

I have lived in Axminster since 1982, and run my own food manufacturing business.

I have been a member of Axminster Town Council for 16 years, and was for 2 years up to May 2015 Town Mayor. I am chair of our Amenities Committee which makes me ultimately responsible for our allotments, seats, bus shelters and Pippins.

I was closely involved with the formation of the New Axminster Youth Club and am on the steering committee for the new skate park at Cloakham.

I am also a member of the group preparing our Neighbourhood Plan and am a keen, if not particularly accomplished member of the Twinning Association.

Mr Jeremy Walden



**Co-Opted
Chair of Governors**

I was a teacher for 32 years, having trained as a biologist at the College of St. Mark & St John, Plymouth. I worked in two large comprehensive schools in west Berkshire, in a variety of roles, for fourteen years before returning to my Devon roots in 1998 to work as Deputy and then Headteacher at Colyton Grammar School.

Education seems to be in our family DNA with my wife, until recently an assistant headteacher in a south Devon comprehensive and my daughter a primary school teacher in Bridport. I have previously been a primary school Chair of Governors in an Axe Valley school.

I continue to work in education as a consultant but now have more time to enjoy the garden, landscape photography, walking and travel.

Mr Paul Evans



**Co-Opted
Vice-Chair of Governors**

I live in Seaton with my partner Richard and our three children, Matilda (year8), Jim (year7), and Wilf (year4) who attends Colyton Primary school.

I have been a parent governor at Colyton Primary school since 2008 and I am a member of A.V.C.C. p.t.f.a.

I work part-time as a sales advisor at Sidmouth in the fashion store M & co.

Ms Louise Wain



Parent Governor

I currently work for Audit South West as a Counter Fraud Specialist investigating fraud in the NHS in the South West.

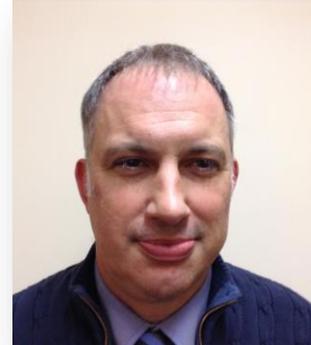
In the early part of my career I worked in software development, mathematical modelling, analysis and project management roles, mainly in the defence industry for GKN Westland Helicopters, the Vega Group plc and the Defence Science and Technology Laboratories, which is part of the Ministry of Defence. On one occasion at Westland's, I flew in a Merlin helicopter on a test flight when I was the only one of the five man crew who wasn't wearing a parachute! It does concentrate the mind.

In recent years, most of my work has been spent working as an analyst for Devon & Cornwall Constabulary and Avon & Somerset Constabulary. One of the more interesting jobs was presenting to the International Senior Officers Course at Bramshill Police Training College.

I live in Axminster with my wife Jo. Our children, Polly and Ben are currently in Years 11 and 8, respectively, at the College. My parents were both teachers for many years in the Axe Valley, at Beer C of E Primary School and St Mary's, Axminster. My aim as a Governor is to help the College to achieve its goals in any way I can.

During the summer, I can occasionally be found playing cricket with the Chairman of the Governors for Kilmington Cricket Club, a club for whom I have played for over 30 years.

Mr Martin Huscroft



Parent Governor

Originally from Berkshire, I moved with my family to Axminster over 10 years ago and more recently into the town where we are now within walking distance of the school.

We chose the TAVCC as I believe strongly that a state school can and should aspire to support and enrich students from all backgrounds and all abilities; my reason for becoming a Governor is to offer my help and support to the school to achieve this aim.

I am a lifelong football fan and have been attending Arsenal matches since I was 7, I also now enjoy being a supporter and Community Trust member of Exeter FC. I have previously been involved in local youth football and was delighted that TAVCC was selected as home to the Astroturf.

I am interested in most sports, although more viewing than participation. However, I do enjoy being walked around the local countryside by my two fox red Labradors.

Mr Sean Little



Co-Opted

I am thrilled to have been appointed as parent governor and am keen to support the school in providing our children with the very best all-round education, preparing them to make their mark on the world.

I trained as a primary teacher many years ago at Marjons in Plymouth, specialising in PE and also coached gymnastics for a number of years. I've taught in Exeter and more locally at Shute where I also held the position of teacher governor.

I have been an Early Years Education Consultant since 2007 and currently work for Babcock LDP's Early Years Team. I visit many schools and early years settings across Devon and beyond, supporting improvement and advising on learning and teaching in the Foundation Stage and the inclusion of children with special educational needs, running training courses and moderating assessment procedures.

I live in Seaton with my husband Dean and have 2 sons, Jack and Robbie. After 7 years at The Axe Valley CC and some exciting gap year travels, Jack is beginning his studies in TV and film production at Southampton Solent University while Robbie embarks on A levels here in the Sixth Form.

In the little spare time I do have, I enjoy Zumba and step classes, dancing and listening to all sorts of music, and watching our ducks and chickens run around the garden!

Mrs Julie Paddick



Parent Governor

At 18 I left for Italy to become an au pair for 6 months & ended up living in Tuscany for 16 years. I returned to England in 2008 with my two daughters: Tabitha who attended Axe Valley & is now in her second year at Nottingham University and Jess, who is currently in year 9 at Axe Valley.

I have been a teaching assistant in the Special Needs Department since January 2012 with temporary roles as a sixth form assistant & a pastoral coordinator. My volunteering history includes: assisting in Mentoring and Befriending for the Youth Offending Team in Exeter; as a teaching assistant at Exeter College; an event coordinator for the Open University Student Association, (presently I am in my 4th year of a part-time degree in Criminology & Psychology); Youth Worker (both on a voluntary basis & as a qualified worker) & in 2011-2012 I was a parent governor for Axminster Community Primary School.

I am a committed member of the choir at Axe Valley. I assist the PE department in sporting fixtures & take part in events such as the Minster challenge. I have been fortunate to accompany the students of Axe Valley on trips to Germany, France, London visits, Plymouth & Exeter University, the MET Office and residential programmes in Cornwall. In addition I have assisted in Summer Schools, the REACH programme, 'Aspire' events & a Forest school programme provided by Magdalen Farm.

Mrs Mandy Mcdonagh



Co-Opted

I studied maths at Cambridge and then trained as a teacher.

I moved to Devon in 1997 and I've taught in the area since then.

I joined Axe Valley in 2008 where I specialise in A level Maths and Further Maths.

I live in Seaton with my family.

Ms M Cleare



Staff Governor

Although not an Axe Valley pupil myself, the school has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. Both my parents taught English here in the 1970s and 1980s (Basil and Avis Tompkins) and Dad was also a Governor. I am very honoured to be carrying on the family tradition.

I did my Law degree at Pembroke College, Oxford and qualified as a Solicitor after Law School at Guildford. On completing my professional training, I worked for ten years as a commercial and residential property specialist with a large regional firm in Sussex. Ten years ago, my family and I returned to Devon to look after my elderly father and I have been at Bevis & Beckingsale in Seaton since then in the Wills, Trusts and Probate team.

I live in Seaton with my husband Dale and two children. My son Matt is in Year 9 at Axe Valley and my daughter Caty is in Year 5 at Seaton Primary. I have also served as a Governor at Seaton prior to the creation of the Axe Beacon Federation.

I love a good quiz (both playing and setting) and have made a few TV appearances over the years. I also sing in the Seaton Gateway Chorus and very occasionally find time to play the piano badly.

Mrs Liz Heron



Co-Opted

I took up the post of Headteacher at The Axe Valley Community College in April 2016. Previously, I worked in leadership roles at both Holyrood Academy in Chard and The Kings of Wessex Academy in Cheddar. I come from a background of teaching Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics and completed my undergraduate degree in these subjects at Cardiff in 1996. I have since gone on to complete a Masters in The Leadership of Innovation in Education at Warwick University.

I live in a village local to Axminster with my wife, two primary-age children and an enthusiastic golden retriever. In my spare time, I enjoy running, cycling and writing the questions for the village charity pub quiz.

Mr Steve Green



Head Teacher

I live in Seaton with my husband, 2 children and 2 dogs.

I am also the Clerk to Governors for the Axe Beacon Federation and the Axmouth Parish Clerk.

When I am not working I enjoy long walks with my dogs and am a member of the Axe Valley Runners. I have completed events from 10k's to marathons and the Grizzly. As well as running in events, I also volunteer to either marshall, time-keep or backmark local events including the Minster Challenge.

Mrs Bec Davey



Clerk