

## **DT034 - The attack on parish councils**

We are in a vicious double bind over parish councils. As a former Whitehall senior civil servant I venture some comments.

On parish councils there is now a combination of centralizing top civil servants and centralizing top politicians. Their joint position might be called the Central Line.

The Central Line hates parish councils because, though on the far out periphery of political power, they still presume to act politically in their small way. For the Central Line this will not do. So parish councils must be got rid of.

The civil service element in the Central Line suggests a Machiavellian tactic. Anti-sleaze reporting requirements are in fashion. Let's use that ploy to ease out the good citizens who wish to serve their community.

We must not let the Central Line get away with it.

