication has not been received by every household in Roydon (only those direct roads affected). The only communication was by the Link magazine.

* We fear that one reason behind this is to obtain further land, currently in Roydon for development. This largest recognition locally, is the strong feeling that this is just a ‘Land Grabbing exercise’ - that Diss possibly wants to obtain Roydon land, so that it can be developed? This includes Historical Roydon land within the affected roads, plus Quaker Wood, Roydon Fen (new boundary line butts up to Roydon Fen) and past protected village allotments. Roydon Parish Council have said they would never build on the land behind the Appletree Lane allotments. If this land changes into Diss land, they will undoubtedly want to build more houses on it?

* Roydon Fen, maintained by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust could be put at risk. Redrawing the Boundary Line could release land for potential development, which could potentially bring development ever closer to Roydon Fen. We are concerned that if this goes ahead, current fields in the Parish of Roydon may be built upon. Roydon Fen is also one of the few remaining examples of this type of habitat in the Waveney Valley. It is maintained by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and is a hidden jewel of the Upper Waveney Valley. The proposed boundary would be in close proximity to the Fen and any adjacent future development could bring such problems as surface run off, pollution, increased noise levels, fly tipping, vandalism.

* Roydon School - The school catchment area follows boundary lines. Norfolk County Council would have to redraw the Catchment area and as a consequence would the present extension plans for the school be under threat?

* Roydon Pre-School - If up to half of Roydon is reclassified as Diss, it may affect the number of Children registering and subsequently putting jobs there at risk.

* Strain on Diss - The Town is currently struggling to cope with demands on facilities, ie: two key areas: Schools and Medical Practices, how will it cope with even more households initially from Roydon and then as a result of future development on Roydon Land?
*There are not the Police numbers in Diss to accommodate the increase in what is already a high crime rate in comparison to neighbouring towns in Norfolk. With an increase in land and following, new houses that may be built, the Police may not be able to cope.

*There has been no clarity in the explanation of this process – even Diss Town Councillors are confused and do not understand the difference between the Ward Boundary Review and the Parish Boundary Review.

Yours faithfully,
18th October 2017

Dear Sir or Madam,

It is with great concern that I write to you regarding the proposed changes in boundary between the Parish of Roydon and the town of Diss. I am strongly opposed to any such change for the following reasons.

1. The Parish of Roydon has a strong community spirit and identity. To move 43% of the homes out of the Parish will be devastating for the community.

2. One of the reasons given is that there is "confusion" regarding where the boundaries lie. There is no confusion with the Roydon residents but I fear that this is some trumped up reason by Diss Town Councillors who may be "confused" over the boundary simply to get a "land grab" to build more houses to meet whatever government targets!

3. Another reason given is that the people of Roydon use the amenities of Diss. I have yet to hear specifically what these amenities are but someone has mentioned the Corn Hall. This is a large "white elephant" and I lived in Diss for over 20 years and the town council has spent a fortune of its residents money in that time and still very few people want to use it. Conversely, Roydon village hall is used extensively by any number of people and societies from Diss. I have first hand evidence of this as I have been a Roydon resident for the last 10 years.

4. The local Parish church (currently one of the better attended locally) may well suffer degradation.

5. There are around 1200 homes in Roydon. It would not have been beyond the wit of man to canvass every single one of them. I am sure Roydon Parish council could find the funds to print 1200 pages for a survey, if not, then ask for donations - I would be quite willing to take part in a subscription. There has not been any proper full residents consultation taken place. Indeed, I only heard of this proposed change whilst in the USA when with another Roydon resident.

Lastly, and I am sure this will be denied by all in favour of the proposed boundary change, some people might argue that Diss Town Council has been profligate with residents money over the years and see this as an opportunity to get more money in its coffers. As an example, Diss Town lights were put up each year by the local retained Fire Service in return for a modest donation to its widows and orphans fund. Diss Town council scrapped the perfectly adequate lights and bought plain new ones and paid for "professionals" to put them up each year. They then tried to embarrass their own citizens for not giving enough donations in the local and national press.

I have yet to hear from a single Roydon resident who is in favour of these proposed changes. Do not assume that no response from some means they are in favour. Quite the reverse, you should only take those positive responses from Roydon residents as being in favour of the proposed change. How many are there by the way?

I should like to point out that I am one of the residents not directly affected by the change. This does not stop me from noting that this boundary proposal is just plain wrong.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Tel No: [Number] Mobile: [Number]
October 17 2017

Diss Council,

I would like to express my family’s strongest opposition to the proposed boundary changes for Roydon. My wife was born here in Tottington Lane and we have lived here since 1963, our daughter was born here making five generations of our family in Tottington Lane. We chose to come and live in Roydon, a village near Diss but did not want to live in Diss itself.

We feel that there are several reasons that these changes are suggested which all come down to money in the end, such as

- To appease land developers with limited building areas and green spaces left undeveloped in Diss and land sitting within the boundary of Roydon meeting with objection to building permission, moving this land to within the Diss boundary would enable even more of our green spaces to disappear. Research proves that we need our green spaces and that if these all disappear it has an overwhelming effect on not only our natural surroundings but also the health and wellbeing of residents of Roydon and Diss.
- All Roydon residents will be subjected to an increase in council tax which nobody, particularly us as pensioners, wants and is why many people choose to live outside a town. We do not want to contribute to Diss Council wasting money on projects to impress such as the walk board, the laying of brick work in St. Nicholas Street when other areas in the town need addressing more urgently, such as uneven paving and the awful smell of drains that permeates the air in Mere Street.

It has been mentioned that these changes are because of the services that we just over the border use – what may we ask are these that we benefit from and have yet to see – any services we use we pay for and would ask the question do those further in Roydon who will remain Roydon not use these services, do Scole, Shelfanger or Palgrave not use these facilities?

We are Roydon.
Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Proposed Parish Boundary Change to Roydon/Diss

I am writing to object to the Proposed Parish Boundary change for nearly half of the current Roydon Village for the following reasons:

- I work at Roydon Pre-School and I am concerned that if up to half of Roydon is reclassified as Diss, that it may effect the number of Children registering and subsequently putting my job there at risk.
- I have friends who live in Appletree Lane, Roydon – who moved to Roydon to secure a place at Roydon School for their children and if it is reclassified as Diss, they may not be able to get a placement there.
- The Boundaries have been there for hundreds of years.
- Many of our road names have historical links such as Aldrich Way, Brushmakers Way, (after the Aldrich brothers who owned the Brush Factory in Roydon), Store Street (a Store was located there), Steggles Drive (named after the Farmers who owned the Roydon land), Millway Avenue (close to the Roydon Mill on Shelfanger Road).
- Each and every affected household may have to pay legal fees and may have to change their deeds with the Land Registry, if reclassified as Diss.
- It is undemocratic to alter where someone lives, without their authorisation.
- We do not want the current green spaces of Roydon to be developed on.

If you need to speak to me please contact me on:

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Proposed Parish Boundary Change to Roydon/Diss

I am writing to object to the Proposed Parish Boundary change for nearly half of the current Roydon Village for the following reasons:

- I run a Children’s Church at St Remigius Church in Roydon and I am very concerned that by reclassifying nearly half of our Village as Diss, it will have a big impact on the numbers of Families that we can reach.
- Roydon Residents may effectively be forcibly removed to another area against their wishes.
- We are being asked to give our objections, but we have yet to be informed of a valid reason for the proposed Boundary Change. A reason put forward is to have a more clearly defined Boundary on ground level and on Maps “to avoid confusion”. Surely Road signs stating “in the Parish of Roydon” would do this, as it is on the current Tottington Lane Sign. There would then be no need for a Boundary Change and at considerably less cost to either council. This is done in other areas where Boundary lines pass through Residential Areas. I work as a Postman on many of the roads that may be re-classified as Diss – there are no “dual addresses” and there is no confusion.
- It has been said that Roydon Residents use the facilities in Diss - if this is the case, then surely a very large proportion of other surrounding Villages should be proposed for inclusion in Diss. The facilities in Diss are not free, we have to pay for them when we use them.
- When people decided to live in Roydon, they made a choice, as is their right. They chose to live in the Village of Roydon, not the Town of Diss. That choice they made may be overruled against their wishes.
- I am concerned that if this goes ahead, current fields in the Parish of Roydon may be built upon. Some of which are very near to a conservation area, Roydon Fen.
- I fear that one reason behind this is to obtain further land, currently in Roydon for development. eg: Land that Roydon Parish Council have said they would never build on behind allotments on Appletree Lane.
- I do not live in the “affected area” but I believe that this will destroy our Community and sour the relationship between Roydon and Diss.
• Roydon is an ancient Village and I am very upset that the Historical Boundaries are subject to change. I am told that there is evidence of settlement in Roydon before Diss.

• There are not the Police numbers in Diss to accommodate the increase in what is already a high crime rate in comparison to neighbouring towns in Norfolk. With an increase in land and following, new houses that may be built, the Police may not be able to cope

• There has been no clarity in the explanation of this process – even Diss Town Councillors are confused and do not understand the difference between the Ward Boundary Review and the Parish Boundary Review.

If you need to speak to me please contact me on [Redacted]

I hope and trust that whoever makes the final decision listens properly to the opinions of the Residents and gives it fair consideration so that we can retain our identity and Village feel.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted]
Community Governance Review

Parish Boundary – Roydon and Diss

Objection

As Diss Council has high ideas on improvements to the town, should it be able to steal a large part of their adjoining village to help pay for their overspending. By doing this to get more rates it would effect Roydon by taking away nearly half of the houses in the Parish.

The Roydon Parish Council has many responsibilities, Church Cemetery, Village Hall, Street Lighting, Allotments, The Greens etc. and with the precept halved it will be unable to maintain its obligations. The limitations on the present capped precept would not be sufficient for these obligations and therefore it would only be a matter of time before it goes bankrupt.

I would finally like to point out that Diss people use the facilities in Roydon but make no contribution for their maintenance.
Electoral Services Team  
South Norfolk Council  
Cygnet Court  
Long Stratton, Norwich NR15 2XE

20th October 2017

Dear Sirs

I strongly object to the destruction of Roydon which is a good looking civilized and well run community.

Not so Diss with the eyesore of the old Lloyds Bank for very many years. And the opposite corner (end of Roydon Road looks like the Third World, half boarded up, unclean and unkempt. Why is nothing done about such dilapidations.

No local person to whom I have spoken believes the huge cost of recent alterations in Diss was money well spent. Loss of vital car parking spaces, uneven surfaces where several persons have already tripped. Even the information board outside the Church contains a spelling error.

The Police Station could not have been closed to save money as it is still used by Police personnel, it is just closed to the local population something which should have been vigorously opposed.

Roydon Parish Church has always done outstandingly good work, reflected in the whole Parish. What will the residents gain with a change of boundary? Upset and insult. The entire
structure will be affected to no advantage, Church, school and businesses. It seems to be a case for backdoor taxation and land grabbing so let there be full consultation of all residents.

We are ROYDON not Diss.

Yours faithfully,
To leave Roydon (Norfolk) whole group.

To Whom It May Concern.

As requested, we are writing to voice our concern re the proposed boundary change to a large proportion of Roydon properties being reclassified as disr.

We have lived here for 25 years and are bitterly opposed to taking parts of the village to place in disr. Our answer to this proposal is No. We do not wish to split the village up.

Yours Sincerely,
18th October 2017

Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk Council
Cygnet Court
Long Statton
Norwich NR15 2XE

Dear Sir/Madam

We do not want to cause friction we wish to stay good neighbours and help other neighbouring villages according with the Diss Neighbourhood Plan.

But, who thought of the idea of taking half of Roydon houses and large portions of land from Roydon to Diss? Repeat, which councillor put up the idea? Name please. Elected councillors serve the electorate, not the other way round.

Legally surely All residents of Roydon Village should have been notified and had a vote on such an important item.

I was proud to live in and work in Diss from 31st Dec 1962 until 14th June 1995---32 ½ years in a small market town. We decided to move to the village of Roydon having become less fond of Diss and had no desire to reside in Diss again, having now been in Roydon more than two decades. The only advantage of living in Diss I am told it would be cheaper to be buried in Diss cemetery (Band E rates would be an extra 50p per day) Many are cremated so small urns for ashes could be used, but we do not intend to be buried in Diss cemetery, so no advantage alive or dead (just for 50p a day).

As Roydon does not receive anything from Diss Town Council, i.e.

Employment local employers.
Housing development builders
Health Centre NHS.
Leisure SNDC
Education: NCC
Roads: Highways
Police: NCC
Fire: NCC
Ambulance: NHS
Public transport: Bus & Taxi companies.

Other infrastructure, what specifically is meant by this?

Roydon has a Church and cemetery, a Community hall with many activities and parking spaces, a fuel station, a Public house with dining areas. Our Parish Council oversees everything including its recycling centre.

The local magazine The Roydon Herald, with many support ads. from local traders is delivered to every dwelling in Roydon, carrying more local information and items than the Diss Express and Mercury series. Lose half the houses it could lose some ads. support and could even become unviable.

More importantly if half the dwellings and land areas for future development become Diss all paying higher rates for no advantage, the remaining Roydon will have to pay for most of the shortfall that would be robbed from our Parish council by land grabbing Diss Town council.

The boundaries have been as they are for centuries, so why change now?

As the engine is running O K- DON'T FIX IT!

Let us not have friction and upsets. So Diss you row your own boat and we will row ours.

But let us do it harmoniously and BE FRIENDLY NEIGHBOURS TOGETHER.

Yours sincerely
Electoral Services Team  
South Norfolk District Council  
Cygnet Court  
Long Stratton  
Norwich  
Norfolk  
NR15 2XE  

16th October 2017

Dear Sir

Re: Proposed Boundary Change for Roydon

I am writing to object to the proposed boundary change for 43% of the current Roydon Village for the following reasons:

- Land grabbing – being a current Roydon resident who lives on the Appletree Lane Estate and my property backs on to the allotments – Roydon Parish Council have always stated they would never build on there – if this became part of Diss I am concerned that they will build on this land.

- Consultation – I am hugely disappointed that everyone who potentially was affected were not invited to attend the original consultation - I am 100% sure that there would have been a lot of opposition right from the start should the residents that were affected (i.e. 100% of the village) have been informed of the original meeting – it all seems a little underhand.

- History - I am concerned about losing the identity of the Village, it has so much history.
  - Roydon is an ancient Village and I am very upset that the Historical Boundaries are subject to change. The area of the Brush Factory (and surrounding areas) and Tottington Lane/Potash Lane areas are in fact amongst the oldest parts of the Roydon Village being noted in the Domesday Book of the 11th Century following the Norman Conquest. Roydon actually predates Diss as a settlement and has been occupied continuously since pre-Roman times.
  - The Carving from the Aldrich Brother’s Brush Factory, is now at Roydon Village Hall – it was placed there from the factory when it was demolished because it was part of Roydon Village and not Diss. Aldrich Way, Factory Lane and Brushmaker’s Way are all named after the factory and are all affected by the proposed change.
  - One of the fields off the A1066 in Roydon adjoining Sandstone Way was recently excavated by Cambridge University and found to have had a Bronze Age cremation site and settlement and as such deemed important of the
history of the area. This field may be built upon if the proposed changes went ahead.
  o There is also a Mill off Shelfanger Road (Roydon) which was one of a number in Roydon which date back to the 18th Century. I am told that there is evidence of settlement in Roydon before Diss.

• How would this affect our current property deeds on the Land Registry? Would this cause problems when selling property as the address on the current register would be different to the actual address of the property. Who would be responsible for paying to get our deeds changed?

• Catchment Area for the village Primary and Junior School - Both my children attended this school and were given a great start to their education and whilst they are now passed school age this would affect any potential buyer for my property if I decided to sell my house. NB – I have been informed that the school would still be in the catchment area – but how would this affect any potential buyer who thought that they were in the Diss catchment area?

• Church – my children were christened at St. Remigius Church and I have a still born baby buried there. It would be very disappointing if my children were not able to get married there if they chose to because they no longer lived in the parish. NB I understand also that the church boundaries would not change – this is very confusing – surely you are either in the parish or not? Again how would this affect any potential buyer thinking they were in Diss but actually not able to use that church?

• I understand that Diss Town Council will benefit from the additional revenue – surely this means that current Roydon residents not affected by the boundary change will be affected as the revenue lost will be have to be re-couped from them.

• Council tax increases – our council taxes will surely increase?

• Insurance bands – these will presumably increase as our post codes will now be rated as a town and not a village.

• When I moved here I wanted to be part of a Village, not a Town. I have lived in Roydon for 20 years and did so because I wanted to live in Roydon.

• Being part of Diss and not Roydon would mean that we would no longer be entitled to reduced rates to hire the Village Hall.

• What reason is there for the boundary change? I cannot see any relevant reason what so ever other than ‘tidying up’ the boundary.

So basically I cannot see any benefit for the Roydon villagers at all, and it is being widely opposed. We simply want to remain as residents of Roydon – please note my objection before the boundaries are agreed.

I have enclosed a signed petition from the residents of The Appletree Lane Estate.

Yours sincerely
Boundary Review - Roydon

Norfolk Council is currently carrying out a community governance review which will result in you no longer being a resident of Roydon as your property will be within the new boundary of Diss

Are you in favour of this proposal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Residents Name</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Norfolk Council is currently carrying out a community governance review which will result in you no longer being a resident of Roydon as your property will be within the new boundary of Diss.

Are you in favour of this proposal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Sig</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td><img src="Yes" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td><img src="No" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td><img src="Yes" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td><img src="No" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td><img src="Yes" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td><img src="No" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td></td>
<td>Underhand!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td><img src="Yes" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td><img src="No" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td><img src="Yes" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td><img src="No" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td></td>
<td>WE ARE PENSIONERS. CAN'T AFFORD RISE IN COUNCIL TAX.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td><img src="Yes" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td><img src="No" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td><img src="Yes" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td><img src="No" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td></td>
<td>Don't want to pay more council tax or have home insurance go up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td><img src="Yes" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td><img src="No" alt="Mark" /></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Name:** [Redacted]
- **Comments:** [Redacted]
Norfolk Council is currently carrying out a community governance review which will result in you no longer being a resident of Roydon as your property will be within the new boundary of Diss

Are you in favour of this proposal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appletree Lane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Norfolk Council is currently carrying out a community governance review which will result in you no longer being a resident of Roydon as your property will be within the new boundary of Diss.

Are you in favour of this proposal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appletree Lane</th>
<th>Appletree Lane</th>
<th>Appletree Lane</th>
<th>Appletree Lane</th>
<th>Aldrich Way</th>
<th>Aldrich Way</th>
<th>Aldrich Way</th>
<th>Aldrich Way</th>
<th>Aldrich Way</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Norfolk Council is currently carrying out a community governance review which will result in you no longer being a resident of Roydon as your property will be within the new boundary of Diss.

Are you in favour of this proposal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aldrich Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><img src="signature1" alt="Signature" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldrich Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><img src="signature2" alt="Signature" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldrich Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><img src="signature3" alt="Signature" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldrich Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><img src="signature4" alt="Signature" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldrich Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><img src="signature5" alt="Signature" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldrich Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><img src="signature6" alt="Signature" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldrich Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><img src="signature7" alt="Signature" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldrich Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><img src="signature8" alt="Signature" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldrich Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><img src="signature9" alt="Signature" /></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aldrich Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Signature](signature10)
Norfolk Council is currently carrying out a community governance review which will result in you no longer being a resident of Roydon as your property will be within the new boundary of Diss.

Are you in favour of this proposal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>v</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>v</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>v</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>v</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name: Jane Doe
Signature: Doe

Date: 28/09/2023
Norfolk Council is currently carrying out a community governance review which will result in you no longer being a resident of Roydon as your property will be within the new boundary of Diss

Are you in favour of this proposal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aldrich Way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stegges Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stegges Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stegges Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Norfolk Council is currently carrying out a community governance review which will result in you no longer being a resident of Roydon as your property will be within the new boundary of Diss

Are you in favour of this proposal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steggles Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Norfolk Council is currently carrying out a community governance review which will result in you no longer being a resident of Roydon as your property will be within the new boundary of Diss

Are you in favour of this proposal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steggle Drive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

100% opposed to this decision

This is something that I am 100% against.
Norfolk Council is currently carrying out a community governance review which will result in you no longer being a resident of Roydon as your property will be within the new boundary of Diss

Are you in favour of this proposal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stegges Drive</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newstead Walk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Yes  No  50%  Comments

100% Opposed to this decision

This is something that I am so against.

This is Roydon not Diss
To: Electoral Services Team, South Norfolk Council, Cygnet Court, Long Stratton, Norwich, NR15 2XE,

Representing Residents of Roydon in South Norfolk:

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Proposed Parish Boundary Change to Roydon/Diss

We represent a large number of Roydon Residents.

Herewith are the collective views as a summary of the Residents of Roydon who feel aggrieved and let down by the Boundary changes proposed by South Norfolk Council without proper consent.

Below in summary and in attachment are some key points of argument in defence of our opposition to this proposal:
• This is far too big a change in comparison to the other proposed Boundary Changes in South Norfolk. The views of the Residents must be listened to.

• This will cause a loss of Village Identity and cohesion and we will lose almost half of our Community. We all chose to live in a Village, that choice is now at risk.

• There is a possibility that this may contravene The Human Rights Act – Article 8, as residents are effectively being forcibly removed to another area, against their express wishes. Many Residents have expressed their objection to this by letter, email or the online survey.

• Each affected household may have to pay legal fees in order to change their deeds with the Land Registry.

• We are being asked to give our objections, but we have yet to be informed of a valid reason for the proposed Boundary Change. : We cannot see how it will benefit anyone from Roydon or Diss? People chose to live in Roydon as a village, not in the Town of Diss. That choice they made may now be over-ruled. Freedom of Choice may effectively be removed.

• One reason put forward by Diss Town Council, is the need to have a more clearly defined Boundary at ground level and on Maps. Surely Road signs stating “in the Parish of Roydon” would do this, as it is on the current Tottington Lane Sign. There would then be no need for a Boundary Change and at considerably less cost. This is done in other areas where Boundary lines pass through Residential Areas. Signs in the relevant areas would rectify any ‘confusion’. There is no confusion at present as there are not any duplicated addresses (a number of Postmen have confirmed this).

• Another reason put forward by Diss Town Council, is that Roydon Residents use the facilities in Diss and should pay accordingly- if this is the case, then surely a very large proportion of other surrounding Villages should be proposed for inclusion in Diss. Roydon residents make significant economic contribution to Diss by using its shops and independent businesses, as do other villages locally. The alleged facilities in Diss are not ‘free’ - we have to pay for them when we use them. Roydon should not be singled out for increased precept, Cemetery or amenities arguments. This argument is nonsense and should be disregarded.

• The Cemetery is totally misleading in Diss Town Council’s argument. Every Roydon resident has the right to be buried in Roydon Churchyard. For Diss Town Council to say they provide the Cemetery for Roydon residents is just not true and illustrates the weakness of their argument.

• Diss Town Council also assert that the “Christmas Lights” are a provided amenity. This is also nonsense as they ask all local shopkeepers to contribute and in fact this year have resorted to making “an appeal” in Tesco!

• Recently excavated land in Roydon unearthed a Bronze Age cremation site and settlement near to the proposed boundary. This field may be built on if the boundary change is approved. Areas of the Aldrich Brush Factory and Tottington Lane/Potash Lane are amongst the oldest parts of
Roydon. Roydon is noted in the Domesday Book. There is also a Mill off Shelfanger Road which was one of a number in Roydon, dating back to the 18th Century.

• Roydon actually pre-dates Diss as a settlement and has been occupied continuously since pre-Roman times. We are very upset that the historical Boundaries are subject to the proposed change.

• The historic carving from the Aldrich Brother’s Brush Factory, now sited on Roydon Village Hall, will have no significance if the boundary move takes place.

• Many of our road names have historical links such as Aldrich Way, Brushmakers Way, (after the Aldrich brothers who owned the Brush Factory in Roydon) , Store Street (A Store was located there) , Steggles Drive (named after the Farmers who owned the Roydon land). Millway Avenue (close to the Roydon Mill on ShelfangerRoad). Louies Lane, Potash Lane and Denmark Lane.

• The possibility of losing nearly half of our Residents to Diss would destroy the Community Spirit of the Village. As an example of our Community Spirit – On Sunday we held a Walk around Roydon, for Residents that are concerned about the Parish Boundary Review. This was very well supported by Residents and members of Roydon Parish Council. The Walk finished at Roydon Church. The Church allowed the Walkers to use the Parish Room of the Church - and the neighbouring Pub, The White Hart, supplied free Refreshments to the walkers, even bringing them through to those at the Church.

• Consultation with residents was not as thorough as it might have been: Many residents feel the consultation process has not been carried out in a democratic way and are draconian in concept. We are hugely disappointed that everyone who lives in Roydon was not made aware of the consultation process. The only clue to possible Boundary change was by the Link magazine for Spring2017 and as such did not indicate the scale of change now proposed. This suggests serious “lobbying” on behalf of Diss and an intent to keep Roydon Parish Council in ignorance.

• We fear that one reason behind this is to obtain further land (currently in Roydon) for development. There is a strong feeling that this is just a “land grabbing exercise” - that Diss wants to obtain land in Roydon so that it can be developed! This includes historical Roydon land within the proposed area, Quaker Wood and Roydon Fen (the new proposed boundary line butts up to Roydon Fen) and previously protected allotments. Roydon Parish Council have said they would never build on the land behind Appletree Lane. If this land moves into Diss, Diss will undoubtedly want to build more houses on it.

• Roydon Fen, maintained by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust could be put at risk. Redrawing the Boundary Line would release land for potential development, which would threaten Roydon Fen. We are concerned that if this change goes ahead, these fields in the Parish of Roydon would be built upon. Roydon Fen is one of the few remaining examples of this type of habitat in the Waveney Valley. It is maintained by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and is a hidden jewel of the Upper Waveney Valley. The proposed boundary would be in close proximity to the Fen and any adjacent future development could bring such problems as surface run off, pollution, increased noise levels, fly tipping and vandalism.
• No-one in Roydon wants the Boundaries to change, the status quo should be maintained.

Yours faithfully
RE: Boundary change Roydon parish council

I am writing to submit my objection to the proposed boundary changes between Roydon and Diss made by the Community Governance Review Committee.

Consultation – it concerns me that the proposed changes by Diss Town Council to the CGRC were not communicated to residents prior to submission. Our household was first made aware of the proposed change in a letter only received after the first proposals were put forward. The proposed change affects 43% of current Roydon residents which is a large proportion of the village and should have been communicated openly, fairly and with transparency. Is it perhaps because Diss Town Council are seeking to gain funds as the council tax band will change for us residents in the proposed change area. Our household will be affected by a rise of £146 per year if the change is agreed this is a substantial increase at a time when living costs are continually rising.

Historical and social – Roydon is a close community with a strong sense of individuality even though it is close to Diss. It is a thriving village with a popular school, church, pub and local amenities. Many of the areas within the proposed change have a historical connection to Roydon of which residents are proud. The parish of Roydon has a long history its population and land ownership detailed in the doomsday book. Many roads within the proposed boundary change have historical links which will be lost and connections to previous businesses and landmarks that are intrinsically linked to Roydon lose their sense of meaning and community identity. For instance Aldrich Way and Brushmakers Way (after the Aldrich Brothers who owned the brush making factory in Roydon, a plaque from the original factory can be seen on the modern village hall). Tottington Lane (housing now stands on the site of Tottington Post Mill, Roydon) Stegges Drive (after the farmers who owned the Roydon land) and Millway Avenue
(near to Roydon Mill on Shelfanger Road). Boundary Way just off Long Meadow Drive on the new estate in Roydon is so called because it is on the existing boundary within Roydon, the name acknowledges the boundary and therefore creates a historical link to Roydon for future generations.

Personal links – I identify myself as a Roydon resident. We decided to live in a village not a town. We live on the recently built Long Meadow Drive and chose our plot knowing we were within the Roydon boundary as this was crucial to us. Our children attend the Roydon primary school and the local church school and our baby girl is buried at St. Remigius Church in Roydon. It is possible this choice will be taken away if the proposed change is approved. I feel DTC did not consider the impact of the proposed changes within the Roydon community or how its residents may feel a loss of identity where there is a personal connection and historical links to the village. Such is the strength of feeling and community links that residents have formed a local action group.

I feel DTC have not given Roydon residents or the Roydon Parish Council enough information regarding the proposed boundary change nor have DTC provided residents or RPC with valid reasons for the proposed change. Therefore leaving us to conclude this is simply a way to gain funds through council tax and possibly obtain land for further development. At present Roydon residents and the RPC will not gain anything by this proposed change, in fact it is likely to cause a thriving village to lose historical links and a community to lose its identity.

I am opposed to the proposed boundary change for the aforementioned reasons.

Kind Regards

Virus-free. www.avast.com
Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

------- Original message -------

From: [Name]
Date: 23/10/2017 16:52 (GMT+00:00)
To: reviews@s-norfolk.gov.uk
Subject: Boundary Change Roydon

Hello South Norfolk Council

I am writing to you to make you aware that I object to the proposed boundary changes to Roydon. My family and I live at [address] and under your proposed changes in the boundaries would mean my home being reclassified as being in Diss and not Roydon.

My family and I are not happy about this we recently purchase the property on the 28th of July this year and one of the reasons why was because it is in Roydon.

The reasons for this is we want to send our 1 year old son to Roydon Primary school once he reaches school age and therefore decided to purchase a property within Roydon. As a result of the boundary changes this may mean we will not be able to get our son into Roydon school and he will have to go to Diss instead.

Another reason why my partner and I object to the changes is the increase in council tax and the fact our annual council tax bill will increase to £1773.96 from £1628.19. This will be a struggle for us to pay as when we purchased the house we budgeted on the council tax being £1628.19. (Our property is band D)

I really do not agree with the proposed changes and do not feel that it benefits my family and me in anyway. I am clearly not alone as from speaking with my neighbours and other Roydon residents I have not heard one person say that they agree with the changes.
The only person I think these changes benefit is South Norfolk Council as it means you generate more money from the 472 households you want to move out of Roydon and in to Diss.

I really do hope that South Norfolk Council takes note of Roydon resident's views and abandons their plans to change the boundaries.

Regards

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.
Electoral Services
South Norfolk Council
South Norfolk House
Cygnets Court
Long Stratton
Norwich
NR15 2XE

18th October 2017

RE: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW 2017/18 DISS/ROYDON

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to object to the proposed Boundary Review for 43% of Roydon properties to move into Diss.

I don’t believe it is in the interests of Roydon residents and certainly not for the identity of our village.

Roydon is an ancient Village predating Diss as a settlement which has been occupied continuously since Pre-Roman times. A great deal of distress and anger has been caused by the proposed Boundary Change amongst Roydon residents.

Democracy and consultation with all Roydon residents doesn’t appear to have been carried out. All residents don’t seem to have been included in the process with the only communication being via the unaddressed Link magazine (Spring 2017) on PAGE 21.

There are many historical links at risk of being destroyed between the area of Roydon under proposal for change to the remaining Village.

The Aldrich Brother’s Brush Factory was based to the East of Roydon and the following street names originate from this, Aldrich Way, Brushmakers Way, Factory Lane and Store Street. A Carving from the Aldrich Brother’s Brush Factory designed by David Kindersley was removed from the closed factory and installed at Roydon Village Hall in 1997 to maintain an important link between Roydon village’s PAST AND PRESENT.
Tottington Lane, Potash Lane and Sandstone Way leading to Roydon Fen are in fact amongst the oldest parts of Roydon being noted in the Domesday Book of 1086 following the Norman Conquest.

Regarding Roydon Fen, should the boundary changes occur would development bordering Roydon Fen become an increased likelihood and how would this effect a very important habitat in the Waveney Valley which relies on a supply of pure spring water from the underlying chalk rock for its biodiversity. A site which is managed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

In fact the threat of more development can only have a negative impact on the green spaces and environment and increase the risk of confusion between Diss and Roydon boundaries.

Also, an area of land bordering the A1066 in Roydon adjoining Sandstone Way was recently excavated by Cambridge University and found to have had a Bronze Age cremation site and settlement and as such deemed important for the history of Roydon. This area may be placed under threat to development if the proposed changes went ahead.

A Post Mill located in Shelfanger Road (Roydon) which was one of a number in Roydon (including Tottington Lane) which date back to the 18th Century have links to modern day. A corn miller and manure manufacturer by the name of John Copeman Kerry worked here and he has a residential road named after him in Roydon.

Steggles Drive, (off Factory Lane) is named after the Steggle family who were a farming family who resided in Darrow Farm, Darrow Lane, Roydon and who owned the land where the Appletree Lane, Steggle Drive and Newstead Walk development is located.

These are all important links at risk between the past and present of Roydon and which has created a sense of ill feeling between Roydon residents and Diss Town Council which doesn’t bode well for the future dealings between Roydon and Diss concerning the Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan.

I understand that Diss Town Council feel that the affected 43% of Roydon households benefit from Diss Town facilities but I fail to see how it is just the 43% of Roydon that benefit from them. Surely all Roydon, Scale, Palgrave, Stuston, Brome and Oakley and Burston and Slimling and villages further afield benefit from Diss Park & Mere, Market, Cornhall, Diss Youth Community Centre, Christmas Lights and Cemetery? I’d be happier paying the increase in Council Tax if it meant no dismantling of Roydon and the loss of identity to the Village. In fact Palgrave is just as close proximity to Diss as Roydon.
Roydon has facilities such as a Village Hall and Brewers Green which are enjoyed by neighbouring parishes yet they don't seek finance for this from them.

We are proud to send our two children to Roydon Primary School, we are proud to use businesses and community clubs in Roydon, we feel part of the community in Roydon and cannot understand the reason or benefit to Roydon residents to take away our identity just to tidy up the boundary.

If the proposals are passed does this put the future of Roydon as a Village in doubt? It will lead to a loss of identity and the risk of Diss subsuming Roydon increases.

I'm sure a few improvements to street signs would remove the confusion over which streets are in which parish. Tottingham Lane is clearly displayed as being in the Parish of Roydon. The same can be applied to all street signs. Is it really that much of a problem?

In my opinion Diss Town Council have undervalued the feeling of community in Roydon as a village but hopefully recent media interest through newspapers, radio and TV of locally organised events held by Roydon residents has given them a clearer picture of this.

Diss can only thrive with the support of those living in the surrounding area so is the risk of putting this in jeopardy with their closest neighbours really worth a bit of tidying up?

Yours sincerely,
Dear Sirs

I am writing to register my support on your proposed changes to the Diss/Roydon boundary as I believe you have got it absolutely right.

There has got to be some change as housing developments over the years mean Diss and Roydon are already co-joined in places. There are even streets where one side pay council tax precept to Diss and on the other side to Roydon.

In addition we have many homes which are within a hundred and fifty metres or so of the town centre paying council tax to Roydon yet Diss residents particularly on the eastern side who live maybe 2 kilometres or more away from the town paying tax to Diss. It can’t be right that Diss residents have to pay so much more in more in precept when current Roydon residents have all the benefits and amenities of the town.

The boundaries have become so blurred some change is inevitable and it is a logical that the parish boundary commission would suggest that Diss and Roydon should be divided where there is a little bit of green belt between them.

I accept that some of the Roydon residents feel strongly about this citing reasons such as their catchment areas for doctors and schools may change, the loss of the village community feel and higher council tax precepts in Diss than Roydon. In truth the biggest driver for those protesting about change is the higher precept charges in Diss.

I know first hand that there is no problem for children living in Diss going to Roydon School (my two grandchildren both did this until earlier this year when they moved to high school). I also believe there is no problem with the residents of both Diss and Roydon registering at the health centre at Diss.

As for those protesting about the loss of village feel or village identity this is a nonsense. Where you have proposed, the new boundary will on contrary give Roydon much more of a village identity rather than the current sprawling boundary weaving through parts of Diss.

As I said at the beginning, your proposals are absolutely logical and I am sure most of Diss residents would agree with them.
Dear Sir or Madam

I am writing to express my 100% objection to the Roydon/Diss Boundary Change.

The proposal has been put forward by Diss Town Council, who it appears to be are the only people who will benefit from this change.

It is stated DTC have requested the change to “create a logically defined boundary and remove any confusion”. I do not understand how this new proposed boundary would be clearer than the existing boundary as the boundary will follow exactly the same staggered line, just moved over to steal 43% of Roydon properties. I’m 100% sure there is no confusion between residents. They all know if they live in Roydon or Diss!

DTC also state they require the extra money generated from the extra council tax they will receive if they acquire almost half of the village of Roydon to pay for services in the town such as the cemetery, Corn Hall, market, park etc. Cemetery - if you are not a resident in Diss at the time of your death you are already charged double if you wish your final resting place to be Diss Cemetery. Corn Hall - as I understand it the town has been in receipt of a very substantial grant for use on the Corn Hall. Market- I believe the traders themselves are charged to be a market trader, if this is not financially viable I would suggest their fees are increased. Park and Mere etc - Roydon Parish council also have services to pay for such as Brewers Green and the Village Hall, so how would they manage to maintain their services if they lose 43% of their precept payers to Diss.

DTC state their services are used by residents of surrounding villages as well as Diss residents but why have Roydon residents been singled out to pay towards these services and not other villages such as Palgrave, Scole, Stuston who are all on the Diss Boundary?

I live in Tottington Lane which is a historic part of Roydon, right on the edge of Roydon Fen, part of which would be in Diss under the proposed change. How can it possibly even be considered to class part of ROYDON Fen as Diss.

Roydon Parish Council have made it clear that they will not build on land that is currently in Roydon, behind Louie’s Lane and also the fields between Roydon and Diss. All of this land would be classified as Diss under the new proposal and DTC have not offered any such assurances and I’m sure they will not. They would build on this land to generate extra income for themselves but can they guarantee the infrastructure of Diss can sustain this increased population?
If this proposal goes ahead 43% of Roydon residents would move from one of the lowest Council Tax precepts in South Norfolk to one of the highest. I strongly object to this for all of the above but also because of where I live. Tottington Lane is very much a village setting. The road itself is poorly maintained with no footpaths, no street lights and no drains, the road floods as soon as it rains making it impassable on foot! I accept all of this living in a village but would not find this acceptable if I lived in Diss Town.

I can see absolutely no benefit to this proposal to anyone other than Diss Town Council. If this change goes ahead it would cause considerable bad feeling between Roydon Parish Council & its residents and Diss Town Council.

I strongly urge you to seriously reconsider this proposal and leave the boundary where it is and has been for hundreds of years.

Kind regards

Sent from my iPhone
South Norfolk Council
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich
NR15 2XE

24th October 2017

Dear Electoral Service Team

Re: Proposal of Boundary changes between Diss and Roydon.

I am strongly against the proposed change to the parish boundaries of Roydon South Norfolk. For the following reasons:

Communities and Identities:

Roydon as a rural village has a strong thriving community. A well attended Primary School, which was due to be improved. These works have not taken place, we do not know why. Has this been put on hold due to the proposed boundary changes? As the catchment area would also change? The School has a strong community centred around it and has links to the Parish Church. Also the Village Hall provides the preschool facilities which are used daily. The Village hall is used by assorted groups and private functions. This can be accessed by all. Recently residents have come forward to join the Village hall committee, to be part of an active and supportive community. Roydon has a petrol station, an active Parish Church hosting Services, Coffee mornings, Do-nut church for the younger residents.
A burial ground open to all Raydon residents and the wider community. A wonderful Parish room again available to all residents. Raydon has a thriving pub which is well supported by the village. For a village to sustain all the above it takes community and a good Parish Council.

Take away 43% of the village to Diss this would not be financially viable. Leaving the remaining 57% of Raydon to pick up the short fall cost. Impacting on all Raydon residents, of which the remaining 57% were not informed of the proposed change. Via letter from S.N.D.C. A diminished Parish Council who would suffer financially.

Raydon is a Rural Village with farm land, green spaces and public footpaths. A wonderful Village Green (Brewers Green). A Fen land reserve, of which if the boundary change goes ahead butts right up against the Suffolk Wildlife Reserve. Bringing possible water contamination to the fen. If surrounding areas are developed, along with increased noise levels which would disturb wildlife, also fly-tipping. This is one of the older areas in Raydon along with Tofttington Lane. This is Raydon's early settlement history and should remain in Raydon.

Lowe's Lane is also one of the older historical areas of Raydon. I live in Hartley Cottage built 1886 for the workers of the old Aldinch Bros Brush factory. I have lived here for 30 years. As the factory was just winding down the names live on after it closed down.
Road names of the new estates being built.

The factory was a major employer, it was in Roydon but employed a lot of Diss people.

The old Aldrich Bros Sign removed from Shelfrange Road Roydon. Now has pride of place on our Village Hall.

Roydon factory, Roydon Sign, Roydon Village Hall.

This is our current history.

In all the years I have lived here I have not been aware of boundary proposed changes until now. I understand Diss Town Council did not want to upset it's neighbours (Roydon Parish Council) by changing the boundaries.

What has changed for D.T.C to believe they could just take over 43% of another village?

There is no mention of any gains for Roydon being made a smaller village. It would not remain viable at all. Keep Roydon Whole!

Diss on the other hand has very limited green spaces. The mere, Rectory Meadow (Cricket club), Diss Golf Club (Suffolk), Diss Rugby Club (Roydon), Diss Athletics Club (Roydon). Diss is a very built up urban area. They need more building land and also more income. D.T.C are after Roydon fields and 43% of Roydon's precept charge.

D.T.C states Roydon residents use their amenities, but every visitor to Diss uses their facilities. Yet they are not expected to move to Diss!

The Youth centre is for the whole Highschool catchment area to use and they have to pay subs. The Cornhall we pay to see the shows. The cemetery you have to pay to be buried there. This is
available for anyone not just Diss and Roydon people. Also Roydon have their own Parish church and Burial ground.

Diss Town Council aim to tidy up the Parish boundaries. As they would have followed the outlines of field land. This makes no sense. Most boundaries are not straight. These are historical boundaries formed over hundreds of years.

The river Waveney meanders through Norfolk and Suffolk is this also to be straightened?

There is no confusion as to where the boundary is between Roydon and Diss. With G.P.'s and Sat Navs now a postcode is all you need. My post has never gone astray.

An alternative could be new signage, stating the road name underneath stating the parish of Roydon. As found in Tottington Lane.

Change for Change sake is not needed. Roydon is a thriving rural community Village with a strong identity. Leave the community to grow and prosper as a whole Village.

I am a Roydon resident who wishes to remain in Roydon.

This is a democratic society please respect our wishes, by rejecting this proposal.

Keep Roydon whole.

Yours faithfully.

[Signature]
20th October 2017

The Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk Council
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich
NR15 2XE

Ref: Proposed Boundary Changes. Diss/Roydon

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in the capacity of a Roydon resident who is threatened with a move into Diss.

Both residents and RPC unanimously oppose the proposals. Roydon is currently a vibrant village with community cohesion and identity, its own school, church, shop and petrol station; the modern village hall hosts a busy schedule of events, including groups and societies. There is enormously strong feeling that by losing 43% of our households, Roydon will no longer be viable.

All this, just to create a “logically defined boundary”, Why? The 19th Century map shows exactly our current boundary.

HISTORICAL IDENTITY

- Roydon pre dates Diss as a settlement, being mentioned in the Doomsday book in the 11th Century and has been occupied since Roman times; indeed a Bronze Age burial site was recently discovered within our boundary. We are very proud of this heritage.

- We are concerned that DTC would feel free to build on land that Roydon has been keen to keep as a green fields boundary between them and Diss. Including the land adjacent to the conservation area of Roydon Fen. Also the land behind Appletree lane, upon which RPC have said they would never build.
The great Aldrich Brush Factory, which closed in 1988, I think, was positioned on Cheap Lane, according to my map. When demolished for building in 1990 it was renamed Factory Lane with Brushmakers Way running off it. In 1948 a relief sculpture was commissioned to decorate the front of the factory, showing sheaves of coconut fronds to reference the materials used to make the mats. This plaque was removed and placed on the Roydon Village Hall, when it was built. Opposite me, in Louie’s Lane, is the great Roydonian Works, makers and restorers of organs, founded in 1932 by Roydon resident William Boggis. Neither of these elements in our history and community, will have any further meaning, should the new boundary be enforced and the factory site and Roydonian Works become part of Diss.

Where does this benefit Roydon?

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- I see that Diss benefits by raising money through extra Council Tax, at the expense of ALL those in Roydon whose CT would have to rise. (Regarding use of DTC facilities, see below in Community Feeling.)

- Those in Band D, being forcibly moved, currently contribute £23.09 to Roydon PC, the equivalent in Diss is £163.92, a rise of £12/month, £140 a year, no small amount for pensioners and the low paid. Furthermore, Roydon would be left unviable, so those allowed to remain in the village would necessarily have to pay more to RPC to enable them to maintain services after losing nearly half their households.

- Where is there any benefit to Roydon residents?

- WE have been told that the catchment area, for church, schools and doctors SHOULDN’T be impacted, many of us query this. We are also far from certain that our house deeds will not have to be altered.

- House and car insurances are also likely to rise as, although our Post Codes may stay the same; they will indicate ‘Town’ rather than “Village” consequently attracting higher quotes.

Where does this benefit Roydon in any way?
COMMUNITY FEELING

- I note that at the DTC meeting of 21st June 2017, when considering the boundary proposal, it was noted that neighbouring villages were accessing facilities and services provided by Diss. Nevertheless, it was suggested that it "...would not be in the best interests of the Neighbourhood Plan and the RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISS AND ROYDON, to propose changes that the RPC are unable to support, it was therefore proposed and seconded to oppose the principle of...boundary changes between Roydon and Diss"

- The proposal was not carried. They decided to approve the principle.

- There IS the start of a general feeling of resentment in Roydon, which is a great pity and I fear could escalate should these plans go through.

- Rather than risking upsetting Roydon residents, remainers and leavers alike, maybe more emphasis should be put on the Neighbourhood Plan, whereby all seven adjoining parishes, including Roydon, would develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape development and growth.

- It is not only Roydon accessing some of the facilities offered by our nearest town, all the nearby and adjacent villages do too, so it is no good reason to be submitted in favour of a boundary change,

- In fact, I see that DTC run, and benefit from the hire-rental of the Sports Field on the Shelfanger Road, which is in Roydon, and was gifted I believe by Mr Rackham.

COMMUNICATION

- The letter supposedly sent out, by SNDC, to ‘all concerned directly’, was NOT received by all, nobody I spoke to in my road, at least, had received one.

- It was particularly galling when I phoned for my copy after hearing about it on the grapevine, to be told that everyone had been sent one.
• Why was there not a general notification about these proposed plans in, at least, the press? SNDC said it was posted on their website, who regularly looks at that?

• Furthermore, why was there no notification to villagers, at the time of the original consultation to give local residents a chance to put forward ideas and views at the July RPC meeting? Consequently, no such consultation was ever conducted as only 3 out of the 631 claimed comments, knew about, or were invited, to that Roydon PC meeting in July. Those 3 being friends and neighbours of councilors.

• Finally, the poor formatting of the map was such that the new proposed boundary did not show up when accessed on mobile devices, so looking, anyone would have seen only the current boundary and consequently seen no change to worry them.

Yours Faithfully
22/10/2017

Dear Sir or Madame,

I am writing on behalf of myself and my husband, as we are both appalled to hear we are losing our Raydon neighbours to Diss. Our Green Belt has already been built upon, a pleasure walk through the Meadows has now become a walk through housing estate. By moving the boarder again with grabbing Sturges Farm area this will soon be another walk through houses, instead of footpath over fields. Tolflington lane area for you leave as with The Fen Nature walk surely you would not let building houses there. It can get a bit boggy.

IDEA IF you do.

Yours Sincerely

Hands off Raydon
WE ARE Raydon
Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk Council
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich NR15 2XE
Dear Sir Madam

WE ARE ROYDON. LEAVE ROYDON WHOLE.

As a resident of Roydon village for the last 25 years I feel compelled to add my voice to the numbers of residents who have already made their opinions known loud and clear regarding the proposed boundary changes.

- I do not want to be swallowed up by Diss. So I am writing to object to the proposed changes.
- The identity of the village will be lost and destroyed too.
- Only those involved were notified of the changes planned.
- The rest of the villagers were not informed and had to rely on word of mouth by those who were advised. Without any consultation they were not given the chance to object to what was planned for their village but are doing so now with a vengeance.
- Has Roydon school building project, been put on hold until this problem has been solved?
- I think Diss residents should have been notified and consulted about the proposed changes too do they want the town to become bigger and of course more people to take advantage of all Diss has to offer i.e. cheaper to use the cemetery seems to be only concession offered.
- Traffic is already chaotic in Diss. These proposals will make things much, much worse with increased numbers of children being taken to and from school.

Leave Roydon alone I do not want to live in Diss town which to me has not been enhanced by all the changes that have been made.

Yours sincerely
Dear Sir

I write to OPPOSE the proposed boundary changes between Roydon and Diss.

I have lived in Appletree Lane, ROYDON since 1992 in what was at the time a brand new house. I was delighted for my young family to be moving to the village as it has an excellent local school and good village community.

Since 1992 the world has changed a lot and Diss has spread its wings and has become a faceless town to people who have spent the majority of their lives in its shadow. Whereas Roydon has maintained its identity and the community feel with the Pub, the Church and local garage keeping a good village feel. If this review is successful you will rip the heart out of the village taking 42% of its properties away and into Diss.

In an uncertain world this upset and change should be frowned upon. Local loyalties and ties with a sense of community should be lauded and held in the highest esteem as keeping morals and a sense of being instead of losing out to a faceless town.

I have held my comments back as I wanted to hear at least one positive point put forward for the change. I have debated this with a number of folks from all sides of the argument including a councillor from Diss Town Council and I haven’t even heard a person from Diss give me a good reason for this change.

Roydon has come together as one to oppose this change. Please follow due democratic process and banish this change to the filing cabinet market ‘bin’ where it belongs instead of banishing community to the ‘bin’ and losing the identity that makes a moral community live and thrive.

--

Regards
Representing Residents of Roydon in South Norfolk

22nd October 2017

To: Electoral Services Team, South Norfolk Council, Cygnet Court, Long Stratton, Norwich, NR15 2XE.

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Proposed Parish Boundary Change to Roydon/Diss

We represent a large number of Roydon Residents. This letter has also been voluntarily signed by many concerned Roydon Residents.

These are the collective views of the Residents of Roydon who feel aggrieved and let down by the swinging Boundary changes proposed by South Norfolk Council without proper consent.

- This is far too big a change in comparison to the other proposed Boundary Changes in South Norfolk. So many properties may be affected – nearly half of the properties in Roydon. The views of the Residents must be listened to.

- This will cause a loss of Village Identity and we will lose almost half of our Community. We all chose to live in a Village, that choice is now at risk.

- There is a possibility that this may contravene The Human Rights Act – Article 8, as residents are effectively being forcibly removed to another area, against their express wishes. Many Residents have expressed their objection to this by letter, email or the online survey.

- Each affected household may have to pay legal fees in order to change their deeds with the Land Registry.

- We are being asked to give our objections, but we have yet to be informed of a valid reason for the proposed Boundary Change. We cannot see how it will benefit anyone from Roydon or Diss? People chose to live in Roydon as a village, not in the Town of Diss. That choice they made may now be over-ruled. Freedom of Choice may effectively be removed.

- One reason put forward by Diss Town Council, is the need to have a more clearly defined Boundary at ground level and on Maps. Surely Road signs stating “in the
Parish of Roydon” would do this, as it is on the current Tottington Lane Sign. There would then be no need for a Boundary Change and at considerably less cost. This is done in other areas where Boundary lines pass through Residential Areas. Signs in the relevant areas would rectify any ‘confusion’. There is no confusion at present as there are not any duplicated addresses (a number of Postmen have confirmed this).

- Another reason put forward by Diss Town Council, is that Roydon Residents use the facilities in Diss and should pay accordingly - if this is the case, then surely a very large proportion of other surrounding Villages should be proposed for inclusion in Diss. Roydon residents make significant economic contribution to Diss by using its shops and independent businesses, as do other villages locally. The alleged facilities in Diss are not ‘free’ - we have to pay for them when we use them. Roydon should not be singled out for increased precept, Cemetery or amenities arguments. This argument is nonsense and should be disregarded.

- The Cemetery is totally misleading in Diss Town Council's argument. Every Roydon resident has the right to be buried in Roydon Churchyard. For Diss Town Council to say they provide the Cemetery for Roydon residents is just not true and illustrates the weakness of their argument.

- Diss Town Council also assert that the “Christmas Lights” are a provided amenity. This is also nonsense as they ask all local shopkeepers to contribute and in fact this year have resorted to making “an appeal” in Tesco!

- Recently excavated land in Roydon unearthed a Bronze Age cremation site and settlement near to the proposed boundary. This field may be built on if the boundary change is approved. Areas of the Aldrich Brush Factory and Tottington Lane/Potash Lane are amongst the oldest parts of Roydon. Roydon is noted in the Domesday Book. There is also a Mill off Shelfanger Road which was one of a number in Roydon, dating back to the 18th Century.

- Roydon actually pre-dates Diss as a settlement and has been occupied continuously since pre-Roman times. We are very upset that the historical Boundaries are subject to the proposed change.

- The historic carving from the Aldrich Brother’s Brush Factory, now sited on Roydon Village Hall, will have no significance if the boundary move takes place.

- Many of our road names have historical links such as Aldrich Way, Brushmakers Way, (after the Aldrich brothers who owned the Brush Factory in Roydon), Store Street (A Store was located there), Steggles Drive (named after the Farmers who owned the Roydon land), Millway Avenue (close to the Roydon Mill on Shelfanger Road), Louies Lane, Potash Lane and Denmark Lane.
• The possibility of losing nearly half of our Residents to Diss would destroy the Community Spirit of the Village. As an example of our Community Spirit – On Sunday we held a Walk around Roydon, for Residents that are concerned about the Parish Boundary Review. This was very well supported by Residents and members of Roydon Parish Council. The Walk finished at Roydon Church. The Church allowed the Walkers to use the Parish Room of the Church - and the neighbouring Pub, The White Hart, supplied free Refreshments to the walkers, even bringing them through to those at the Church.

• Consultation with residents was not as thorough as it might have been: Many residents feel the consultation process has not been carried out in a democratic way and are draconian in concept. We are hugely disappointed that everyone who lives in Roydon was not made aware of the consultation process. The only clue to possible Boundary change was by the Link magazine for Spring 2017 and as such did not indicate the scale of change now proposed. This suggests serious “lobbying” on behalf of Diss and an intent to keep Roydon Parish Council in ignorance.

• We fear that one reason behind this is to obtain further land (currently in Roydon) for development. There is a strong feeling that this is just a “land grabbing exercise” - that Diss wants to obtain land in Roydon so that it can be developed! This includes historical Roydon land within the proposed area, Quaker Wood and Roydon Fen (the new proposed boundary line butts up to Roydon Fen) and previously protected allotments. Roydon Parish Council have said they would never build on the land behind Appletree Lane. If this land moves into Diss, Diss will undoubtedly want to build more houses on it!

• Roydon Fen, maintained by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust could be put at risk. Redrawing the Boundary Line would release land for potential development, which would threaten Roydon Fen. We are concerned that if this change goes ahead, these fields in the Parish of Roydon would be built upon. Roydon Fen is one of the few remaining examples of this type of habitat in the Waveney Valley. It is maintained by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and is a hidden jewel of the Upper Waveney Valley. The proposed boundary would be in close proximity to the Fen and any adjacent future development could bring such problems as surface run off, pollution, increased noise levels, fly tipping and vandalism.

• No-one in Roydon wants the Boundaries to change, the status quo should be maintained.

Yours faithfully

(Signed on behalf of Roydon Residents).
Quote from Diss Town Council - “Diss Town Council proposed changes to create a logically defined boundary between Diss and Roydon to remove confusion to the north and west of Diss over which streets are in which parish. In response, South Norfolk Council proposed the inclusion of Tottington Lane.”

As I have lived in Louies Lane ROYDON for 52 years I certainly know where the boundary is.

WHO IS CONFUSED ??
From: 21 October 2017 17:30
Sent: Community Governance Review 2017/18 Diss & Roydon
To: Letter to SNDC.doc
Subject: Attachments:

Please find attached a letter regarding the Community Governance Review/Boundary Change for Diss & Roydon.

A copy to follow in post.
I am writing to object to the Proposed Parish Boundary change for nearly half of the current Roydon Village for the following reasons:

- I have lived in Roydon all of my life and I am very upset that the road where I lived when I was younger (Aldrich Way) may be reclassified as Diss.
- **This will cause a loss of Village Identity and we will lose our Community.** We all chose to live in a Village, that choice is now at risk.
- **Recently excavated land in Roydon unearthed a Bronze Age cremation site and settlement** near to the proposed boundary. This field may be built on if the boundary change is approved. Areas of the Aldrich Brush Factory and Tottington Lane/Potash Lane areas are amongst the oldest parts of the Roydon Village. Roydon is noted in the Domesday Book. There is also a Mill off Shelfanger Road which was one of a number in Roydon, dating back to the 18th Century.
- **Consultation with residents was not as thorough as it might have been**, leaving many Residents dismayed that they were not contacted or informed of the plans.
- **Roydon Fen, maintained by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust could be put at risk.** Redrawing the Boundary Line could release land for potential development, which could potentially bring development ever closer to Roydon Fen and endanger the Wildlife there.

I hope and trust that whoever makes the final decision listens properly to the opinions of the Residents and gives it fair consideration so that we can retain our identity and Village feel.
I am writing to object to the Proposed Parish Boundary change for nearly half of the current Roydon Village for the following reasons:

- I work at Roydon Pre-School and I am concerned that if up to half of Roydon is reclassified as Diss, that it may effect the number of Children registering and subsequently putting my job there at risk.
- I have friends who live in Appletree Lane, Roydon – who moved to Roydon to secure a place at Roydon School for their children and if it is reclassified as Diss, they may not be able to get a placement there.
- The Boundaries have been there for hundreds of years.
- Many of our road names have historical links such as Aldrich Way, Brushmakers Way, (after the Aldrich brothers who owned the Brush Factory in Roydon), Store Street (a Store was located there), Steggles Drive (named after the Farmers who owned the Roydon land). Millway Avenue (close to the Roydon Mill on Shelfanger Road).
- Each and every affected household may have to pay legal fees and may have to change their deeds with the Land Registry, if reclassified as Diss.
- It is undemocratic to alter where someone lives, without their authorisation.
- We do not want the current green spaces of Roydon to be developed on.

If you need to speak to me please contact me on...
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 20 October 2017 05:26
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Re: Proposed Parish Boundary Change to Roydon/Diss

I am writing to object to the Proposed Parish Boundary change for nearly half of the current Roydon Village for the following reasons:

- I run a Children's Church at St Remigius Church in Roydon and I am very concerned that by reclassifying nearly half of our Village as Diss, it will have a big impact on the numbers of Families that we can reach.
- Roydon Residents may effectively be forcibly removed to another area against their wishes.
- We are being asked to give our objections, but we have yet to be informed of a valid reason for the proposed Boundary Change. A reason put forward is to have a more clearly defined Boundary on ground level and on Maps “to avoid confusion”. Surely Road signs stating “in the Parish of Roydon” would do this, as it is on the current Tottington Lane Sign. There would then be no need for a Boundary Change and at considerably less cost to either council. This is done in other areas where Boundary lines pass through Residential Areas. I work as a Postman on many of the roads that may be re-classified as Diss – there are no “dual addresses” and there is no confusion.
- It has been said that Roydon Residents use the facilities in Diss - if this is the case, then surely a very large proportion of other surrounding Villages should be proposed for inclusion in Diss. The facilities in Diss are not free, we have to pay for them when we use them.
- When people decided to live in Roydon, they made a choice, as is their right. They chose to live in the Village of Roydon, not the Town of Diss. That choice they made may be overruled against their wishes.
- I am concerned that if this goes ahead, current fields in the Parish of Roydon may be built upon. Some of which are very near to a conservation area, Royden Fen.
- I fear that one reason behind this is to obtain further land, currently in Roydon for development. eg: Land that Roydon Parish Council have said they would never build on behind allotments on Appletree Lane.
- I do not live in the “affected area” but I believe that this will destroy our Community and sour the relationship between Roydon and Diss.
  - Roydon is an ancient Village and I am very upset that the Historical Boundaries are subject to change. I am told that there is evidence of settlement in Roydon before Diss.
- There are not the Police numbers in Diss to accommodate the increase in what is already a high crime rate in comparison to neighbouring towns in Norfolk. With an increase in land and following, new houses that may be built, the Police may not be able to cope
- There has been no clarity in the explanation of this process – even Diss Town Councillors are confused and do not understand the difference between the Ward Boundary Review and the Parish Boundary Review.
Residents Opposition to the Roydon Parish Boundary Change proposal

Prepared for SNDC and Parish Council meetings:
24/10/2017
The Proposal

- Parish Boundary Review is under The Community Governance Review by SNDC

- There is a Parish Boundary Review proposed where 42.98% (472 of 1098 households) of Roydon Properties may be reclassified as being in Diss.

- We have liaised with the SNDC Team and have been advised that all information regarding the boundary change will be available on the website within a week of the consultation closing (post event), within the 20 working days of the submission of the request.
Key Opposition Points from Roydon Community

- This is far too big a change in comparison to the other proposed Boundary Changes in South Norfolk. So many properties may be affected – nearly half of the properties in Roydon. The views of the Residents must be listened to. 43% of the village will go? No-one in Roydon wants the Boundaries to change, the status quo should be maintained.

- This will cause a loss of Village Identity and we will lose almost half of our Community. We all chose to live in a Village, that choice is now at risk: Residents want to maintain Roydon as a cohesive Village and Community - as the proposals offer no benefit whatsoever. Would Roydon continue to be a viable parish if it were to lose so many dwellings and, hence, payers of the parish precept? What would be the increase in precept necessary to balance the parish books when 43% of the parish disappears?

- The possibility of losing nearly half of our Residents to Diss would destroy the Community Spirit of the Village. As an example of our Community Spirit – On Sunday we held a Walk around Roydon, for Residents that are concerned about the Parish Boundary Review. This was very well supported by Residents and members of Roydon Parish Council. The Walk finished at Roydon Church. The Church allowed the Walkers to use the Parish Room of the Church - and the neighbouring Pub, The White Hart, supplied free Refreshments.

- There is a possibility that this may contravene The Human Rights Act – Articles 1 and 8, as residents are effectively being forcibly removed to another area, against their express wishes. How can residents be forcibly moved from one of lowest parish precepts to one of highest?

- Each affected household may have to pay legal fees in order to change their deeds with the Land Registry. Precepts charges will change too forcibly.

- We are being asked to give our objections, but we have yet to be informed of a valid reason for the proposed Boundary Change. We cannot see how it will benefit anyone from Roydon or Diss? People chose to live in Roydon as a village, not in the Town of Diss. That choice they made may now be overruled. Freedom of Choice may effectively be removed.
• Council Reasoning is inadequate:

  o One reason put forward by Diss Town Council, is the need to have a more clearly defined Boundary at ground level and on Maps. Surely Road signs stating “in the Parish of Roydon” would do this. There would then be no need for a Boundary Change and at considerably less cost. This is done in other areas where Boundary lines pass through Residential Areas. There is no confusion at present as there are not any duplicated addresses (a number of Postmen have confirmed this).

  •

  o Another reason put forward by Diss Town Council, is that Roydon Residents use the facilities in Diss and should pay accordingly - if this is the case, then surely a very large proportion of other surrounding Villages should be proposed for inclusion in Diss. Roydon residents make significant economic contribution to Diss by using its shops and independent businesses, as do other villages locally. The alleged facilities in Diss are not ‘free’ - we have to pay for them when we use them.

  o The Cemetery is totally misleading in Diss Town Council’s argument. Every Roydon resident has the right to be buried in Roydon Churchyard. For Diss Town Council to say they provide the Cemetery for Roydon residents is just not true and illustrates the weakness of their argument.

  o Diss Town Council also assert that the “Christmas Lights” are a provided amenity. This is also nonsense as they ask all local shopkeepers to contribute and in fact this year have resorted to making “an appeal” in Tesco!
• **Many of our road names have historical links** such as Aldrich Way, Brushmakers Way, (after the Aldrich brothers who owned the Brush Factory in Roydon), Store Street (A Store was located there), Steggles Drive (named after the Farmers who owned the Roydon land), Millway Avenue (close to the Roydon Mill on Shelfanger Road), Louies Lane, Potash Lane and Denmark Lane. Roydon actually pre-dates Diss as a settlement and has been occupied continuously since pre-Roman times. We are very upset that the Historical Boundaries are subject to change:

  o The area of the Brush Factory and Tottington Lane/Potash Lane areas are amongst the oldest parts of Roydon, being noted in the Domesday Book of the 11th Century following the Norman Conquest.

  o The former Mill off Shelfanger Road (Roydon) which was one of a number in Roydon which date back to the 18th Century.

  o One of the fields off the A1066 in Roydon adjoining Sandstone Way was excavated by Cambridge University and found to have had a Bronze Age cremation site and settlement and as such deemed important to the history of the area. This field may be built upon if the proposed changes went ahead.

  o Many of our road names have historical links such as Aldrich Way, Brushmakers Way, (after the Aldrich brothers who owned the Brush Factory in Roydon), Store Street (A Store was located there), and Steggles Drive (named after the Farmers who owned the Roydon land). Millway Avenue (close to the Roydon Mill on Shelfanger Road). The Carving from the Aldrich Brother’s Brush Factory, now at Roydon Village Hall.
• Consultation with residents was not as thorough as it might have been: Many residents feel the consultation process has not been carried out in a democratic way and are draconian in concept. We are hugely disappointed that everyone who lives in Roydon was not made aware of the consultation process. The only clue to possible Boundary change was by the Link magazine for Spring 2017 and as such did not indicate the scale of change now proposed. This suggests serious “lobbying” on behalf of Diss and an intent to keep Roydon Parish Council in ignorance.

• We fear that one reason behind this is to obtain further land (currently in Roydon) for development. There is a strong feeling that this is just a “land grabbing exercise” - that Diss wants to obtain land in Roydon so that it can be developed! This includes historical Roydon land within the proposed area, Quaker Wood and Roydon Fen (the new proposed boundary line butts up to Roydon Fen) and previously protected allotments. Roydon Parish Council have said they would never build on the land behind Appleatre Lane. If this land moves into Diss, Diss will undoubtedly want to build more houses on it!

• Roydon Fen, maintained by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust could be put at risk. Redrawing the Boundary Line would release land for potential development, which would threaten Roydon Fen. We are concerned that if this change goes ahead, these fields in the Parish of Roydon would be built upon. Roydon Fen is one of the few remaining examples of this type of habitat in the Waveney Valley. It is maintained by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and is a hidden jewel of the Upper Waveney Valley. The proposed boundary would be in close proximity to the Fen and any adjacent future development could bring such problems as surface run off, pollution, increased noise levels, fly tipping and vandalism.

• Roydon School - The school catchment area follows boundary lines. Norfolk County Council would have to redraw the Catchment area and as a consequence would the present extension plans for the school be under threat and reduce the future viability of the school?
Support Group LEAVE ROYDON (Norfolk) WHOLE

- We have set up a community group so that we can communicate to all residents in Roydon and get a fair share of voice, to help preserve our Village identity; LEAVE ROYDON (Norfolk) WHOLE (Facebook, twitter)

- We have attempted to notify all Roydon residents of the proposals and have now delivered a letter to every household in Roydon explaining what is happening and how they can raise their concerns and appeal this proposal - however time is short.

- We are fully behind Roydon Parish Council, who are also opposed to this boundary change.

WE ARE ROYDON
OPPOSE THE BOUNDARY CHANGE

To All Roydon Residents.

As you may be aware Roydon is facing a proposed boundary change under the boundary commissions 2017/18 review.

If accepted the current boundary would be redefined, so that a very large proportion of existing Roydon properties (43% approx) would be reclassified as Diss. This will have a huge impact on ALL of Roydon whether your property is affected or not.

At the moment there are three main ways to express your concerns about the Proposed Boundary Change – all of which need to be received by the 27th October 2017, at the latest.

1: By completing the easy Online Survey at http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Parish/

2: By sending a letter to:
   Electoral Services Team, South Norfolk Council, Cygnet Court, Long Stratton, Norwich, NR15 2XE

3: By sending an e-mail to:
   review@s-norfolk.gov.uk

If you are responding by letter or e-mail,(letters may be more effective) you will need to state exactly why you are opposed to the changes, (arguing my council tax will rise will not be enough).

For those on Facebook, we have set up a Group called

Leave Roydon (Norfolk) Whole!
Some Testimonials from Roydon Residents

- 'We are concerned about losing the identity of the Village, we will lose our Community'
- 'Roydon has a lovely Community feel about it and we feel that is very wrong to move the Historical Boundary and for Roydon to lose so many valued Residents'
- 'I was born in Tottington Lane 79 years ago; 5 generations of my family have been born there as well'.
- Our business has been in Roydon for 85 years, since it was founded by Roydon resident William Boggis in 1932. Our workshop address is "Roydonian Works" and we want to stay in Roydon.
- 'I cannot understand why there is a Proposed Boundary Change for Roydon/Diss; it has not been explained to us. As far as I am aware this will give no benefit to residents of Roydon or Diss. We do not need to change it, we agree with the original boundaries. If they want to change the Boundary then surely they should present their case to the Residents of Roydon - not the other way round!! We moved to Roydon in good faith. Nobody is selling the idea to us!!'
- When people decided to live in Roydon, they made a choice, as is their right. They chose to live in the Village of Roydon, not the Town of Diss. That choice they made has been overruled.
- 'DTC have said that they need more revenue to cover people in villages making use of the facilities but, can only mention the Cemetery as being used by us". There are not the police numbers in Diss to accommodate the increase in what is already a high crime rate in comparison to neighbouring towns in Norfolk. With an increase in land and following, new houses that may be built'
- I hope and trust that whoever makes the final decision listens properly to the opinions of the Residents and gives it fair consideration so that we can retain our identity and Village feel.
- Residents are concerned that they will have to alter the title deeds to their properties as it will be in a Town rather than a Village. Everyone will have to have the deeds of their home redefined on Land Registry from Roydon to Diss. Who will pay the legal and subsidiary fees for that, I can almost guarantee it won't be Diss or South Norfolk Councils.
Key Contacts from Roydon Community

- [Contact 1]
- [Contact 2]
Key Local Coverage from Residents

Local press:

Residents protest against possible boundary changes to their village
Anglia TV and Radio Norfolk:

Local Resident - ‘Support on the Streets’
Our Roydon History
This David Kindersley carving was removed from Aldrich's Brush Factory in Factory Lane Roydon and installed here in 1997.
In 1870-72, John Marius Wilson's *Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales* described Roydon like this:

**ROYDON, a parish, with a village, in Gualtercross district, Norfolk; on the river Waveney. 2 miles W of Diss r. station. It has a post-office under Diss. Acres. 1,329. Real property, £2,904. Pop., 607. Houses, 123. The property is much subdivided. The manor of Roydon-Tufts belongs to Mr. S. Brook; and that of Gissinghall, with Roydon Hall, belongs to G. E. Frere, Esq. The living is a rectory in the diocese of Norwich. Value, £385.* Patron, the Right Hon J. H. Frere. The church was recently rebuilt. There are a free school, and charities £57.

**Roydon through time**

Roydon is now part of South Norfolk district. Click here for graphs and data of how South Norfolk has changed over two centuries. For statistics about Roydon itself, go to Units and Statistics.

**How to reference this page:**

GB Historical GIS / University of Portsmouth, History of Roydon in South Norfolk | Map and description, A Vision of Britain through Time.

URL: http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/place/5137

Date accessed: 15th October 2017
Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Proposed boundary change in Roydon/Diss

We have lived in Roydon for the last 18 years, and in all my time have never experienced so much unrest in the village all to do with the boundary changes. We chose to live in Roydon not Diss and this may be taken away from us.

Objections

Lack of consultation with residents.
1. Diss land grab of Louies Lane that belongs to Roydon.
2. Diss’s waste of money on the Bermuda triangle sorry heritage triangle.
3. Roydon loosing 43% of its residents so Diss can have more money to waste.
4. Roydon residents will have higher taxes if it loses half its residents.
5. Who will pay for the land registry deeds to be changed from Roydon to Diss.
6. Also street signs, Roydon sign is on the A1066 at the top of the hill when Roydon starts at Denmark Lane and the Diss sign is in Roydon when it should be on the Diss side of Denmark Lane. I know its petty but if you live in the village it does make a difference.
7. It seems to me that the only people who want the changes are Diss clerks on the council.
8. Has it got any thing to do with keeping up with Wymondham council who have more councillors than Diss??
9. The Boundary changes have been looked at several times and always remained the same, 1979 being an example.
10. You don’t need to define the boundary because people who live in Diss or Roydon know where the boundary is.
11. We keep getting told its nothing to do with money, but Roydon loses 43% of occupant’s and Diss the gets 43% more money, who wins and who loses I think the facts speak for themselves.
12. Is Diss going to take residents from other villages ie: Shelfanger, Burston, Scole and Palgrave. They all use the Diss facilities as Roydon does, that’s us who keep the market town going.
13. History shows that Roydon was a developed area before Diss, so how would Diss feel if Roydon wanted to grab 43% of the Diss residents.
14. I would strongly suggest leaving Roydon as it is and adjust signs to suit so the boundaries are better defined.
15. We live near Roydon Fen where we take our children for nature walks. So if Diss gets the land near to the fen will it be built on, I really hope not. We live near Roydon Fen where we take our children for nature walks. So if Diss gets the land near to the Fen will it be built on? we really hope not.

Lets hope the outcome favourable to Roydon so the residents can live happily ever after.

Yours Faithfully
Electoral Services
South Norfolk Council
South Norfolk House
Cygnet Court, Long Stratton
NR15 2XE

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Proposed Boundary Review between Diss & Roydon

Further to your undated letter, we are writing to strongly oppose the proposed boundary change between Diss and Roydon. As far as we can ascertain there does not seem to be a practical or logical reason to change an historic boundary.

When we moved to Roydon over 40 years ago, we came to a village community and would be very loath to see this disappear. We, along with most residents of Roydon, feel we are a thriving community with our own village hall (which is self-sufficient), shop/garage, church, cemetery, public house and Brewers Green, all of which are used not only by Roydon residents but those from Diss as well. This proposed change of boundary has brought residents even closer together with the formation of an action group.

We are also very concerned that our council tax will rise considerably if our properties are moved into Diss, and we do not have any confidence in Diss Town Council in their spending of the extra revenue wisely especially as they do not have very many members of the public attending their council meetings (unlike Roydon) to challenge their expenditure. There appears to be no justification for such a change and there is definitely no benefit to Roydon residents.

Diss have expressed their feeling that Diss residents pay for the supply of services to those not resident in Diss. Why should Roydon be singled out for moving 40% of their properties into Diss, when Scole, The Heywood and even Palgrave (although the county boundary separates this village) all use the same services and also abut the Diss boundary.

It should also be noted that Roydon lost several properties at the western end of the village to Bressingham in the last round of boundary reviews, surely it is unfair that any more properties are lost to the village?

We understand that not all properties in Roydon received notification from South Norfolk of the proposed boundary change which affects everybody insofar as if this proposal goes ahead, Roydon Parish Council will have to raise their precept to those properties remaining in the village to recoup the loss of income brought about by this change.

We would therefore ask the Committee to reject this proposed boundary change, taking into account the number of objections you will have received, and leave it as it has been for centuries as we can see no benefit to Roydon residents.

Yours faithfully
THE ELECTORAL SERVICE MANAGER

DEAR SIR,

AS A RESIDENT OF ROYDON FOR 33 YEARS AND PREVIOUSLY LIVED IN OTHER VILLAGES NOT TOWNS, I WISH TO SEND YOU MY COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE BETWEEN ROYDON AND DISS.

AS A CHURCHWARDEN, MEMBER OF THE PARISH COUNCIL (ELECTED), VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND ROYDON CHARITIES I AM COMMITTED TO HELP IN MANY ASPECTS OF VILLAGE LIFE AND THAT IS THE WHOLE PARISH WHETHER IT BE AGAINST THE ADJOINING DISS AREAS IN THE EAST OR THE RURAL AREAS TOWARDS BRESSINGHAM.

IN ALL MY YEARS HERE I HAVE NEVER HEARD ANY RESIDENTS OF ROYDON PARISH WISHING TO BE 'MOVED' TO DISS AND IN FACT THERE IS GENERALLY RESPECT FOR BOTH COMMUNITIES IDENTITIES AND WISHES ACROSS THE BOUNDARY.

WE ARE ALL ENCOURAGED TO BE ACTIVE IN OUR OWN COMMUNITIES, SO HOW CAN A 21ST CENTURY MOVE OF A BOUNDARY ENCOURAGE THOSE WHO COULD FIND THEMSELVES ANNEXED TO A TOWN, AWAY FROM 'THEIR' VILLAGE.

YES, ALL VILLAGES FOR MILES AROUND USE ITS FACILITIES AND THE VILLAGES FACILITIES ARE USED
By Diss residents, other villages beside Roydon adjoining Diss are not being targeted to enlarge Diss, e.g. Scole, Briston, Heywood and Palgrave. Why is this I wonder?

Have the residents of Roydon that could be affected been told of the benefits of being part of Diss? I suggest there are none.

I will finish by asking you to reject the proposed boundary change between Roydon and Diss

Your faithfully

[Signature]

[Address]
18th October 2017

To Whom it May Concern

Re: Proposed Boundary Change Roydon/Diss

As a Roydon resident who has lived in Roydon most of her life and who would be affected by any boundary change I wish to point out following objections:

1. How can you remove 43% of a village into a town which already cannot cope with its capacity?
2. A number of residents I am aware have never received a letter from the council, my parents included who also live in Louies Lane and possibly the longest residents who would be affected should this proposal go ahead. They are also not on social media or online so unless they had been told would have been unaware until the local magazine came out in September.
3. Why were we not informed about the July meeting? It may have been poorly attended however we may be clever but mindreading has never been a strong point of mine. Had local residents been informed I am sure you would have had bigger response from the initial proposal.
4. What about our history, Roydon Mill (Shelfanger Road), Harley Cottages, Factory Lane, Tottington Lane and Potash Lane are some of the original village and it predates Diss. We are mentioned in the Domesday Book following the Norman Conquest.
5. The lovely Brush Factory Carving is proudly displayed at the Village Hall which again is a massive part of the history of Roydon. And also testament to the villagers who helped raise funds for the current village hall to be built.
6. What are the legalities involved should this happen with regard to Land Registry and who would pick up the fees to transfer our deeds to the correct address?
7. The proposed changes are really ridiculous, they go midway through some of the local farmers fields, half the field would be in Roydon and half in Diss. This seems to be a land grabbing exercise and not a tidy up.
8. I can see no benefit whatsoever to support this boundary change and am unaware of any resident who is in support of this.
9. Have you considered the option of moving the boundary the other way? Making Roydon bigger. How about going straight down Louies Lane, Croft Lane and Fair Green. It would make for a tidier boundary and with all the developments going up near the railway station
and would make sense. Roydon School is now increasing in size so would accept a bigger catchment area and also Roydon residents are able to use the Botesdale doctors. The increase in houses in Diss the doctors cannot cope with any more patients.

10. There has been massive support from both unaffected and affected residents, media coverage and protest walks. This shows the strong feeling in the village against this proposal.

I can really see no benefit to anyone, other than financial gain for the council and the ability to build on land Roydon Parish Council have always said would never happen. This is a ridiculous proposal and if anyone looks at this logically will realise it’s a ridiculous suggestion.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards
To whom it may concern, I am not very good at this kind of letter, but I have to protest at the changes to our boundary, that you are proposing. It seems to me and my husband, that it's all to do with being greedy, and spoiling what is a well run village, and a very good Parish council.

It is difficult to get into the Doctors now, what would happen if the boundary changed. The Village Hall belongs to Roydon, as some of the residents helped to raise funds for it to be built.

We live in the oldest part of Roydon and back onto fields, if the boundary is
changed we would most probably have houses built behind us, which nobody wants.

Why did we not receive a letter, telling us about the changes, like a lot of people did?

We have two children living in the village and they are against the changes as are most people, as you can see from all the protests and meetings.

The only good thing I can see about the proposal is financial gain for the council.

Yours Sincerely

[Signature]
THE RIGHTS
OF
ROYDON

23 OCTOBER 2017

Diss makes a lot fuss of their Heritage triangle, a lot of money has been spent on this. Roydon wants to protect their history as well. The Roydons riots, when the rights of the commoners where under threat, the people of Roydon fought to keep the common from being enclosed. My great grandfather Henry Youngman along with Chas Lines and Wm French was one of the principle people involved, all the people of Roydon were very protected of their rights just as the people of Roydon are proud of their village life and resent being absorbed into Diss and lose their identity. It is all about money as far as Diss is concerned. But is not all about money as far as Roydon is concerned as their is no advantage to the people of Roydon what so ever.

We have a very nice village green, 3 ponds, play area for children and a large park for wildlife and dog walkers, a garage, shop, rugby club, school and quaker wood, this is whole Roydon not minus over 474 residents.

My family have been born, work and died in Roydon for hundred of years and we want to keep it this way.

Yours sincerely,
PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE
Roydon-Diss

24 October 2017

I have lived in Tottington Lane, in the Parish of Roydon for nearly 50 years. I do not know of anyone from Roydon who is in favour of this proposed boundary change for Diss to swallow up nearly half of Roydon. I believe that there was little in the way of consultation to the thoughts and feelings of the people of Roydon on the matter how it would affect them such as 43 percent drop in council tax to Roydon would the remaining Roydon people be expected to make up the difference, what about the half of Roydon that Diss want to swallow up, a lot of these people have relatives in Roydon church yard, if these ex Roydon people want to be buried with their relatives at Roydon would they now have to pay extra fees for this. I feel this proposed boundary change offers nothing of any good to the people of Roydon.

Yours sincerely,
Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk Council
Regent Court
Long Shot
Norwich NR15 2XE

23rd October, 2017

Dear Sirs,

Proposed boundary changes between Roydon and Diss

Our question concerning the above -

Why, for what reasons, have these boundary changes been proposed?

Our comment

Taking approximately 43% of Roydon's land and transferring it to Diss by boundary changes would give Diss much needed land for housing.

Our objection to these proposals

At a time when England's much-valued villages are being encouraged to expand, to accept housing development, to open community shops and small businesses (which have Government support) why is it proposed to chop an ancient village of its land amounting to almost half of its total area?

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
Ref: Objections to Proposed Diss Boundary changes

25th October 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to voice my objections to the proposed boundary changes to the parish of Roydon/town of Diss for the following reasons.

Removal of over 40% of properties from the village of Roydon to give as a present to Diss is unethical, merely providing Diss with extra income from local taxes.

To remove over 40% of Roydon's population in a single bureaucratic review must be seen as totally out of proportion in a democratic society.

Extending the boundaries of Diss now could mean setting a precedent where in 15 years the next review could see Diss wanting to claim any new housing etc built to the Eastern side of Roydon not to mention claiming the school at Roydon as part of Diss.

Any proposition by Diss town council to argue in favour of this decision can only show a selfish and single-minded greed for the town.

This action, if taken, would seriously affect the ability of Roydon Parish Council to raise funds required by any parish to fulfil its duties to the members of the community.

Yours sincerely
Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Proposed boundary change in Roydon/Diss

We are writing to share our concerns regarding, and our strong opposition to, the proposed boundary change between Roydon and Diss.

We moved to the area around three years ago, and took the very conscious decision to move to Roydon rather than Diss; among various other concerns, we wanted our children to grow up in a smaller community, with more of a “village” feel and a stronger bond to other residents (a community spirit exemplified by recent events regarding the boundary change protests).

We were therefore shocked to discover that a boundary review meant it was likely that our home, along with those of our neighbours and new friends, were being seemingly summarily excised from the community we chose to join, and transferred wholesale to a town we chose not to live in. The physical boundary has very little to do with this – it is the historic and perceptual boundary that is important, as it has proven to provide a true sense of community (as we had hoped).

There appears to have been very little, if any, explanation for this change, and indeed very little if any communication to those affected. We, and all neighbours we have spoken to, were shocked to find the first round of discussions had finished; indeed, the feedback for this consultation apparently had only 2 or 3 responses from this area, clearly demonstrating that people were ill informed of the change. Subsequent meetings and protests clearly show a strength of feeling that is not represented in “2 or 3” responses, demonstrating the complete lack of consultation with the local community – I feel if consulted earlier, this entire preposterous scheme would have been dropped; after all, the “feelings of the local community” supposedly have strong influence on the decision.

As for our own concerns:

- we share a strong feeling with our neighbours that our community will not only be torn asunder, but that the remaining portion of Roydon will become untenable, losing as it will around 43% of its housing stock (and therefore the bulk of precept payments for the parish council).
- the village would simply lose its identity with the loss of so many properties – especially considering the fact that a large portion, in the Factory Lane area, represent a clear link to the village’s heritage (see the village sign and carving from the former brush factory).
we are concerned that despite claims that this proposal is supposed to “clean up the boundary”, it includes what is a large portion of open fields, that has previously been reserved as a green-space between Roydon and Diss. If it is to remain a green-space boundary as suggested, why include it at all? Our concern regards the land around the allotments and Quaker Wood – given the drive by Diss to develop land for more housing (and the direction from local government that this is necessary), we are concerned this green space is in fact being taken for future development opportunities. Again, if this is about “cleaning up the boundary”, why take this land? It makes no sense other than if future development is being considered. We chose to live in a semi-rural location. Not next to a housing estate!

- we have several good friends in the parts of Roydon not directly affected by this boundary change, and are concerned that they were not consulted in any way, and that there was no discussion with them about possible consequences to their community – surely planning officers could see that with the loss of nearly half the homes, EVERYONE should have been consulted?

- as a website developer, I was astonished to discover that the notes published outlining the boundary change DID NOT DISPLAY THE BOUNDARY CHANGE ON MOBILE DEVICES. Anyone checking the council site or council meeting notes and linking to the documents asking for comments, would have seen a map that apparently had no change. As most people now access such information on mobile devices/tablets, this is incompetence of the highest level, bordering on deliberate misinformation.

- despite some suggestion that school catchment boundaries would not change, we are very concerned that they could still be affected. The current catchment VERY CLEARLY follow the current boundaries, so we cannot see how any assurance can be given that they will not change when they have always tracked this boundary in the past. One of our main objectives when moving to the area was to ensure our children attend Roydon School, NOT Diss Infant/Junior School. We foresee this change affecting that choice, and vehemently oppose it.

In addition, it appears that it has not been explained to anyone what the benefits to those moving from Roydon to Diss are. Surely as part of this exercise, there needs to have been a clear consultation outlining the benefits of this proposed change. There was not, and even in the face of strong opposition over the last few weeks, no benefits have been outlined or communicated in any way; it has been complete silence from both South Norfolk Council, and Diss Town Council. Is this because there is no discernible benefit other than more money and land for Diss? We certainly see absolutely no benefit whatsoever.

We are therefore strongly opposed to this suggested boundary change, and hope that you will take this opposition and the opposition of our fellow Roydon residents into consideration when making your judgement.

Kind regards,
Electoral Services Team, 
South Norfolk Council, 
Cygnet Court, 
Long Stratton, 
Norwich, NR15 2XE.

25th October 2017

Dear Sirs,

I wish to express my opposition to the proposed boundary changes between Roydon and Diss.

We are firm of organbuilders, established in 1932 by Roydon resident, the late Mr William Boggis and in its 85 years the firm has only had two owners, William Boggis and myself. Our address is Roydonian Works, Roydon.

Boggis is name from Roydon history. William’s father was the local blacksmith and indeed his former smithy is now Forge Bungalow in Louies Lane. William Boggis built the organ for St Remigius Church Roydon and it is still in excellent working order, having been regularly tuned and maintained free of charge by us ever since.

The Church and village are justly proud of their church organ and, I believe, they are proud of being home to my well-known firm of skilled craftsmen with an excellent reputation in a specialist field.

When we meet clients I always tell them that we are situated in a delightful Norfolk village which has many amenities and, then many people comment on the Roydonian Works in our address.

I can see no benefit whatsoever in moving the business, against my will, into Diss. I feel that Roydon history would be lost and our workshop name would mean nothing. I would urge you to reject the proposal.

Yours faithfully,
Re: Community Governance Review, Roydon/Diss Boundary.

Dear Electoral Services Team,

I am writing to express my very strong opposition to the proposed boundary change between Diss and Roydon.

A Constituency or Parliamentary Boundary change under certain circumstances may be acceptable. A Historical boundary change is an absolute NO!

My reasons are as follows:

Community: Roydon has a very strong sense of Community and identity. This has been brought to the fore, even more, since the proposed changes were announced. Losing 472 dwellings out of 1098 (43%) is a staggering amount by anyone’s reckoning. For any village to lose this amount would understandably cause uproar.

For Roydon alone the possible knock on effect to village hall, church, school, pub, garage/shop, nursery, preschool and brownies could prove catastrophic. The Parish Council would also undoubtedly suffer.

Since the proposals were announced the Community Spirit in Roydon has grown stronger. This ‘Hot’ topic has the village talking, young and old alike, and formed new friendships and strengthened the sense of Pride in Roydon.

Diss Rugby Club (located in Roydon) is very much part of the Community, putting on events and encouraging young players of the future. Roydon welcomes this alliance even with the sometimes associated traffic issues. Could not the same be said of ‘Diss Golf Club’ evidently in Suffolk but both open for all to experience. A Diss vs Roydon spat is not what Roydoners want. Simply to be left as a WHOLE Community, not depleted by 43%. With Community brings Pride, Integrity, Identity, Loyalty and Purpose. Destroy those things and the very fabric of Society is undermined!
Identity: I have lived in Diss since birth (1962) and have seen the town expand considerably over that time.

Thirty years ago, my wife and I bought our first house in Louise Lane Roydon, just as the old Aldrich Bros. Brush factory was being demolished to make way for new developments. Harley Cottages where we live, were built in 1886 one of a series of cottages built for the factory workers and their families. One of the largest employers in the area at that time, employing many Diss people as well as the surrounding area. It is still fondly remembered by many. With former workers still living in the vicinity.

We still live in the same 'Roydon' house we chose all those years ago! Another reason for choosing Roydon were my personal Historical links to the village. My Ancestry can be traced back to around 1635 in the Brewers Green area. My late father Creswell Knights, former Diss Town Councillor (held chair of office 2 years), Diss & Thetford Magistrate and Highly respected member of the Community was born near Roydon Fen in 1927. His parents too were Roydon people (buried in Roydon churchyard) and so on.

A great deal of Roydon Identity, History and Pride. My late father even serving on Diss Town Council would have been absolutely disgusted by this proposers proposal! This Identity now threatens to by swept aside as I am possibly being effectively forced back into Diss. Surely that is against my human rights, as I should have the freedom of choice to Live where I decide?

Many other Roydon residents chose to live in Roydon for various reasons, I am sure had they wanted to live in the Town of Diss they had the freedom of choice to do so.

An unjustifiable move into Diss is neither fair or progressive and particularly young families struggling to cope with high mortgages and cost of living should not be put under further strain.

Historical: Roydon's Historical links are well documented. It is a very old village, predating Diss. This History and Heritage needs respect and preservation. So that future generations can enjoy and not ask the question "Why did they allow that to happen"?

Telling my sister in Nottingham of our opposition to the proposed changes, she said: "I quite agree. Our dad was brought up in Roydon he would be really upset. I didn't realise you moved to Roydon as we left 30 years ago. Right behind you all being a former resident, our Knights family has a long History with Roydon"!
My family History gives me a great sense of Pride to live in a community that respects and is responsible for caretaking its History. Newspaper articles that I have found relating to the former Brush Factory, instantly bring back happy memories of family members who once worked there. Where would the identity be if History was swept aside, such as moving the ornate carving that once adorned the factory back into Diss? For it would lose no further meaning or Identity with the Parish of Roydon.

I also feel it is, to pardon a pun, a ‘Disservice’ to the young men of Roydon, honored on the Village War memorial that marked and fought not only for their Country but their village, many never to return. My grandad being invalided out of WW2. My uncle also serving in the Navy and living in Roydon. It would be a sad reflection for all that they gave in sacrifice was diminished and last over a greedy proposal that does Roydon an injustice.

Our children (now 22 & 24) both attended Roydon Primary School. Before that Roydon Pre School & Nursery. They have both grown up with a strong sense of Roydon Identity and Pride. Our son still lives with us in Roydon and wants to remain part of that Community. Roydon History, as with any other Town, Village, City’s History should be not be meddled with, but nurtured, encouraged, strengthened and above all anchored to where it has the most meaning - a strong Community identity. It has been muted that this current set of proposals will awaken a ‘Sleeping Giant’. If that is the case then Roydon’s Community has gained in strength, the Giant of Roydon’s Community has gained in Strength, Passion, Resolve, with an Identity and Immense sense of Pride. I personally would fight to the last in support of Roydon. My home, my History, my family History and of Roydon. My home, my History, my family History and of Roydon. My home, my History, my family History and of Roydon.

Which is why when considering proposals for the continued survival of Roydon as a complete and viable Parish with its own Identity, I would urge you to, with the greatest respect, Reject the proposed boundary changes. If Diss needs land to build further developments It needs to look elsewhere, but not at Roydon’s expense.

Yours Sincerely,
Dear Sirs,

Re Proposed Boundary change Roydon/Diss

This issue has roused the Village of Roydon like no other I can remember in the 13+ years I have lived here. The spirit of community has always been present but has now been enhanced such that it has taken a life of its own.

There has never been a valid reason given for the boundary change thus it is difficult to argue against it other than pure emotion. Roydon is older than Diss so perhaps it might have been the other way round where Roydon claims part of Diss, but Roydon is happy with its present state and size of area.

There has been talk of 'tidying' the boundary. There has been no issue of people not knowing where the boundary is, thus no tidying is required.

We understand that Diss is tight for housing development land. Well there is land to the north and north east near Welccott green and north of the Cemetery, perhaps they could build there.

Just because Roydon has houses on the border, it is no reason to move it to the advantage of Diss. 43% of Roydon is a huge amount. Would Roydon still be viable?

So Roydon people use the facilities in Diss, what does the SIC provide, not the Shops, not the health centre, not the sport/fitness facilities, not the transport services, not employment; these are the main items used by Roydon residents and moving the boundary will have no effect on these.

I understand from the terms of reference of The Community Governance review that you have to take into account the views of those people affected. Well in the strongest Terms possible, both myself and my wife object to any boundary changes between Roydon and Diss.

Yours faithfully

[Signature]
Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Proposed Parish Boundary Change to Roydon/Diss

I am writing to object to the Proposed Parish Boundary change for nearly half of the current Roydon Village for the following reasons:

- I have lived in Roydon all of my life and I am very upset that the road where I lived when I was younger (Aldrich Way) may be reclassifed as Diss.
- **This will cause a loss of Village Identity and we will lose our Community.** We all chose to live in a Village, that choice is now at risk.
- **Recently excavated land in Roydon unearthed a Bronze Age cremation site and settlement** near to the proposed boundary. This field may be built on if the boundary change is approved. Areas of the Aldrich Brush Factory and Tottington Lane/Potash Lane areas are amongst the oldest parts of the Roydon Village. Roydon is noted in the Domesday Book. There is also a Mill off Shelfanger Road which was one of a number in Roydon, dating back to the 18th Century.
- **Consultation with residents was not as thorough as it might have been,** leaving many Residents dismayed that they were not contacted or informed of the plans.
- **Roydon Fen, maintained by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust could be put at risk.** Redrawing the Boundary Line could release land for potential development, which could potentially bring development ever closer to Roydon Fen and endanger the Wildlife there.

I hope and trust that whoever makes the final decision listens properly to the opinions of the Residents and gives it fair consideration so that we can retain our identity and Village feel.

Yours faithfully
Electoral Services Team,
South Norfolk Council,
Cygnet Court,
Long Stratton,
Norwich, NR15 2XE.

Dear Sirs,

Proposed Roydon Boundary Changes

My husband and I have proudly lived in the village of Roydon since our wedding day in January 1972. It is our choice to live in Roydon and during the last 45 years we have come to greatly value village life to which I believe that we have contributed through school, play school, Church, Fetes, events etc.

I am truly unhappy at the Proposal to move our house, and over 400 others, into the town of Diss and I wish to express my strong opposition.

Roydon is an ancient village with its own individual identity, clearly separate from the town of Diss. Roydon Parish Council has two noticeboards, one of which is outside our house (actually in part of our garden) and I know from seeing significant numbers of residents who stop to read the parish notices that they are fully aware that this area is part of Roydon.

Of course Roydon residents use facilities in Diss; as do the residents of many villages in their shopping catchment, but this makes a significant contribution to the economic viability of their shops and businesses.

We have been advised not to quote the financial aspect as part of our opposition. Equally no-one from any group or committee has given us a coherent argument as to why this boundary change should be implemented. It is impossible to escape the conclusion that the aim of Diss Town Council is to benefit financially, both in terms of new building land from Roydon and in the 43% additional council tax going into their coffers. Therefore it seems unjust that finance may be the reason Diss put forward the proposal, yet Roydon’s views on the financial side should be considered irrelevant.

While on the subject of Councils, I am completely satisfied with the way Roydon Parish Council runs the village. The councillors are accessible, realistic and all their decisions are made for the good of the village. I fear that I might not be able to say this if we were to be governed by Diss Town Council.

25th October 2017
The issue with the Church may not appear to be relevant at this time, because Roydon and Diss are part of the same Team Ministry and there is, at present, no proposal to change the Ecclesiastical parish boundaries. However, in the community, there is always a feeling, whether you are a Churchgoer or not, of belonging to one’s own Parish Church where you have the right to be baptised, married and buried. I feel it could be detrimental to our village Church and, ultimately to the village as whole, if the feeling of belonging were to be lost to 830 of the 1950 residents. The comment from Diss Town Council that they provide a cemetery facilities for Roydon residents is not relevant: Roydon has its own Churchyard and every Roydon resident has the right to be buried there.

My main argument for wishing to remaining in Roydon is that it is, at present, a vibrant, viable village. We are envy of many other villages because we have such good amenities; pre-school, primary school, pub/restaurant, Church with a weekly service, churchyard, garage, shop, businesses, village hall, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, numerous clubs, groups and organisations. I feel that all these would be put under threat if the village population were to be reduced by 43%.

At a time when efforts are being made across the country to preserve village life and communities it would be so wrong to deliberately decimate our thriving village community.

I would strongly request that you abide by your own Terms of Reference and “take full account of the views of local people”. I have not heard one Roydon voice in the favour of proposal and, actually none in Diss. There is no indication of any benefits and yet, the potential harm to Roydon is clear to see.

I reiterate my opposition to this proposal and would urge you to reject it.

Yours sincerely,
25th October 2017

The Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk Council
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich
NR15 2XE

Ref: Proposed Boundary Changes. Diss/Roydon

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in the capacity of a Roydon resident who is threatened with a move into Diss through this proposed boundary change.

I chose to move to a village, not a town. I feel that this proposal would be a contravention of the Human Rights Act in removing of my freedom of choice. Nobody in Roydon wants this. We want to keep Roydon whole.

Both residents, RPC and our district councilor unanimously oppose the proposals.

Roydon is currently a vibrant village with community cohesion and identity, its own school, church, shop, petrol station and pub; the modern village hall hosts a busy schedule of events, including groups and societies, some from Diss. There is enormously strong feeling that by losing 43% of our households, Roydon will simply no longer be viable

All this, just to create a “logically defined boundary”, why? The 19th Century map (attached) shows exactly our current boundary and has served us well. Last time this was proposed (1979?) it provoked the same discussions and was thrown out. There were no good reasons.
HISTORICAL IDENTITY

- Roydon pre-dates Diss as a settlement, being mentioned in the Doomsday book in the 11th Century and has been occupied since pre-Roman times; indeed a Bronze Age burial site was recently discovered within our boundary. We are very proud of this heritage.

- We are concerned that DTC would feel free to build on land that Roydon has been keen to keep as a green fields boundary between them and Diss, including the land adjacent to the conservation area of Roydon Fen. Also the land behind Appletree lane, upon which RPC have said they would never build.

- The great Aldrich Brush Factory, which closed in 1988, I think, was positioned on Cheap Lane, Roydon, according to my map. When demolished for building in 1990 it was renamed Factory Lane with Brushmakers Way running off it. In 1948 a relief sculpture was commissioned to decorate the front of the factory, showing sheaves of coconut fronds to reference the materials used to make the mats. This plaque was removed and placed on the Roydon Village Hall, when it was built. Opposite me, in Louie's Lane, is the great Roydonian Works, makers and restorers of organs, founded in 1932 by Roydon resident William Boggis. Neither of these elements in our history and community, will have any further meaning, should the new boundary be enforced and the factory site and Roydonian Works become part of Diss.

- Many of our road names have historical links such as Aldrich Way, Brushmaker's Way, (after the Aldrich brothers who owned the Brush Factory in Roydon), Store Street (A Store was located there), Steggles Drive (named after the Farmers who owned the Roydon land), Millway Avenue (close to the Roydon Mill on Shelfanger Road).

HOW does this benefit Roydon?

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- I see that Diss benefits by raising money through extra Council Tax, at the expense of ALL those in Roydon whose CT would have to rise. (Regarding use of DTC facilities, see below in Community Feeling.)

- You tell us that consideration of raised Council Tax is not admissible for your consideration. We feel that it is VERY relevant for those concerned and should be considered.
• Those in Band D, being forcibly moved, currently contribute £23.09 to Roydon PC, the equivalent in Diss is £163.92, a rise of £12/month, £140 a year, no small amount for pensioners and the low paid. Furthermore, Roydon would be left unviable, so those allowed to remain in the depleted village would necessarily have to pay a higher precept to RPC to enable them to maintain services after losing nearly half their households. Judged to be at least double what they pay now.

• Where is there any benefit to Roydon residents?

• WE have been told that the catchment area, for church, schools and doctors SHOULD not be impacted, many of us query this. We are also far from certain that our house deeds will not have to be altered.

• House and car insurances are also likely to rise as; although our Post Codes may stay the same; they will indicate ‘Town’ rather than “Village” consequently attracting higher quotes.

No benefit to Roydon in any way. Roydon are in fact being penalized.

COMMUNITY FEELING

• I see that at the DTC meeting of 21st June 2017, when considering the boundary proposal, it was noted that neighbouring villages were accessing facilities and services provided by Diss. Nevertheless, it was suggested that it “...would not be in the best interests of the Neighbourhood Plan and the RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISS AND ROYDON, to propose changes that the RPC are unable to support, it was therefore proposed and seconded to oppose the principle of...boundary changes between Roydon and Diss”

• The proposal was not carried. They decided to approve the principle.

• Such is the cohesion in our community, that there IS a general feeling of resentment and anger in Roydon, which is a great pity and I fear could escalate should these plans go through.
• You say you considered proposals made by Diss had sufficient strength to take forward. What were those reasons as nobody has told us? We can only surmise that it is a land grab exercise by Diss for further housing development on our green spaces and to increase their CT precept.

• Rather than risking upsetting Roydon residents, remainers and leavers alike, maybe more emphasis should be put on the Neighbourhood Plan, whereby all seven adjoining parishes, including Roydon, would develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape development and growth.

• It is normal for villages to access shops and facilities offered by their local hub town. ALL the nearby and adjacent villages do this. Why has only Roydon been selected to pay Diss’ precept shortfall?

• In fact, I see that DTC run, and benefit from the hire-rental of the Sports Field on the Shelfanger Road, which is in Roydon.

As the Athletics Club there has not had its contract renewed, we are naturally surmise that DTC has its eye on that as a further development site, despite its use by so many sporting clubs and that Mr Rackham gifted the land, as a sports ground.

Do DTC consider these proposals a ‘done deal’? ‘Diss’ Rugby Club is also in Roydon.

COMMUNICATION

• The letter supposedly sent out, by SNDC, to ‘all concerned directly’, was NOT received by all, nobody I spoke to in my road, at least, had received one.

• It was particularly galling when I phoned for my copy, after hearing about it on the grapevine, to be told that everyone had been sent one.

• Why was there not a general notification about these proposed plans in, at least, the press? SNDC said it was in The Link, right at the end of a publication some regard as junk mail, and posted on their website, who regularly looks at that?
• Furthermore, why was there no notification to villagers, at the time of the original consultation to give local residents a chance to put forward ideas and views at the July RPC meeting? Consequently, no such consultation was ever conducted as only 3 out of the 631 claimed comments, knew about, or were invited to that Roydon PC meeting in July. Those 3 being friends and neighbours of councilors.

• Finally, the poor formatting of the map was such that the new proposed boundary did not show up when accessed on mobile devices, so looking, anyone would have seen only the current boundary and consequently seen no change to worry them.

Where is the transparency?
What good reason for change?
Roydon is completely against this proposal.
The Reviews Committee states that local views are of paramount importance

Yours Faithfully
Dear Sir/Madam

Re. Proposed Boundary Review- Roydon- Boundary commissions 2017/2018 review

We're writing to express our utter disbelief at your proposal to redefine the boundary between Roydon and Diss. Our main concern is the extent of properties which would be re-defined as Diss. Your proposal is to move 42% of dwellings currently from Roydon into Diss, this would be such a huge loss to Roydon village, indeed nearly halving the size of residents within the village. This is a much greater change than most other boundary reviews within South Norfolk. People, such as ourselves, have chosen to locate in Roydon as it is more rural and maintains a 'village community' feel with its pub, garage, church and village hall. We have chosen to raise a family in a quieter, rural location. It would be greatly disconcerting for residents to be forced to be redefined as living in Diss. Indeed, there would be huge implications (and resulting costs) with regard to land registry, insurances and council taxes. Not only this, but Diss is already hugely over stretched with regard to health care provisions, schools, policing etc. what is being proposed with regard to accommodating these additional residents? It would also be very upsetting if Roydon was to loose it's village identity through no fault or choice of the residents.

We have tried to consider what positive implications might arise from such a boundary change, however we are at a loss as to what these might be? As residents of Roydon we have had little or no consultation as to why this boundary has come under review? The existing boundary has been defined as such since the 19th Century and Roydon pre-dates Diss as a Roman Settlement. We cannot help but feel this proposed change is an excuse to 'land grab' green space which Roydon Parish Council have repeatedly turned down for building on. We are greatly concerned that if this land becomes redefined as Diss there will be a great deal of expansion on and close to much needed areas of green fields such as by Quaker Wood and next to Roydon Fen, valuable areas of countryside which are enjoyed by all.

Thank you for your time, we do hope you might listen to the views of the Roydon residents themselves before making your final decision.
To whom it may concern
I’m writing to object to the proposed Roydon/Diss boundary change. To be totally clear, central and local government encourage the fostering of community spirit and a well-being of rural life in the sense of looking out for one another.

For Diss to potentially gain 40% of Roydon to me just does not make sense. Why tear into a community which has a thriving school, a well used community centre, pleasant parkland and Roydon Fen which in my eyes, is a ‘little gem’ if you enjoy a walk in the great outdoors. The Roydon community has certainly joined together in opposition to the proposed boundary change. There is the potential for ‘land grabbing’ and whilst there is government pressure for more housing developments, Roydon needs to keep it’s identity because after all, the village and Diss are practically joined together. There seems to be a lack of information on the effects of the boundary change. If it is a case of Diss Town Council receiving more money via the Council Tax then to single out or pick on its nearest neighbouring village without a clear and compelling set of reasons seems to suggest there could be a lot more to it than just tidying up the boundary. I grew up in Roydon and have always lived in the village and whilst I do not live in the area of Roydon affected by the change, I do object because i’m very concerned by the impact of the change and I can see no good reason to move the 40% of houses into Diss. I want Roydon to remain individual.

Yours sincerely,

Sent from myMail for Android
To whom it may concern

I am writing to object to the proposed boundary changes between Roydon and Diss, the proposal meaning some 42% of Roydon properties would be absorbed into Diss.

We moved from Diss to Roydon in 2014 as we found Diss to be quite impersonal and we didn’t feel part of a community, our son was already at Roydon Primary School as we had requested a place there again for a more personal, community feel which can only be gotten at a smaller, parish school.

Roydon is a thriving community with much to offer families and children alike. From the School, Church and Village Hall through to the Parks, open areas and of course Roydon Fen.

As a resident of Roydon, I feel that information has been far from forthcoming and is difficult to find even once you know what you are looking for. I cannot find any sound, reasonable explanation for the change – the suggestion that it is to clean up the boundary, is simply preposterous – all this cost and effort for that, I suspect not!

More likely I would suggest Diss wanting to claim the green areas within the boundary change for development – this has already been voiced and denied and if that is the case then what is the reason for change? Change for Changes sake but at the cost of what? A thriving community village that will be sorely wounded if the boundary change goes ahead.

This will affect the whole village, reducing its size by so much and whilst I live in an area of Roydon that is not among the area to be re-classified I feel for those who will be unwillingly thrust into a bigger faceless Town.

I am vehemently opposed to this change.

Yours sincerely
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 26 October 2017 22:44
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Diss-Roydon Parish Boundary

Dear Sir/Madam

Further to our previous email, further information has come to light which we wish to add to our opposition to the above boundary change.

Under the Guidance of Community Reviews published by the Boundary Commission -

"Guidance 15  In many cases making changes to the boundaries of existing parishes, rather than creating an entirely new parish, will be sufficient to ensure that community governance arrangements continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. For example, over time communities may expand with new housing developments. This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours. In such circumstances, the council should consider undertaking a community governance review.”

The only area where this anomaly occurs between Diss and Roydon is the new Long Meadow estate where the parish boundary does indeed go through the estate. No other new or existing estates straddle the parish boundary.

At the Diss Town Council meeting held on 25th October, Diss produced yet another plan ('Option B, fixed features'), not the one circulated from South Norfolk (with the yellow line) but one which includes even further properties and land to be transferred from Roydon to Diss. If members of the public had not attended this meeting, this revised plan would never have been known about. Where is the transparency? Why wasn't Roydon Parish Council advised of this?

There is no justification for any Roydon properties to be moved into Diss as the boundaries are well known not only to postmen, but also to delivery drivers etc and if they needed to be more clearly defined the words 'Parish of Roydon' could be included in the street name signs at less cost than the proposed boundary change!

As you are aware there is a lot of strong and vehement opposition from Roydon residents to the proposals and we trust that due democratic process will take place and take note of the feelings these proposals have aroused.

As the old saying goes, 'if it aint broke, don't fix it!

Yours faithfully
To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to object to the proposed Roydon/Diss boundary change. To be totally clear, central and local government encourage the fostering of community spirit and a well-being of rural life in the sense of looking out for one another.

For Diss to potentially gain 40% of Roydon to me just does not make sense. Why tear into a community which has a thriving school, a well used community centre, pleasant parkland and Roydon Fen which in my eyes, is a 'little gem' if you enjoy a walk in the great outdoors. The Roydon community has certainly joined together in opposition to the proposed boundary change. There is the potential for 'land grabbing' and whilst there is government pressure for more housing developments, Roydon needs to keep its identity because after all, the village and Diss are practically joined together. There seems to be a lack of information on the effects of the boundary change. If it is a case of Diss Town Council receiving more money via the Council Tax then to single out or pick on its nearest neighbouring village without a clear and compelling set of reasons seems to suggest there could be a lot more to it than just tidying up the boundary. I grew up in Roydon and have always lived in the village and whilst I do not live in the area of Roydon affected by the change, I do object because I'm very concerned by the impact of the change and I can see no good reason to move the 40% of houses into Diss. I want Roydon to remain individual.

Yours sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Mr Tovee-Gale

I am writing to you to OPPOSE the proposed boundary change, which would see almost 43% of Roydon become part of Diss. My reasons are as follows:

1. A valid reason has not been put forward by Diss Town Council as to why these boundary changes would benefit the residents or the overall parish of Roydon. The proposed change would have a detrimental effect on the whole village and community.

2. The proposed boundary change by DTC shrieks of a land grab fro building more houses which the infrastructure would not cope with.

3. Roydon will lose its identity with the loss of so many properties, taking the history of the village with it. Roydon pre-dates Diss as a settlement mentioned in the Doomsday book in the 11th Century and has been occupied since Roman times. Many of the road names have historical links: Aldrich Way, Brushmakers Way named after the Aldrich Brush Factory. Stegglés drive, named after the farmer who owned the land.

4. Roydon has a strong community feel and identity, having its own school, church, pub, shop and petrol station, village hall (which is the heart of the community) and not forgetting the beautiful fen.

5. How will this effect our current property deeds on Land registry? Are you willing to pay the charge for 40%+ of the properties.

I, along with my family, chose to live in the village of Roydon, and this change is now possibly going to be taken away from us. I can not see how this is going to benefit any of the Roydon residents if the boundary is moved.

LEAVE THE BOUNDARY ALONE!!

Yours sincerely
26th October 2017

Dear Sirs

Proposed Boundary Change – Diss/Roydon

Having recently learned of the above, I would like to make my feelings on the subject known.

As you will notice from my address, I live on Roydon Fen which although not a designated SSSI is a Conservation Area and this needs protecting.

If Roydon is joined to Diss this would eventually lead to more development. This would not only be bad for the Fen causing more light and air pollution and traffic noise pollution but it would also be bad for places such as Tottington Lane which is subject to flooding.

Roydon is a community in its own right with church, school, garage with shop, village hall and public house. How would joining Diss improve it?

Roydon is also very old, older than Diss in places, so has historic importance as well.

I gather that the original consultation for this was in March 2016 and whereas Diss Town Council has said all has been clear and transparent most people were unaware of the proposal; so although the financial argument will be overlooked, the gainers would be Diss Town Council and Diss residents; more Council Tax with the potential to reduce individual household bills and more land for development.

I believe that Roydon boundary should be left where it is and as a result I wish to object to the proposal.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk Council
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich NR15 2XE
27th October 2017

Dear Sirs,

Having attended the recent public meeting to discuss potential changes to the current boundaries of Roydon I would like to make the following alternative suggestion which would reinstate the historic boundary between Roydon and Diss.

The boundary has moved from the original line that ran North from Denmark Bridge, Lower Denmark Street through Croft Lane and Louis Lane, turning right at Factory lane, left at Shelfanger Road and continuing to the current boundary with Bressingham and Burston on the Attleborough Road (B1077). This line reflects the historic boundary between Roydon and Diss, even though Diss has had the boundary moved to the current boundary over the years since the second world war. This suggested boundary is demonstrated by the historic facts that Roydon parish ran its own Mill in Mill Lane and encouraged the development of the brush factory beside the purpose-built Factory Lane which at that time was wholly within the parish boundary of Roydon.

The population of Roydon had enjoyed the use of several open spaces, now enclosed by Diss Town Council and sold for current and recently built developments. The current proposed boundary changes would present Diss Town Council with the opportunity of seizing more of the public open spaces freely enjoyed by the current residents of Roydon. I feel that if the current proposed changes were allowed to go ahead the residents of Roydon would be further deprived of valuable public amenities and open spaces.

By agreeing to this change of boundary there is the potential that the schools and medical facilities within Diss will become grossly overloaded and it will reduce the viability of Roydon’s own primary school – a further amenity that will be lost to the community of Roydon.

South Norfolk District Council have been unable to provide me with copies of the original request from Diss Town Council for the boundary change and their cogent arguments for the proposed changes. I feel this leaves me at a disadvantage in this apparently overt decision-making process.

Yours Sincerely

[Signature]
18th October 2017,

Dear Sir or Madam,

Re: Proposed Boundary changes between Diss and Roydon.

Recently myself and my wife have been made aware by ‘word of mouth’ that Diss Town Council had proposed to the Boundary Commission that the boundary between Diss and Roydon be moved to incorporate some 40% of the existing properties currently residing in Roydon.

I understand and am sure you are also aware that this has raised many concerns with both local residents and the Parish council whom have no desire to see the proposed changes take place. Whilst the residents have and continue to voice their opinions many are concerned that the ‘powers that be’ have already made their decision to move the boundary but I am hopeful that the public’s and parish council’s opinions and desires will be considered. Therefore I would be obliged if you would consider my following points.

We are disappointed that the only way we heard of these proposals was through friends and other residents. This should not happen and at the minimum I feel proper written notification of the proposed changes and a full consultation with residents should have been completed. We didn’t even receive a letter, along with many other affected residents. I also understand that Diss Town Council, whom I am led to believe proposed these changes didn’t even have the courtesy to notify Roydon Parish Council of their intention.

I am concerned with some people’s comments and statements of untrue facts that have been publically spoken and appeared on social media but these are put forward in ignorance but with good heart and true passion to try and protect our beloved village of Roydon. It is a village with its long history that we are all proud of, we chose to make family homes in our village and of course we want it to continue being a village and not live in ‘Town’

As I would with any proposal, I have carefully studied the reasons both for and against the boundary changes. The indication from Diss Town Council is to ‘create a logically defined’ boundary does appear, on the face of it, to be quite a weak reason to move the boundary lines. Taking over parts of Roydon will make the Town and Village nearer, contrary to the previous desire of both local councils and the SNDC planning department.
Whilst I understand that the Boundary Commission does not take into account the financial implications to either the affected residents or the Parish Council one can only assume that Diss wants to increase its number of chimney pots to bring in extra funds. This obviously leads to a shortfall for Roydon PC that it will need to replace somehow to maintain the service to the remaining village. Therefore both potential 'affected' residents and remaining residents will face additional direct cost implications and I understand Roydon PC has one of the lowest precept charges and Diss is one of the highest in the district.

Diss has been and will continue to be a 'commercial' centre for its surrounding population. It is obvious that Diss provides 'services' to all the neighbouring villages so why has Roydon been singled out and not other local villages?

Thank you for your consideration, I do sincerely hope the wishes of both the residents and PCC will be duly considered.

Yours faithfully,
Electoral Services
South Norfolk Council
South Norfolk House
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich.
NR15 2XE

18th October 2017

RE: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW 2017/18 DISS/ROYDON

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to object to the proposed Boundary Review for 43% of Roydon properties to move into Diss.

I don’t believe it is in the interests of Roydon residents and certainly not for the identity of our village.

Roydon is an ancient Village predating Diss as a settlement which has been occupied continuously since Pre-Roman times. A great deal of distress and anger has been caused by the proposed Boundary Change amongst Roydon residents.

Democracy and consultation with all Roydon residents doesn’t appear to have been carried out. All residents don’t seem to have been included in the process with the only communication being via the unaddressed Link magazine (Spring 2017) on PAGE 21.

There are many historical links at risk of being destroyed between the area of Roydon under proposal for change to the remaining Village.

The Aldrich Brother’s Brush Factory was based to the East of Roydon and the following street names originate from this, Aldrich Way, Brushmakers Way, Factory Lane and Store Street. A Carving From the Aldrich Brother’s Brush Factory designed by David Kindersley was removed from the closed factory and installed at Roydon Village Hall in 1997 to maintain an important link between Roydon village’s PAST AND PRESENT.

Tottington Lane, Potash Lane and Sandstone Way leading to Roydon Fen are in fact amongst the oldest parts of Roydon being noted in the Domesday Book of 1086 following the Norman Conquest.

Regarding Roydon Fen, should the boundary changes occur would development bordering Roydon Fen become an increased likelihood and how would this affect a very important habitat in the Waveney Valley which relies on a supply of pure spring water from the underlying chalk rock for its biodiversity. A site which is managed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

In fact the threat of more development can only have a negative impact on the green spaces and environment and increase the risk of confusion between Diss and Roydon boundaries.

Also, an area of land bordering the A1066 in Roydon adjoining Sandstone Way was recently excavated by Cambridge University and found to have had a Bronze Age cremation site and settlement and as such deemed important for the history of Roydon. This area may be placed under threat to development if the proposed changes went ahead.

A Post Mill located in Shelfanger Road (Roydon) which was one of a number in Roydon (including Tottington Lane) which date back to the 18th Century have links to modern day. A corn miller and manure manufacturer by the name of John Copeman Kerry worked here and he has a residential road named after him in Roydon.
Steggles Drive, (off Factory Lane) is named after the Steggle family who were a farming family who resided in Darrow Farm, Darrow Lane, Roydon and who owned the land where the Appletree Lane, Steggle Drive and Newstead Walk development is located.

These are all important links at risk between the past and present of Roydon and which has created a sense of ill feeling between Roydon residents and Diss Town Council which doesn’t bode well for the future dealings between Roydon and Diss concerning the Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan.

I understand that Diss Town Council feel that the affected 43% of Roydon households benefit from Diss Town facilities but I fail to see how it is just the 43% of Roydon that benefit from them. Surely all Roydon, Scole, Palgrave, Stuston, Brome and Oakley and Burston and Shipdland and villages further afield benefit from Diss Park & Mere, Market, Cornhall, Diss Youth Community Centre, Christmas Lights and Cemetery? I’d be happier paying the increase in Council Tax if it meant no dismantling of Roydon and the loss of identity to the Village. In fact Palgrave is just as close proximity to Diss as Roydon.

Roydon has facilities such as a Village Hall and Brewers Green which are enjoyed by neighbouring parishes yet they don’t seek finance for this from them.

We are proud to send our two children to Roydon Primary School, we are proud to use businesses and community clubs in Roydon, we feel part of the community in Roydon and cannot understand the reason or benefit to Roydon residents to take away our identity just to tidy up the boundary.

If the proposals are passed does this put the future of Roydon as a Village in doubt? It will lead to a loss of identity and the risk of Diss subsuming Roydon increases.

I’m sure a few improvements to street signs would remove the confusion over which streets are in which parish. Tottington Lane is clearly displayed as being in the Parish of Roydon. The same can be applied to all street signs. Is it really that much of a problem?

In my opinion Diss Town Council have undervalued the feeling of community in Roydon as a village but hopefully recent media interest through newspapers, radio and TV of locally organised events held by Roydon residents has given them a clearer picture of this.

Diss can only thrive with the support of those living in the surrounding area so is the risk of putting this in jeopardy with their closest neighbours really worth a bit of tidying up?

Yours sincerely,
25th October, 2017

Electoral Services Team,
South Norfolk Council,
Cygnet Court,
Long Stratton,
Norwich NR15 2XE

Dear Electoral Services Team,

I thoroughly oppose the boundary change. This is Roydon, and I will certainly oppose it.

Yours faithfully,

[Handwritten signature]

This is Roydon, not Diss
The Electoral Service Manager  
SNDC  
Swan Lane  
Long Stratton  
Norfolk  
NR15 2XE

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Proposed Boundary Change – Roydon & Diss**

I am writing to strongly disagree with the proposed boundary change, which would see 43% of the parish of Roydon reclassified as Diss. My reasons are as follows:-

- I moved in May 2016 from Diss to Roydon, as I wanted to live in the same village as my parents and the village where I grew up and went to junior school. I made a conscious decision to move to Roydon. Whilst I lived in Diss, I found it lacking in soul and community spirit and I strongly disagreed with some of the decisions taken by Diss Council and how the council was run, I therefore choose to move to Roydon when the opportunity arose.

- Roydon has a strong sense of individuality and community village spirit of which I am part of. I do not want to live in Diss.

- Millway Avenue was built on land and is situated in the parish of Roydon.

The Mill in the early twentieth century was run by Mr Alec Wells. The Mill was sold to the Lincoln family, the Mill then passed to Mr Leathers. In 1847, WW Elliott auctioneer was instructed to sell the mill, cottage, cart lodge, stables & piggery with 3 roods & 12 perches of productive arable & pasture land and a Mr Jarrett brought the property and land. The property and land then passed to a Frank Burroughes of Roydon Mill, then subsequently converted into a private dwelling. The Mill still stands today at the end of my garden.

Millway Avenue was built in the arable & pasture land of the Mill. Therefore, Millway Avenue and the Mill on Shalfanger Road are an integral part of Roydon’s history and should remain within the Parish of Roydon.

- I have not heard a valid reason put forward by Diss Council as to why these boundary changes would benefit the residents of Roydon or the overall Parish of Roydon. As far as I can see it will have detrimental effect on the whole village and the community.
• The proposal shrieks of a land grab by Diss Council for building yet more houses that the current infrastructure cannot cope with. The ideal area for Diss to expand and develop new houses is to the North East of the town, within the Walcot area and towards Scole, enabling residents to have easy access to the A140. The traffic jams through Diss at the best of times, can only be described as a nightmare.

• Any confusion as to where Roydon starts and Diss ends can easily and cheaply be rectified by road signs. The cost to make these boundary changes will be huge on both councils and in the time of financial restraint and uncertainty because of Brexit and where much needed services like the police, NHS and social care are being stretched and budgets reduced – can a council really justify wasting further monies on a boundary change that no one wants.

• CGRC make reference in their official guidance that the views of local people should be taken into account, I have not spoken to any Roydon resident, who agrees to the proposed change – all seem to be strongly opposed to the change.

I therefore call upon the committee to strongly reject the proposed boundary change between Roydon and Diss. The boundaries should remain as they are and how they have been for centuries.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Roydon Resident.
Dear Ms Tovee-Galey,

Pleased find attached my letter opposing the above proposed boundary changes.

Many thanks,
26th October 2017

The Electoral Service Manager,
SNDC,
Swan Lane,
Long Stratton,
Norfolk,
IP215 2EX.

Dear Ms Tovee-Galey,

Re: Proposed Boundary Changes Between Roydon and Diss

With reference to the above topic I would request to register my objection to the proposed changes.

Following my attendance at the recent Roydon parish council meeting, at which these changes were discussed, I would wish to state that all the residents in attendance, approximately 80 in total, were strongly opposed to the change. The feeling being that Roydon should retain its own identity and sense of community purpose. This view has been continued to be expressed in local radio, TV, press and social media.

The Chairman of Roydon parish council has informed me that there has not been a single approach to the parish council in support of the boundary changes, and that the whole of the parish council are strongly opposed to these changes. They have particularly cited the fact that Roydon has a strong sense of individuality, community cohesion and identity.

Whilst I am aware that the surrounding parishes of Diss treat it as a hub for various amenities I am perplexed as to the reason only that Roydon has been singled out to contribute to this. I understand that the proposal will move over
Electoral Services Team,
South Norfolk Council,
Cygnet Court,
Long Stratton,
Norwich,
NR15 2XE.

Proposed Change of Boundary between Roydon and Diss

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed change of Boundary between the village of Roydon, that has its original roots dating back to the tenth century with evidence of settlements dating back even further with the relatively new Market town of Diss. This would constitute a reduction of nearly half of the inhabitants having their legal right and personal choice of living in a village taken away from them in a very non democratic way with no respectable reasoning except for it to tidy up the lines on a map. It would however cause confusion if you don't have a current map showing the change.

This action has no regard for the inhabitants of the affected houses or for any of the history associated with a wonderful close knit village and will involve half of it becoming part of a faceless town. It looks like just another case of SNDC and local councils taking the final say over something that doesn’t directly affect the individual councillors personally but fits with their agenda to make a mark in history of what they “achieved.” Councillors are elected to act in the best interests of the voters but this doesn’t seem to be the case these days. It’s interesting to see that Roydon Parish Council are also opposed to this but are set to be over rules by their ‘Big Brother’ council.

I do however understand that the boundary review has to take place every 15 years. After all it’s a review, so if everything is fine then leave it alone. Previously there has been no change to the boundary in any of these previous reviews. “If it isn’t Broke don’t fix it” and all the villagers believe it isn’t broke. So there doesn’t seem to be any good reason to change it now.

I believe that the true motives to change the boundary now is twofold.

Revenue building

The first reason seems to be to raise the revenue for the town through the Council tax, It has been stated that money is not an acceptable reason to not do something; This is very hard to swallow when families are struggling to pay the high charges imposed on them already. All Roydon residents are going to feel a big rise in the various precepts charges, those that move across more so than those that remain. So it’s a Loose Loose situation for the residents and a Win Win for Diss council. If a council wants more money they demand it from the residents, unfortunately the resident can’t go and demand more money to cover this from their employer.
They just struggle even more. I have yet to see any real worthwhile projects happen around Diss; just some vanity projects that haven’t actually improved the town.

It has been said that Roydon residents benefit from all the amenities that Diss offers, I find it hard to think of anything that is provide that is not paid for at the time. To quote the Christmas light is a feeble attempt at to justify this when there is an appeal for funds being pushed forward in the local supermarket. Also Roydon residents support and spend monies with the local businesses of Diss of which I am sure Diss town council receives considerable revenue in the form of rates etc.

**Land Grab to that could lead to enhance the revenue building**

Secondly this change will free up a big portion of land that is likely to become a target of being developed in order to meet the house building requirements set out by the government. If this development was to happen then it would be revenue for Diss and not Roydon. If this was to happen then it would bring the rest of Roydon even closer to Diss and who’s to know during the next review in 15 years it could see more of Roydon being swallowed up and become part of Diss. This could make the village so small it could make having our own parish council un-viable and result in the whole of Roydon disappearing. Should Diss want to build more houses though the infrastructure i.e. doctors, Dentists, schools etc. is at bursting point already then they should look to the north and north east where there is plenty of open fields.

If there is any true democracy within the various councils that are involved with this then the boundary will remain where is has been for a very long time and that we should remain at the current status qua

So to sum up I believe the will of the residents is upheld and this boundary change is rejected and all stays as it has been in living memory.

Yours Faithfully
Dear Sirs

**Proposed Boundary Changes for Roydon and Diss**

I have examined the proposal to extend the boundary of Diss to include a large area of Roydon and wish to make the following observations:

Roydon falls within the current definition of a sustainable community. It has a church, a school, a shop, a garage, a public house and a modern village hall. It is rare to find all these community assets in a single village in Norfolk though many have some of them.

The church is regularly in use and the churchyard has spaces for internment; the school is popular and was judged Good in the last Ofsted report; the shop is small but adequate for day to day shopping; the garage is well established; the public house is thriving and is popular both within and without the village and the village hall is also used for functions and entertainment by the inhabitants and organisations from the surrounding area.

This situation could not be improved by the reduction of the population and I can find no indication of a need that would drive this proposal; surely the first requirement for any change.

Roydon is a rural parish with dwellings both in the rural and the built area providing a choice for prospective house purchasers.

Roydon Fen has a world-wide reputation for flora and fauna. These flora and fauna are not contained within the defined area of the Fen but spread into the neighbouring areas which include Tottington Lane and Potash Lane; this is noticeable at night in the mating season when a healthy population of glowworms makes its presence visible in these areas.

Diss is an urban area and the land to the west of Louie’s Lane including part of Brewers Green and the land to the west of the built area of Diss, which includes Tottington Lane, remains rural and does not sit comfortably within Diss.

Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk Council
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich NR15 2EW
I accept that Louie’s Lane is in the built area of Roydon and abuts the built area of Diss, but this is not a sufficient reason to take it into the Diss boundary; most villages in South Norfolk have boundaries that run down the centre of an existing road but this is not seen as a reason to combine the two, three or even four parishes that meet on the boundary line and this should not be used in the case of the Diss and Roydon boundary.

What investigation has been made into the effects of a boundary change on the present inhabitants of Roydon and have these effects been taken into account?

For those migrating to Diss the expense could be considerable both from the increase in the Council Tax and the costs of changing the deeds of the property; the mortgage where one exists and all the attendant charges arising therefrom. The residents chose to live in Roydon though they could have settled in Diss if they so wished as recent building has made dwellings available in several areas.

The effect on those remaining in Roydon would be a massive increase in the Parish Precept or a reduction in the level of service provided to the community. The knock on effect could well mean that the Parish Council would be unable to raise sufficient finance from the remaining properties, many being in a low Council Tax band, and at worst Roydon Parish Council could be unable to meet its statutory financial requirements and be declared bankrupt.

The example of Harleston with Redenhall is a present reminder of what can happen to a small parish where Redenhall has been totally subsumed by Harleston. Is this the intention with Diss/Roydon?

The advantages to Diss are clear. More land for development and a considerable increase in the Council Tax take resulting in a reduction in the amount each household is asked to pay; I can see why the Town Council would welcome such an outcome.

The legislation lays down that the boundaries may be changed in consultation with the Parish Council or Parish Meeting and I would emphasize this requirement. The Parish Council was obviously unable to prejudge this issue but it was clear from the two meetings that took place that the temperature of the meetings was against the change with not one single voice raised in support. The Parish Council is obliged to consider this in their submission.

The Parish of Roydon is an ancient one with a long history and this history would be entirely divorced from the Parish if the change were to be agreed, I therefor wish to lodge my objection to this change.

Yours faithfully
Ms Julia Tovee-Galey
Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk District Council
Cygnet Court
Long Street
Norwich NR15 2XE

Also by email to review@s-norfolk.gov.uk

RE: PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE

Dear Ms Tovee-Galey

I write to OPPOSE the proposed boundary changes between the Parish of Roydon and the town of Diss. These are my reasons against the proposals:-

* **Loss our our Village Community:** No-one in Roydon wants this and we cannot see any benefit to us whatsoever. We believe that this is bullying tactics from our larger neighbouring Town. We all moved to a village on the edge of the countryside for our children’s well being and for an improved way of life. If this proposal goes ahead, Roydon will lose 43% of our village and community, almost half! We have a very strong community spirit and well attended community groups, such as the Donut Children’s Church; the Roydon Fen and Brewer’s Green common are publicly used facilities. On Sunday just gone, 123 of our residents marched peacefully through the entire village against this proposal.

* **Government Guidelines:** Further, this is against the Government’s own guidelines for community cohesion, in the “Interests and identity of the community”. Indeed on the SNDC website, it states under Communities, “We work closely with you to build on your ideas, to help community groups grow and residents to feel proud of the neighbourhoods they live in.” This doesn’t seem to have been the case here.
Deterioration with the relationship and goodwill between Diss and Roydon residents.

Each household would presumably have to pay legal and building society fees and to change their deeds with the Land Registry. This would be a significant cost to the whole process surely.

We want to look after our history too: Recently excavated land off A1066 was shown to have a Bronze Age cremation site and settlement. We are a very old community and predate the settlement of Diss! Back in the 1890s there were the Roydon Riots between residents of Roydon and Lord of the Manor over common land in Tottlington Lane and Brewer’s Green.

Area of the old Brush Factory just off Factory Lane and Tottlington Lane/Potash Lane areas are amongst the oldest parts of the Roydon village being noted in the Domesday Book of the 11th Century.

There is also an old Mill off Shelfanger Road which was one of a number in Roydon which date back to the 18th Century.

Historical Road Names: All our road names have historical importance such as Aldrich Way (named after the Aldrich Brother’s Factory), Store Street, Factory Lane, Brushmaker’s Way, Millway Avenue (named after the old Mill), Steggles Drive (named after the Steggles Family who owned land on Darrow Lane).

Brush Factory Carving: The carving from the Old Brush Factory is now on Roydon Village Hall’s wall. This old area will be moved into Diss if the proposals go ahead.

Consultation with residents did not happen and only a few residents were invited to the original meeting in July. My understanding is that there was a small mention in the Link Magazine, which is produced by South Norfolk Council. But many residents see this as purely an advertising leaflet and most of us recycle this I’m afraid. This is not public consultation!

Against Human Rights: If you forcibly move us into the Town of Diss, this is an infringement of our Human Rights!

Roydon Fen possible destruction of ecosystem and habitats: I understand that much of the green belt land between Roydon and Diss already has planning applications on
it but Roydon is concerned that this important Nature Reserve will be adversely affected as houses, car fumes and amenities encroach closer and closer toward its boundaries. This has some very important species and types of habitats, that are unique and important to the whole area.

* **Quaker Wood:** We are worried about this woodland being adversely affected if the land behind and adjoining it is eventually built on by Diss Town Council. It is a woodland area of importance to the village for families and dog walkers alike.

* **Residents believe:** That land at the back of Appletree Lane will get planning permission to build even more houses, which Roydon Parish Council had promised they would never build on. This was one of the reasons for moving here in the first place.

* **Adequate or Fair representation:** Has Roydon been adequately or fairly represented in this process? I fail to see that it has.

* **Lack of Trust:** Because this process has been so underhand, the residents have very little lack on trust in Diss Town Council and their future proposals. Further, Diss Town Councillors asked Roydon residents at last night’s Council Meeting at the Cornhall whether they would pay more Council Tax but I thought it had nothing whatsoever to do with revenue?

* **Catchment Area for Schools and nurseries:** all future residents would probably be moved into Diss schools catchment area instead of Roydon and Diss doctors surgeries instead of half being in Botesdale. We are proud of our school and pre-school in Roydon.

Yours sincerely

Roydon Resident
Dear Sir or Madam

Please find attached my letter regarding the above boundary change to Roydon, Norfolk.

Kind Regards

This email was scanned by Bitdefender

This message may be confidential information and will be protected by copyright. If you receive it in error, notify us, delete it and do not make use of or copy it. All business is undertaken in accordance with our standard terms and conditions. Any opinions expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of Fred. Olsen companies. Company registration details can be seen on our website at http://www.fredolsen.co.uk/contact
The Electoral Service Manager
SNDC
Swan Lane
Long Stratton
Norfolk
NR15 2XE

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Proposed Boundary Change – Roydon & Diss

I am writing to strongly disagree with the proposed boundary change, which would see 43% of the parish of Roydon reclassified as Diss. My reasons are as follows:-

- I moved in May 2016 from Diss to Roydon, as I wanted to live in the same village as my parents and the village where I grew up and went to junior school. I made a conscious decision to move to Roydon. Whilst I lived in Diss, I found it lacking in soul and community spirit and I strongly disagreed with some of the decisions taken by Diss Council and how the council was run, I therefore choose to move to Roydon when the opportunity arose.

- Roydon has a strong sense of individuality and community village spirit of which I am part of. I do not want to live in Diss.

- I live in Millway Avenue which gets its name from the Old Mill on Shelfanger Road and is situated in the parish of Roydon.

The Mill in the early twentieth century was run by Mr Alec Wells. The Mill was sold to the Lincoln family, the Mill then passed to Mr Leathers. In 1847, WW Elliott auctioneer was instructed to sell the mill, cottage, cart lodge, stables & piggery with 3 roods & 12 perches of productive arable & pasture land and a Mr Jarrett brought the property and land. The property and land then passed to a Frank Burroughes of Roydon Mill, then subsequently converted into a private dwelling. The Mill still stands today at the end of my garden.

Millway Avenue was built in the arable & pasture land of the Mill. Therefore, Millway Avenue and the Mill on Shelfanger Road are an integral part of Roydon’s history and should remain within the Parish of Roydon.

- I have not heard a valid reason put forward by Diss Council as to why these boundary changes would benefit the residents of Roydon or the overall Parish of Roydon. As far as I can see it will have detrimental effect on the whole village and the community.
- The proposal shrieks of a land grab by Diss Council for building yet more houses that the current infrastructure cannot cope with. The ideal area for Diss to expand and develop new houses is to the North East of the town, within the Walcot area and towards Scole, enabling residents to have easy access to the A140. The traffic jams through Diss at the best of times, can only be described as a nightmare.

- Any confusion as to where Roydon starts and Diss ends can easily and cheaply be rectified by road signs. The cost to make these boundary changes will be huge on both councils and in the time of financial restraint and uncertainty because of Brexit and where much needed services like the police, NHS and social care are being stretched and budgets reduced – can a council really justify wasting further monies on a boundary change that no one wants.

- CGRC make reference in their official guidance that the views of local people should be taken into account, I have not spoken to any Roydon resident, who agrees to the proposed change – all seem to be strongly opposed to the change.

I therefore call upon the committee to strongly reject the proposed boundary change between Roydon and Diss. The boundaries should remain as they are and how they have been for centuries.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Roydon Resident.
Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to your recent letter informing me that my property may be affected by the proposed boundary changes to Roydon and Diss, I wish to express my objection to the changes, for the following reasons;

Firstly, having conducted my own research into the background of the proposal, as residents were unaware of the initial consultation period; I have found the Diss Town Council Meeting Minutes of 21st June 2017 which state:

FC0617/10 PARISH BOUNDARY REVIEW

"Councillors considered proposals for the parish boundary review, deferred from the previous meeting (report reference 06/1718 herewith refers). It was noted that Diss is a central hub, with Diss residents funding a significant amount of facilities and services that people who don't live in the town benefit from. However, it was suggested that it would not be in the best interests of the Neighbourhood Plan and the relationship between Diss & Roydon to propose changes that Roydon Parish Council are unable to support. It was therefore proposed and seconded not to approve the principle of proposing boundary changes between Roydon and Diss but the proposal was not carried.

Councillors felt that clearly defined boundaries between Diss and Roydon with a protected green space in-between would result in more effective and convenient community governance which better reflects the identities of the two communities. It was therefore proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: a) to approve the principle of proposing boundary changes between Roydon and Diss
b) to propose Option B which would include within the Diss boundary all land currently in the Roydon parish boundary to the east of Quaker Wood, north of Factory Lane and west of Shelfanger Road and to include all of the Longmeadow housing estate off the Old High Road.
c) to propose an increase in the number of councillors for Diss to 14, which is relevant to the projected electorate increase based on current planned growth and existing boundaries."

Picking up on the points from the above extract, that if Diss Town Councillors felt that "Diss residents are funding a significant amount of facilities and services that people who don't live in the town benefit from"; then I believe that Diss should charge all users of these facilities and services if those are the people benefitting from the provided facilities and services, rather than changing the boundaries to effectively increase the town's population, in order to raise more revenue from Council Tax in order to cover those costs of these facilities and services, that Diss state that they provide.
Diss Town Council have not explained which "facilities and services" they are referring to. Maybe they should review the provision of these facilities and services if they are so costly.

There are no public sports facilities, other than the Swimming Pool which does not belong to Diss Town Council.

It isn't just Roydon residents who visit Diss so it should not just be those village residents singled out to help cover these costs.

If this argument is pursued surely half of South Norfolk and part of North Suffolk should be included in these proposals. Where does this stop?

I am sure other towns in South Norfolk are not wishing to change their boundaries to help cover costs of 'Facilities and Services' provided by their town.

The minutes also state Diss Town Councillors decided "not to approve the principle of proposing boundary changes between Roydon and Diss" but then this was overruled as other Diss Town Councillors felt that "clearly defined boundaries" were needed between Diss and Roydon, and that would "result in more effective and convenient community governance which better reflects the identities of the two communities."

However, I am unaware of there being an actual problem with the current boundary to either Roydon or Diss residents and Diss Town Council have not elaborated on the reasons for this opinion. The current boundary has been in place for hundreds of years without issue, so I am not sure why there is a sudden request for changes to be made. Albeit the line on the map would unlike other parish boundaries be straighter but I cannot see that this would create a more 'convenient community governance' to improve the identities of the two communities.

Again I believe there is no issue of the identities of Diss and Roydon to the residents that live there. As far as I am aware, no residents have been asked for their opinions on the identity of the communities, to gauge whether or not there is an actual issue.

If the proposed boundary changes were agreed then the result of this would be that nearly 500 Roydon properties would become Diss, which is almost 43% of Roydon's current population. This would destroy the current community identity of the village.

If the remaining residents of Roydon then are faced with a large increase in the Parish Council precept as a result, surely the whole village should be being consulted regarding these proposed boundary changes, which is not the case. Therefore, the status quo regarding the boundary should be maintained.

Diss Town Council refer to deciding upon "Option B" with regards to the areas they have put forward for the boundary changes, what were the other Options??

By choosing "Option B" "which would include within the Diss boundary all land currently in the Roydon parish boundary to the east of Quaker Wood, north of Factory Lane and west of Shelfanger Road and to include all of the Longmeadow housing estate off the Old High Road."

The map provided on the South Norfolk Council website as detailed in your letter to us residents, has a larger part of Roydon included as Diss than those areas detailed above - who has amended the areas to alter the final version of the proposal shown to residents now as part of the 'second phase of consultation'?

From the information contained within the website, it also states that it has been "agreed to support the changes to the boundary, pending comments from Roydon Parish Council". I understand Roydon Parish Council have responded that they do not support this proposal. Why has Diss Town Council's wishes been agreed by I assume the Review Panel prior to seeking Roydon Parish Council's comments and why should Diss Town Council's wishes be supported in favour of Roydon Parish Council when it is Roydon who are the ones to loose almost half of the village's residents?

The majority of the areas of Roydon which Diss Town Council have proposed to be included within Diss, are in fact amongst the oldest parts of the village and should be left unchanged to maintain Roydon's historic identity.
The area of the Brush Factory (and surrounding areas), off Factory Lane and Tottington Lane/Potash Lane areas are in fact amongst the oldest parts of the Roydon Village being noted in the Domesday Book of the 11th Century following the Norman Conquest. There is also a Mill off Shelfanger Road (Roydon) which was one of a number in Roydon which date back to the 18th Century.

One of the fields off the A1066 in Roydon adjoining Sandstone Way was recently excavated by Cambridge University and found to have had a Bronze Age cremation site and settlement and as such deemed important of the history of the area. It is possible that this field would be built upon if the proposed changes went ahead. This history of Roydon would be destroyed as irrelevant if the proposed changes are agreed as those areas would become Diss.

This is all about preserving Roydon’s integrity as a village actually predates Diss as a settlement and been occupied continuously since pre-Roman times.

And the Brush Factory sculpture placed on Roydon Village Hall after the closure of the Factory (off Factory Lane, Roydon/now Brushmaker’s Way) will have no meaning for the Village that remains as Roydon, if the Factory Lane area is amalgamated with Diss.

The former Brush Factory site was built upon in the mid 1990s along with the nearby Appletree Lane estate off Factory Lane, this would mean that those properties were established at the time of the last Community Governance Review 15 years ago and it was not raised then as there being a need to change the historic boundary between Roydon and Diss. And I don’t see that anything has changed there since then, for it now to be required.

However, Diss Town Council also propose to include all of the Long Meadow housing estate which has been built since the last Community Governance Review and currently straddles the Diss/Roydon boundary, if this is what is an issue for Diss Town Council and is the cause of the apparent unclear defined boundary between Roydon and Diss then it should be this area alone that is the basis for this current Community Governance Review.

The proposed boundary changes would allow Diss unopposed access to land for housing, on what at present is considered the “Green Belt” between Diss and Roydon. This situation was highlighted when the Long Meadow Drive development took place against the wishes of both Diss Town Council and Roydon Parish Council. If Diss succeed in their bid to increase the town’s size and number of properties this will give them Population figures which would probably result in additional Councillor Representation giving Diss, larger “clout” at District level and result in them being in a better position for central funding to meet their presumed shortfalls over expenditure. Roydon residents should not be paying for the ineptitude of Diss Town Council.

This is also about preserving Roydon’s integrity as a village, which actually predates Diss as a settlement and has been occupied continuously since pre-Roman times.

It is understood that the Diss Athletics Ground which is in Roydon but currently managed by Diss Town Council with the Athletics Club paying the lease to Diss Town Council for the upkeep costs, have recently been advised that the lease would not be renewed by Diss Town Council - This is in the area of Roydon which Diss wishes to become Diss under this review but rather than keep the community sports facility available for current and future members of the local community (which is important for the health, fitness, social aspects of the current and future generations), what are Diss Town Council’s intentions for wanting the Athletics Ground land from Roydon but recently advising them that they will not be renewing the club’s lease - is it because they assume this land will soon become Diss and they wish to build houses upon the land? This would destroy part of the local sporting community in the process. If this is correct and the land will no longer be a Sports Ground than the Road Sign near the Denmark Street and Park Road roundabout indicating that the Sports Ground is a mile away will need to be changed, incurring the associated costs in doing so.
Quaker Wood is another Community Asset currently in Roydon, complimenting the nearby Brewers Green, this would become Diss under the proposed boundary change and even if the wood itself is protected, then the allotments beside them may be desired by Diss Town Council for building houses upon, to further increase the size of Diss and generate further revenue via the precept received from their Council Tax.

It may just be for 'Electoral Reasons' at the start but in time, I am sure that this would mean that those residents forcibly being moved to Diss from Roydon against their will would be required to pay the Diss rate of Council Tax and its associated increases for their home and vehicle insurances. As well as being forced to pay Land Registry costs to amend the Title Deeds of each of those properties within the affected areas of Roydon to reflect their change of address.

I believe there will be a cost both financial and in time taken to amend the address details of those properties forced to have an address change from Roydon to Diss for all the bills/amenities companies, Doctors and Dentists etc and every company, individual who holds their address and would need to be informed of any address change. As well as to many companies and the Emergency Services having to amend their address databases to reflect the changes in address of those who are being affected.

There are already proposed housing developments for the East and South areas of Diss, which would further put a strain upon the medical centres and Schools of the town without the inclusion of those current Roydon residents, whose properties are being forced to move to Diss, as at present they come under the catchments for other Doctors and Schools in the area, which spreads the demand for such places in the town. This wouldn’t be the case if Roydon residents were forced to move to Diss.

There may also be an issue if those residents who are being forced to move to become Diss at a later stage wish to sell their home. The house prices may change and those interested in the property may be altered if the property becomes being in a town rather than a sought after village.

On a personal level, I have been a resident of Roydon for nearly 35 years and my current address is in the area (Appletree Lane) which would no longer be Roydon but Diss if the proposed changes are agreed; When I bought the property I did so as I wanted to live in Roydon. If I wanted to live in Diss, I would have purchased a property in Diss (and there were more properties available in Diss and cheaper than the Roydon premium paid for being a village property.)

My Daughter was christened at St. Remigius Church, Roydon, which was the same Church I was Christened in, we were allowed to have the service there as we were Roydon residents. If our property is moved to Diss, it may both be possible to use Roydon Church in the future. I have already registered my Daughter with the Pre-School 'Roydon Early Years' (the same playschool I went to 30 years ago) with the aim that she could go to Roydon Primary School (again the same School that I attended), these considerations were made when purchasing our family home recently. As well as her having the option to join Roydon Rainbows and Brownies, again the same group I attended. However, if the boundary change is supported then there is no guarantee that these wishes would be possible and my Daughter’s future choices would be forced upon her and us, due to Diss Town Council’s wishes rather than those of her parents'.

I therefore urge that the current boundary is maintained with no properties or residents of Roydon being forced to live in a town instead of a village against the choice they made of where they wished to live when they moved into those properties.
Electoral Services Team,  
South Norfolk Council,  
Cygnet Court,  
Long Stratton,  
Norwich,  
NR15 2XE.

Proposed Change of Boundary between Roydon and Diss

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed change of Boundary between the village of Roydon, that has its original roots dating back to the tenth century with evidence of settlements dating back even further with the relatively new Market town of Diss. This would constitute a reduction of nearly half of the inhabitants having their legal right and personal choice of living in a village taken away from them in a very non democratic way with no respectable reasoning except for it to tidy up the lines on a map. It would however cause confusion if you don't have a current map showing the change.

This action has no regard for the inhabitants of the affected houses or for any of the history associated with a wonderful close knit village and will involve half of it becoming part of a faceless town. It looks like just another case of SNDC and local councils taking the final say over something that doesn't directly affect the individual councillors personally but fits with their agenda to make a mark in history of what they "achieved." Councillors are elected to act in the best interests of the voters but this doesn't seem to be the case these days. It's interesting to see that Roydon Parish Council are also opposed to this but are set to be over rules by their 'Big Brother' council.
I do however understand that the boundary review has to take place every 15 years. After all it's a review, so if everything is fine then leave it alone. Previously there has been no change to the boundary in any of these previous reviews. “If it isn't Broke don't fix it” and all the villagers believe it isn't broke. So there doesn't seem to be any good reason to change it now.

I believe that the true motives to change the boundary now is twofold.

**Revenue building**

The first reason seems to be to raise the revenue for the town through the Council tax. It has been stated that money is not an acceptable reason to not do something; This is **very hard to swallow** when families are struggling to pay the high charges imposed on them already. All Roydon residents are going to feel a big rise in the various precepts charges, those that move across more so than those that remain. So it's a Loose Loose situation for the residents and a Win Win for Diss council. If a council wants more money they demand it from the residents, unfortunately the resident can't go and demand more money to cover this from their employer.

They just struggle even more. I have yet to see any real worthwhile projects happen around Diss; just some vanity projects that haven't actually improved the town.

It has been said that Roydon residents benefit from all the amenities that Diss offers, I find it hard to think of anything that is provide that isn't paid for at the time. To quote the Christmas light is a feeble attempt at to justify this when there is an appeal for funds being pushed forward in the local supermarket. Also Roydon residents support and spend monies with the local businesses of Diss of which I am sure Diss town council receives considerable revenue in the form of rates etc.

**Land Grab to that could lead to enhance the revenue building**

Secondly this change will free up a big portion of land that is likely to become a target of being developed in order to meet the house building requirements set out by the government. If this development was to happen then it would be revenue for Diss and not Roydon. If this was to happen then it would bring the rest of Roydon even closer to Diss and who's to know during the next review in 15 years it could see more of Roydon being swallowed up and become part of Diss. This could make the village so small it could make having our own parish council un-viable and result in the whole of Roydon disappearing. Should Diss want to build more houses though the infrastructure i.e. doctors, Dentists, schools etc. is at bursting point already then they should look to the north and north easy where there is plenty of open fields.

If there is any true democracy within the various councils that are involved with this then the boundary will remain where is has been for a very long time and that we should remain at the current status quo

So to sum up I believe the will of the residents is upheld and this boundary change is rejected and all stays as it has been in living memory.

Yours Faithfully
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 26 October 2017 21:25
To: Elections; Review
Subject: Diss / Roydon Parish Boundary Review

For the attention of Julia Tovee-Galey, Electoral Services Manager, South Norfolk Council

Dear Julia,

I write to OPPOSE all of the proposed boundary changes between the Parish of Roydon and Town of Diss. Here follow my reasons...

The people of Roydon are being “done to” and not “done with”. This has not been a fair consultation. In fact, it hasn’t been a consultation at all. There has been an absolute lack of any kind of discussion or communication about any benefits that the boundary change would bring about for the people of Roydon – despite the community repeatedly asking for this. It is evident that this is all about money for Diss Town Council, but I’ll come to this later.

It saddens me greatly that a district council that I had previously believed had the interests of their communities at heart would collaborate with Diss Town Council to FORCE and IMPOSE the proposed parish boundary changes on to Roydon. I believed South Norfolk Council took pride in “working with communities” and have heard Chief Executive Sandra Dineen say on many occasions that the Council seeks to make its residents feel like they are being “done with” and NOT “done to”. How sad then that this “consultation” should prove that this is not in fact the case.

Simply put, NO ONE IN ROYDON WANTS THIS BOUNDARY CHANGE. There is zero support for it. How can you force something through when there is absolutely no support from the community that will be most significantly affected – i.e. Roydon? In doing so, you will be riding rough-shod over a community that is very much together and very much galvanised.

To reassign 43% of the homes in Roydon to Diss is far too big a change for the village to bear. Slicing the village almost in half will mean a complete loss of the village’s identity. We are a village in our own rights, not a convenient suburb or a flexible extension of Diss that can be lasseled in when Diss Town Council needs more money. We chose to live in Roydon, a village. The proposed boundary changes put this choice at risk with no valid reason and no consultation behind it. We are resentful and angry.

There is no logical rationale behind the argument from Diss Town Council that 43% of Roydon residents should pay for their use of the amenities in the town. Why only 43% of the population? Why not all? Why not the residents of Scole, Palgrave, Bressingham, Burston and Shelfhanger too? Surely the same argument and principle could be applied to these parishes since they use all the same facilities and amenities that supposedly the residents of Roydon do? If Diss Town Council’s argument is about use of amenities, then they are singling out one small area for discriminatory treatment over all the rest without evidence. I assume that this is because Roydon, specifically the 43% of it which will be affected, has been deemed to be the most convenient village or area to ‘incorporate’ into Diss and the manner in which the “consultation” has been conducted suggests that Diss Town Council and South Norfolk Council expected this to just “slip in under the radar” without anyone noticing or objecting.
I am obviously very aware of the investment that South Norfolk Council has made in Diss through the New Homes Bonus and Market Towns Initiative - including the money that Diss Town Council requested in support of the Heritage Triangle. The investment made in Diss, through the Market Towns Initiative, was to enable the town to continue to be an attractive and viable ‘hub’ for the villages and parishes that surround it – the residents of which are desired and required to spend their money with the businesses in Diss in order for it to generate economic growth. At no point during the Market Towns Initiative did Diss Town Council say that in order to manage, service and maintain the investment that it had requested South Norfolk Council to make in the town (to increase its attractiveness as a destination for its hinterland and to support economic growth) that it would need to charge the residents of the very villages and parishes that it hoped to continue attracting as a result of the investment (by incorporating them into Diss and charging them the Diss precept). If Diss Town Council could not afford to run its own amenities and to service the investment made in the town through the Market Towns Initiative then perhaps it should not have accepted or requested the investment in the first place – or perhaps South Norfolk Council should not have made the investment? I appreciate that the Heritage Triangle landscaping, boardwalk, planters etc may have been financed by the Heritage Lottery Fund but who will pay for their maintenance? Roydon residents? The current situation could be summarised as Diss Town Council trying to have their cake and eat it.

The “first phase of consultation”, and I do use that term loosely, was clearly inadequate and ineffective. Burying a link to a proposal on the lesser visited pages of South Norfolk Council’s website does not constitute an effective consultation. I am sure that the Google Analytics that I know to be embedded within the site would bear testament to this as I suspect they show very little traffic to the webpage until after the ‘second’ phase consultation letter hit (most of) the doormats of the homes in Roydon affected by the proposed change. I am sure that the traffic to the page on your website increased significantly after the letter had landed. While we are on the subject of effective communication likewise mentioning the Parish Boundary review in the graveyard pages of The Link magazine also does not constitute effective consultation. It is widely acknowledged, by South Norfolk Council staff even, that this is a glory publication for the Councillors of South Norfolk Council to promote the good work that they are doing, but that for the residents or recipients in South Norfolk who receive it, it fulfils little more than providing additional recycling fodder for their green bin.

The presence of Councillor Kiddie on the Electoral Arrangements Review Committee shows further bias towards Diss Town Council. It is a conflict of interest. Whilst Councillor Kiddie won’t be able to contribute ‘on the day’ owing to his interest in Diss Town Council’s proposals, his work has already been done long in advance. The nature of the multiple hats (County Council, District Council and Town Council) that he wears means he is a rather convenient internal conduit to ensuring that what Diss Town Council and South Norfolk Council want to be delivered, will be. There has been a distinct lack of transparency about how the proposals were put together – all of which feels Machiavellian and underhand and has resulted in a huge lack of trust and faith in both Diss Town Council and South Norfolk Council from Roydon residents. How could the affected Roydon residents, both those who stand to be reassigned and those who have been left behind, ever put faith in Diss Town Council to serve their needs and govern after this? For the latter group, it would be like the turkeys who’ve escaped the kill in one year, voting for Christmas in the next.

It is very apparent that these proposals by Diss Town Council and South Norfolk Council to lift and shift 43% of a neighbouring village into the town is also a flagrant land grab from Roydon in order that they can fulfil the required housing growth through the market town. Inevitably it all comes down to money and land, with what this proposal will do to the community of Roydon and its residents as a mere afterthought. The proposed boundary change may well be a win/win for Diss Town Council and South Norfolk Council but at what cost to Roydon? It is already creating a wealth of bad feeling and a rift between the two communities.

I am well aware of the strength of feeling in Roydon about this issue and I know that there are many other arguments and reasons that this boundary change should not happen including historical and financial reasons – all of which I wholeheartedly support too.

To conclude, the proposed boundary change is not in the best interests of Roydon and will significantly and adversely affect the identity of this community. I oppose the proposed boundary changes between Roydon and Diss and I ask that the members of the Electoral Arrangements Review Committee dismiss these proposals.
PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE

When considering a case for a boundary change within the area of local authority responsibility, it would appear extremely difficult to support a widening area of Disi Council's administration.

The main unit of the local authority system is S.W.D.C. with the parish councils of the area feeding into it. Disi Council is a hybrid Parish Council because it has responsibilities for the town centre including the more, therefore it does not appear justifiable to consider an enlargement of the council, which has very limited resources.

It would be extremely helpful if S.W.D.C. could set out reasons for the proposed changes, having in mind the present on them to keep increases in Council Tax to a minimum.

Disi Council claim that as they provide amenities for surrounding villages they are entitled to take over Kingson. The argument could be applied to many other towns in the country and I therefore conclude it to be a very weak case.

No consultation with residents on S.W.D.C.
proposed here yet this place and as it would appear that up to 43% of town could be lost, consultation on any proposals would seem to be priority.

Having witnessed recent town centre construction works, many people question the territorial competence of Tivvy Council to undertake this type of investment and on this basis perhaps it would be an error to consider giving Tivvy Council a larger financial budget to control.

We look forward to your reply

Yours sincerely
26th October 2017

The Electoral Services Team
South Norfolk Council
Cygnet Court
Long Stratton
Norwich
NR15 2XE

Ref: Proposed Boundary Changes. Diss/Roydon

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you to officially oppose the boundary change between Roydon and Diss.

There are many reasons as to why I believe the boundary change should not go ahead and take nearly 43% of our Village residents plus additional land. I shall outline my reasons below referring to the ‘Terms of Reference’ (TOR) where applicable.

In reference to: “TOR 2.1 – Improve community engagement and local democracy”

My family and I are fully involved with our community, in fact Roydon has a very strong community and an identity of its own which is separate from Diss. We enjoy supporting the Village and its local amenities. I am also on the Roydon Village Hall committee, soon to be taking over the position of Chairlady.

Our community is already fully engaged, as proven by the residents coming together to oppose this proposed boundary change. Together we have taken part in interviews with various media outlets (see Appendix 1), such as BBC Radio Norfolk, The Eastern Daily Press and Diss Express Newspapers and ITV Anglia News, all of which have seen residents and Roydon Parish Council standing side by side in our wishes to remain a unified Village. We also had a walk for Roydon event, where a huge number of our residents came together to walk most of the affected boundary of our beloved Village (see Appendix 2). This culminated at St Remigius’ Church/Roydon White Hart Public House, with the Church opening up its Parish Rooms to residents and the Public House providing refreshments and baked goods. We have also created an online community group (with nearly 300 members and counting) and have arranged door to door leaflet/poster drops to all residents (paid for by the residents out of their own pockets) (see Appendix 3). The group has been extremely supportive and pro-active and the level of support from all generations has been overwhelming.

In reference to: “TOR 2.2 - facilitate efficient, effective and convenient delivery of local services and ensure electors across the whole District are treated equitably and fairly.”
It is my belief that there is efficient, effective and convenient delivery of local services, however, should the boundary change go ahead, I do not believe Roydon residents are being treated equitably and fairly. How can it possibly be fair to rip nearly 43% of our Village away without agreement of the residents? It will destroy a community and could possibly make our Village non-viable, to the point where we will be subsumed by Diss.

It is not equitable or fair that this process was carried out without Roydon residents being formally notified. The notifications were hidden in the back pages of the Link magazine (see Appendix 4), on page 22 of 25, with no earlier mention, and after general advertisements. The Link magazine by definition is classed as Junk Mail (“letters or emails that are sent to people although they have not asked to receive them”) as it is not addressed personally to the recipients. The other ways that we were informed about the boundary review were via S.N.D.C website, Nextdoor.com and other social media sites, all of which relies on Roydon residents having access to the internet and the ability to use technology. A lot of Roydon residents are of an older generation, such as my neighbours, who have neither internet nor the understanding of how to use technology. So how exactly do you expect them to be aware of the threat of the boundary change?

These are people in their late 80’s! No, they cannot go to the Library, nor should they have to. This was your responsibility to make sure all Roydon residents were made aware of such a threat and change to our Village, especially as you should be “reflective of the identities and interests of the community in the area (TOR 11.9),” which you obviously haven’t been, even at the earlier stage. The only direct communication villagers eventually received was a letter sent to the properties included within the proposed boundary change even though it clearly affects all Roydon residents.

then asked why this decision was made and I was told it

It is also not fair or equitable that Roydon are being targeted by Diss Town Council to subsidise them. The main reason we have been given for the boundary change is that Diss feel it is fair that they included Roydon properties because Roydon residents use Diss amenities. The amenities that Roydon use are also used by residents of Scole, Shelfanger, Bressingham, Palgrave, Winfarthing etc., yet only Roydon have been targeted to provide additional funds. Diss however also use Roydon amenities such as the Fen, Brewer’s Green, the Village Hall etc. yet we are not asking for any of Diss land or properties. We are a tight-knit community with a strong sense of identity and do not wish to encroach on Diss or to have Diss decimate our Village. The original proposal was put forward to “create a sensible boundary between Diss and Roydon” and that “there needed to be a clear defined boundary”. With this in mind, how is the proposed boundary effective? How is cutting though Roydon land creating a sensible or clear boundary? The land Diss are trying to acquire is for one reason only – they want more money (see Appendix 5). They also hope to increase the area they can build upon, thus creating more revenue for Diss, and by doing so building upon land that Roydon have always been adamant to keep as green space. Roydon is a ‘Serviced Village’ and has limitations on the amount of properties allowed to be built, whereas Diss is encouraged by South Norfolk District Council and by its own Diss Town Council to build as much as possible.

There is no logical or reasonable explanation as to why Diss has decided to move the boundary line, as it is perfectly sensible, clear and defined as it stands now and has done for over 130 years, since at
least the ordinance survey map of 1886 (see Appendix 6). If there is any confusion for Diss, may I suggest adding more signs like in Tottington Lane (see Appendix 7), that state upon them “In the Parish of Roydon”. This I’m sure would help those who find themselves confused, and would cost a great deal less money that moving the boundary for such ridiculous excuses. Therefore I feel very confident in stating that there is no confusion on where the boundary is and that the current boundary is sensible, clear and defined so does not require ANY adjustments.

Can I also enquire as to why a sub-committee consisting of Dr Christopher Kemp, Councillor Trevor Lewis and Councillor Keith Kiddie was deemed suitable to make the decision to add the Tottington Lane area to the proposal already submitted by Diss Town Council? Mr Kiddie is County Councillor for Diss AND Roydon. He is also Diss Town Councillor and District Councillor for Diss, as well as Vice Chairman of the Electoral Arrangements Review Committee. It is even in the minutes from the review on 15th August 2017 that the Diss Town Clerk stated this was over and above the recommendation put forward by Diss Town Council.

We understand that Mr Kiddie removed himself from the room when the boundary was discussed at Diss Town Council meetings and Roydon Parish Council meetings yet he felt it was fair and just, to make the recommendations at the E.A.R.C sub-committee meetings!? So in front of the public at local meetings, he made a big fuss about how he “shouldn’t be present, as it wouldn’t be fair, and it’s a conflict of interest because I represent Diss and I live in Diss” yet in private E.A.R.C meetings he wasn’t only present for the discussions, it was then confirmed at the Roydon Parish Public meeting with such.

This should invalidate the entire boundary review for Roydon/Diss, and Roydon should be left as it is in its own territory. Further action should also be brought to investigate how this situation was allowed to develop in the first place.

As stated within the ‘Guidance on Community Governance Reviews’ as issued by ‘Local Government Boundary Commission for England’, Section 3, point 59, “the feelings of local community and the wishes of local inhabitants are the primary considerations”. I and the rest of Roydon residents, and Roydon Parish Council, demand our right to have our feelings and wishes to be of primary consideration and we as a community wholeheartedly REJECT the proposed boundary change and want the boundary to remain as it stands now and has for hundreds of years.

By taking nearly 43% of our village away you are also taking Roydon’s historic places of importance and landmarks. The same landmarks that many roads in Roydon are named after! You are taking Roydon Village’s identity and there is ZERO support from Roydon residents, nor Roydon Parish Council. The areas of the Brush Factory and Tottington Lane/Potash Lane are in fact amongst the oldest parts of Roydon. There is a Mill off Shelfanger Road which was one of a number in Roydon which date back to the 18th Century. The Carving from the Aldrich Brother’s Brush Factory, now at
Roydon Village Hall will have no value if the boundary move takes place as the affected road (Brushmakers Way) is within the boundary change proposal. The Brush Factory was also used in the filming of the BBC Sitcom “You Rang M’Lord” as the face of the fictional “Union Jack Rubber Company”.

Roydon also has a longer history dating back to the Doomsday book (1086) and a Bronze Age cremation site (in one of the fields off the A1066 in Roydon adjoining Sandstone Way as excavated by Cambridge University) was found in the Village along with other finds from the Saxon, Roman and Medieval periods.

St Remigius’ Church is the earliest standing structure in Roydon, dating back to the 12th-14th century and is still an integral part of our community today with a focus on bringing children and their families together for fun, friendship and faith. There is a Donut Church were all children from the Village are welcome to come together for fun games and creating a real community spirit.

Although I understand that the church will still welcome people who will be classed as Diss residents if the boundary change goes ahead, they may feel that as now Diss residents, they should go to a Diss church thus damaging our community further. All Roydon residents have right to be buried in the Roydon churchyard, and have no need to be buried in Diss. Families who have lived and died over many generations are heartbroken at the thought that they could no longer live in the Village that their ancestors are buried, despite not having moved themselves, as well as parents who have lost their children, and now feel ripped away from them.

In reference to: “TOR 9/9.1 Why undertake a Community Governance Review? ...Such reviews can be undertaken when there have been a change in population or in reaction to specific, or local new issues to ensure community governance in the area continues to be effective and convenient and it reflect the present day identities and interest of the community.”

We feel that this criteria has not been fulfilled: At no point has Diss Town Council mentioned any change to population, specific or any local new issues, therefore there is no reason for a boundary change and any change to the boundary will not be effective or convenient as it will definitely NOT reflect the present day identity and interest of the Roydon community. It will only destroy all good relations between Roydon Village and Diss Town, insight anger and create a damaging divide because Roydon is a robust community in its own right and should remain as such. The population of Diss is actually less now than it was at the time of the last boundary review (2001 vs 2011 census) yet back then they did not request a boundary review. Roydon however, has increased in population so has far more need of the land that belongs to our Village and our Parish is running smoothly and in harmony. It will also threaten the Neighbourhood Plan which will be damaging to both Roydon and Diss.

Recommendations have already been made to Diss Town Council by E.A.R.C to take over and above the boundary line Diss Town Council put forward. Roydon residents were not taken into account as we have submitted 100% opposition to the boundary change. There has been no transparency as promised by E.A.R.C and Roydon residents feel ignored, rode roughshod over, and minimised in favour of Diss.
Therefore we believe this boundary review does not even meet the basic criteria and should be dismissed forthwith and outright. This proposal by Diss Town Council has been solely about money and land just as it was back in 1979 (see Appendix 9). The criteria have not been met, the procedure has not been followed and Roydon has been underestimated, underrepresented and we now demand our rights as a Village and community be observed.

Finally, just to re-iterate, that I stand with Roydon Parish Council and other Roydon residents to fully and vehemently oppose the proposed boundary change between Roydon and Diss.

Yours Faithfully,
Appendix 1: Media Coverage

ITV News Anglia


16 October 2017 at 7:05pm

Campaigning to keep a South Norfolk village independent

People living in the South Norfolk village of Roydon are campaigning against proposed boundary changes which could see half the properties being reclassified as being in Diss.

Watch a report by ITV News Anglia's Malcolm Robertson.

Diss Express


BBC Radio Norfolk

http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p05gkfw7
Residents protest against possible boundary changes to their village

Some of the residents in South Norfolk took part in a protest against proposed boundary changes to their village.

The protest was held at the village hall and was attended by a large number of local residents. The proposed changes would affect the boundaries of several parishes, including Roydon.

One of the residents who took part in the protest was Mr. Thomas Brown, who has lived in the village for over 40 years. He said, "I am very concerned about the proposed changes as they will affect our community significantly."

Mr. Brown added, "I have lived here all my life and I don't want to see any changes that will affect the village in a negative way."

The protest was organised by the local residents and was supported by the parish council. A spokesman for the council said, "We are interested in the opinions of the residents and we will carefully consider their concerns before making any decisions."

The proposed changes are part of a wider review of the county's boundary changes to make it more efficient and effective. However, residents are concerned that the changes will affect their community and they want to express their views.

The protest was held in the village hall and was attended by a large number of local residents. The proposed changes would affect the boundaries of several parishes, including Roydon.

One of the residents who took part in the protest was Mr. Thomas Brown, who has lived in the village for over 40 years. He said, "I am very concerned about the proposed changes as they will affect our community significantly."

Mr. Brown added, "I have lived here all my life and I don't want to see any changes that will affect the village in a negative way."

The protest was organised by the local residents and was supported by the parish council. A spokesman for the council said, "We are interested in the opinions of the residents and we will carefully consider their concerns before making any decisions."

The proposed changes are part of a wider review of the county's boundary changes to make it more efficient and effective. However, residents are concerned that the changes will affect their community and they want to express their views.

The protest was held in the village hall and was attended by a large number of local residents. The proposed changes would affect the boundaries of several parishes, including Roydon.

One of the residents who took part in the protest was Mr. Thomas Brown, who has lived in the village for over 40 years. He said, "I am very concerned about the proposed changes as they will affect our community significantly."

Mr. Brown added, "I have lived here all my life and I don't want to see any changes that will affect the village in a negative way."

The protest was organised by the local residents and was supported by the parish council. A spokesman for the council said, "We are interested in the opinions of the residents and we will carefully consider their concerns before making any decisions."

The proposed changes are part of a wider review of the county's boundary changes to make it more efficient and effective. However, residents are concerned that the changes will affect their community and they want to express their views.
Appendix 2: Walk for Roydon

Another example of the amazing community spirit Roydon has shown.

WALK FOR ROYDON

Sunday 22nd October - 9.30am for 10am start
Meeting point, Brewer Green, nr Pond. Finish at Roydon White Hart.
A gentle stroll (whatever the weather) taking in some of the proposed
affected areas. Mostly on hard road and paths, approx 1.5 hrs max.
Join en route as you wish, for a shorter walk, or to show your support
Wear something Yellow if possible, hats, fancy dress, banners, all ok
Appendix 3: New Community Group

The new group has reinforced and grown the community spirit in Roydon. We have achieved much as a group and will continue to defend our Village. We now have nearly 300 members and are continuing to grow our support daily.

We’ve also been hard at work doing the job of S.N.D.C by printing and personally distributing these letters and posters to ALL Roydon residents to make them aware of the proposed change.

To All Roydon Residents,

As you may be aware Roydon is facing a proposed boundary change under the boundary commissions 2017/18 review, IF accepted the current boundary would be redefined, so that a very large proportion of existing Roydon properties (43% approx) would be reclassified as Diss. This will have a huge impact on ALL of Roydon whether your property is affected or not.

At the moment there are three main ways to express your concerns about the Proposed Boundary Change – all of which need to be received by the 27th October 2017, at the latest.

1. By completing the easy Online Survey at http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Parish/
2. By sending a letter to:
   Electoral Services Team, South Norfolk Council, Cygnet Court, Long Stratton, Norwich, NR15 2XE
3. By sending an e-mail to: review@s-norfolk.gov.uk

If you are responding by letter or e-mail, letters may be more effective you will need to state exactly why you are opposed to the changes, (arguing my council tax will rise will not be enough).

For those on Facebook, we have set up a Group called Leave Roydon (Norfolk) Whole!
Appendix 4: Insufficient and lazy notifications by S.N.D.C

Link Magazine

The all-important Spring 2017 issue of the South Norfolk District Council Link Magazine.

Up first is the important notification of the upcoming Election. Very important to **ALL** South Norfolk residents so quite rightly prominently displayed on the inside cover. Surely the important boundary change notification which also affects **ALL** South Norfolk residents will be equally well publicised? But there is no mention of it on the cover or in the contents or message from the “Leader”? So it must be coming straight up on Page 4, after all “it reflects the identities and interests of our communities”?

No! Instead we get page after page of commendable, but irrelevant to most people, community stories.

Then finally it arrives, on Page 21, the all-important....... advert for Gutter Force that everyone has been waiting for!!!?

At last we find it, on Page 22, the half page spread that everyone has been eagerly reading though the entire magazine to find (because we all knew it was coming?) which gives us no real information whatsoever except to direct us to a website.

- LAZY AND POORLY THOUGHT OUT!
- NO CONSIDERATION TO THE ELDERLY OR THOSE NOT ONLINE!
- CLEARLY TRYING TO SNEAK IT UNDER THE RADAR!
- NOT TRANSPARENT!

---

**PLACE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**TESTING THE BOUNDARIES**

We will shortly be starting a review of the boundaries that make up the 3 parish councils in South Norfolk.

The review will take approximately every 5 years to ensure that the governance of the parishes continues to be effective and that it reflects the identities and interests of our communities.

The review will be starting on 20 March and will run until February 2018. During that time you will have the chance to have your views heard through two consultation periods: the first from 20 March to 12 July and the second from 13 August until 27 October. I would love to hear your views with regard to your local boundary and polling station reviews.

Our current boundary review is being conducted by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England and is still ongoing with the draft recommendation being published in March.

You will be able to see the results on the Local Government Boundary Commission's website www.lgbc.org.uk with the new boundaries being put in place in May 2019. We also have a parliamentary boundary review underway. The Boundary Commission for England, conducting a parliamentary boundary review with the aim to keep the number of electors in each constituency broadly equal.

You can view the initial proposals on www.bce2018.org.uk.
Appendix 5: Diss Town Council’s not so hidden agenda

Despite claiming that the need for the proposed boundary change is simply “to create logical and sensible boundary” they have publically and repeatedly stated that is because they want more money! These are not valid arguments yet this proposal still remains for consideration – why!? A lot of these “facilities” Diss claim to offer, however, are either chargeable or just vanity projects for which they will gain income via visitors to the area. It is not up to Roydon to pay for such things.

From Eastern Daily Press article: http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/politics/council-tax-row-over-roydon-parish-boundary-change-1-5253504...

...but moving the boundary for the financial gain of Diss is not a valid reason, and not the reason given by Diss Town Council to E.A.R.C.

From Diss Town Council website: http://www.diss.gov.uk/parish-boundary-review/...

Understandably, one of the main concerns is the cost impact for Roydon residents. The most affected households would face a potential annual increase of around £140 or £12 per month based on the Diss 2017/18 Band D household figure. The Town Council’s element of the total council tax bill is 9%.

Diss taxpayers help to maintain and improve many facilities and amenities including, to name a few, the Park & Mere, Market, Cemetery, the Diss Youth & Community Centre and the Corn Hall; support community groups; organise two key annual events; and, decorate the town with bunting and Christmas lights.

...the potential cost increase in Council Tax is of very little consideration to most Roydon villagers, we simply want to remain in our Village, it is where we chose to live and where we want to remain! But again, the maintenance and improvements of Diss facilities are the responsibility of Diss Town Council, they should be managing their own budget and not trying to grab more money from Roydon residents.
...so Diss Town Council are clearly NOT seeking to create a logical boundary, they are just targeting the closest residents of Roydon to pay for the facilities. This is NOT a valid reason for them to propose a boundary change.

...and may we suggest that if Diss are just after the money that they state this reason. Roydon properties have been adjacent to Diss for over a hundred years, this is nothing new. If they grab the land they will then develop on it and then in 15 years' time they will propose to take the next piece of Roydon which is now right next to them. They won't stop until Roydon has been completely consumed by Diss. After that they will target Shelfanger and other neighbouring villages. This must be stopped.
...once again I must highlight that it is not just Roydon residents that use and enjoy these facilities but from other villages far and wide. Just because Diss Town Councillors believe it is fair that the whole group pay for it does not make it so. If they want to be fair then they need to charge for their facilities so that all non-Diss residents pay, not just unfairly target the closest land they can try to grab hold of.
Appendix 6: Boundary Maps

Here is a set of Historical Maps showing the unchanged Roydon/Diss boundary line for the last 132 years.

All historical maps use the same key with dotted line representing the “Parish Boundary”. Lines have been highlighted in red for ease of reference but original maps can be viewed and the stated URLs.

http://maps.nls.uk/view/101576675 - (Surveyed: 1885, Published: 1886)
Appendix 7: Easy way resolve Diss Town Council’s “confusion”

It appears that only Diss Town Council are confused about which properties are theirs or not.

We’ve had residents living in Louies Lane for over 50 years, they are not confused about where they live.

The postmen aren’t confused either. “Louies Lane Diss ends at no 35 and Roydon begins at no 41. No confusion at all”

All this confusion can easily be resolved by added simple message to road signs as already exist in areas such as Tottingham Lane.
Appendix 9: Previous land grab attempt by Diss

Diss Town Council attempted the same land grab back in 1979, and they will continue to do so because they are purely after the land and money.

COUNCIL RIFT
AFTER 'LAND
GRAB' CLAIM

Roydon Parish Council
have hit out at what they
see as a "land grab" attempt
by Diss Town Council.

Parish councillors have vowed to do everything they can to resist proposed boundary changes which could include the Factory Lane, Home's Lane and Tottington Lane areas of Roydon in Diss.

The town council says it has no option to contain the land, but the matter appears to have led to a rift between the two councils, and has made the likelihood of joint consultation or the burning issue allotments vision very remote.

Roydon Parish Council have added to the situation by providing site allotments for 13 Diss residents who have applied to them — and they expect Diss to be the same for allotment holders in town.

Mr. Brown said that if Diss were to make a request to have the allotments transferred to Diss, it would be viewed as a "land grab" and could lead to the boundary between the two councils being redrawn.

The council felt the proposed "grab" was an attempt by Diss to gain more revenue, he said, since other nearby areas of the town might be transferred to other parishes.

He countered a suggestion from Diss that the allotments were needed for new residents in the town.

The two councils had discussed alterations to the boundaries in the area which had been suggested by Diss in August last year, when Roydon dramatically opposed the amending of Factory Lane and Lave's Lane. At the end of the meeting, the council representatives agreed to differ, and the matter seemed to have been settled with the boundaries staying as they were.

Higher rates

It was never suggested that Tottinng Lane might be transferred to Diss, said Mr. Brown.

In the opinion of Roydon Council, such alterations would not be welcomed by residents in those areas, who would be paying higher rates if they were in Diss.

Outlining the days of the grants and how they would be used, Mr. Brown said that it was essential that the council was not viewed as just as a means of making money.

On the question of allotments, Mr. Brown said that the parish council had no plans to provide allotments for its residents. The subject had been debated constantly since January, and parish council was aware of public money and resource responsibility. Mr. Brown said that it was also the suggestion that the Land Commission, just how strongly the people of Roydon felt.

But if those changes were proposed, the town council would welcome them. He felt geographically the disputed part was part of Diss.
I would like to raise my objection to the proposed boundary change between Roydon and Diss.

Diss Town Council claim it is to create a "logically defined boundary between Diss and Roydon to remove confusion to the north and west of Diss" but it is for the same reason it has always been: a land and money grabbing exercise in order to increase their total income from Council Tax to pay for their amenities. They have tried the same thing before in 1979 and will continue to do so until neighbouring parishes are completely absorbed. Diss Town Councillors have even said publicly themselves in Council meetings that they are looking only looking to gain more money in order to fund facilities used by Roydon residents, yet they are only targeting Roydon residents. Diss is a Market Town and provides the same amenities to other Parishes such as Bressingham, Scole, Shelfanger, Palgrave and many more. It is not up to Roydon to pay for such things. Just because some of our residents live geographically slightly closer to certain Diss facilities than some Diss residents doesn't mean they are suddenly responsible for funding it. If this is a valid argument then each amenity (from any Parish) needs to be measured in its own right and for example if you live within 1 square mile then you pay for it, whether it is in your parish or not. For example a Roydon resident may live closer to Bressingham Steam Museum than a Bressingham resident, or a Diss resident may live closer to Roydon fen than a Roydon resident. It is irrelevant! As their closest neighbour they are only trying to steal land and properties from us.

Roydon has been a recorded Village since before the Doomsday Book and has evidence of Bronze Age settlements. In particular the areas which Diss are trying to acquire include the old Aldrich Brother Factory. I have lived in Roydon for over 50 years and knew people who worked at this factory. It is nothing new that some Diss properties are in close proximity to this site. Diss expanded long ago to build estate on Sunnyside right next to this area. Roydon has a strong rural connection and seeks to preserve the existing green belt between ourselves and Diss and prevent any development in that area and also to protect encroachment up to areas such as Brewer's Green and Roydon Fen which are well loved by the community and superb environments for plants and wildlife and which our Parish Council has always adamantly fought to protect.
I would also like to state that notifications about this change to all Roydon residents as not been acceptable. If it wasn’t for my kind neighbours bringing this to my attention then I would have not have been aware or able to complete this online survey as I have no access to the internet nor any knowledge or desire to want to know how to use it!

Roydon is such a lovely place to live and has a strong sense of community, including a Primary School, Village Hall, Church, Garage and Local Pub. Throughout this process we have come together unlike anything I remember from recent years, which has been lovely to see. There has been no support from any Roydon resident for this change. By taking away over 40% of our properties Diss will be ripping our community almost in half, it is sad that Diss are even allowed to threaten us with this at all just for the sake of money.

Kind Regards,
Sir / Madam

I attach the article from today's Diss Express. Friday 27/10/2017

You will note Dr Christopher Kemps quote in the final paragraph, "We are required by law to undertake a review around every 15 years to ensure the governance of the parishes continues to be effective and that it reflects the interests and identities of our community."

I sincerely hope the Interests and Identities of All Roydon residents will be effectively reflected and respected when the committee delivers its final verdict.

Diss Town Council must find a more pragmatic solution to solving its financial and development projects but NOT at Roydon's expense!

yours sincerely

(Roydon Parishioner)
Villagers oppose plans to change boundaries

Loss of 427 homes 'cutting us in half'

Villagers turned out in force on Sunday morning to protest against proposed boundary changes that would see 472 Roydon homes reclassified as being in the market town of Diss, under the changes set for May 2023, as 43 per cent of 1,061 Roydon homes would move.

Starting at Brewhouse Green, the group, led by Peter Knights and wearing bright yellow jackets, marched with banners and placards.

They made their way along Factory Lane, through the Long Meadow estate, via Dentham and Tottington Lane, ending at Roydon Church Path and the White Hart pub. Mark Ramsden of the Lewis Roydon (Norfolk) Whole group said: "It was a show of strength and solidarity, again demonstrating a great sense of community collaboration between residents, friends, church, parish council and pub.

"We are a village with a strong identity and we don't want to lose that," he added. "The proposed boundary change, effectively cutting us in half, would not be beneficial in any way."

"As yet, nobody has come forward with a logical, scientific solution — other than our own suggestion to leave things exactly as they are."

The second stage of South Norfolk Council's boundary review consultation closed at midnight today.

More than 800 people and communities joined in the first round of consultations, putting forward suggestions changes to the parish boundaries.

The second round allowed comments on the suggestions.

The responses will be considered by the Electoral Arrangements Review Committee and it will make recommendations to a full South Norfolk Council meeting for final decision.

Chairman of the review committee, councillor Christopher Kemp said: "We are required by law to undertake a review every 15 years to ensure the governance of the parishes continue to be effective and that it reflects the interests and identities of our community."

"To have your say, visit www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/boundary-review-comment.
A meeting of Roydon Parish Council was held on Tuesday 24th October and was addressed by Dr Kemp. The map shown on the South Norfolk Web Site was circulated at that meeting. It shows the proposed change on Old High Road Roydon to be the area south of the road and on that information decisions were made.

The following evening Diss Town Council considered the proposed changes but by then another map had been produced showing a rectangular area north of Old High Road to include another six properties. The proposed line then returns to the road. It appears that two sets of proposals are being circulated. Which one is correct?

Who instituted, at the eleventh hour, this alteration? Decisions were made by Roydon Parish Council on the evidence shown on the original proposals. This information concerning these changes was discovered too late to make comment before the deadline of yesterday. Until this confused situation is resolved the consultation period should be suspended. An enquiry should be held to make public who is making off-the-cuff proposals.
From: [Redacted]
Sent: 27 October 2017 12:01
To: Review
Subject: Proposed changes to the Roydon/Diss boundary

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed changes to the boundary between Roydon and Diss.

I do not feel that I have been consulted properly about the changes. I have found it hard to find out exactly who has proposed the changes and why. Also, how the process works and how I can take part. Diss Town Council appear to be in favour of the changes because they claim the boundary needs to be made clearer and simpler. This is clearly nonsense as the changes will do neither of these things. They also seem to be saying that Roydon residents use some of the facilities in Diss and should therefore contribute to the cost of those services through taxes. If they genuinely feel this to be so then why have they chosen to make changes which will effect only some of the residents of Roydon? Surely according to this logic then all residents of Roydon should contribute and, for that matter all residents of surrounding areas who use the facilities including residents of nearby Suffolk parishes.

The proposed changes have generated a huge amount of negative feeling from local people. We suspect that South Norfolk District Council and Diss Town council are not being completely honest and transparent about their motivation for proposing these changes. If we continue to feel that we have not been properly consulted and given all the information we need to make an informed decision then we will continue to oppose this. I am calling on you to consider your decision very carefully and take into account the strength of feeling against the changes.
My name is [redacted] and I was born and brought up in Roydon. I currently live at [redacted] and I am writing to oppose the changes. I don’t find the reasons put forward for the change by Diss Town Council convincing and I suspect that they are being dishonest about their reasons. They say the change would make the boundary clearer and tidy it up but there is no problem with the present boundary and no call for it to be made simpler or tidied up. The fact that Roydon residents use facilities in Diss is not in dispute but so do residents of all the surrounding areas including those in Suffolk.

The residents of the areas which would remain in Roydon use the Diss facilities just as much as those in areas which would be taken into Diss under the proposed changes. I believe the real reason for the changes is that Diss wants to see houses built on key development land currently in Roydon. I feel very strongly about this issue and will continue to support the Leave Roydon Whole group by attending council meetings, protesting on the street etc.

Sent from Windows Mail