



Your parish council needs to co-opt a new member

As our notice of the vacancy (due to John Daborn moving away) did not achieve the ten requests required to hold an election for the post, we have been legally instructed to co-opt a new member to the parish council.

At our next parish council meeting, on 12th July 2017, we will therefore be required to fill the vacancy by co-opting a new member (ie the council members will elect someone from any available candidates).

So far, only one person has volunteered to fill this vacancy but, if anyone else is interested, a summary of the role is set out below and our parish clerk – or any of the existing members - would be happy to tell them more about what is involved in being a member of the council.

As **formal applications must be received by 5th July 2017**, you are advised to contact the clerk (see panel above) by **30th June 2017** so that he can help you to prepare the application.

Summary of the role:

The parish council is nothing to do with the church; since the Local Government Act of 1894 it has been the local level of democratic government. It is a group of 7 unpaid members of the local community who are responsible for providing services for the local people (see our website for details) and representing their interests in dealings with the district and county council levels of local government. To pay for the services we provide, we have the power to charge a “precept” through the council tax system – currently £3,000 per year.

We hold a full council meeting once every 2 months (usually at 8pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month) and some members also volunteer for extra committee meetings and other duties. Training and advice are readily available.

Our members are normally elected in local elections every 4 years (next due in May 2019) and must be British, Commonwealth or EU citizens over 18, who are not subject to a bankruptcy restriction order and have not, within the last five years been convicted of any offence involving a prison sentence (whether suspended or not) for a period of over three months without the option of a fine. They must also have satisfied at least ONE of the following conditions:

- Be registered as a local government elector for the parish
- During the whole of the preceding 12 months, have occupied (as owner or tenant) a property in the parish
- During the whole of the preceding 12 months, have worked in the parish
- During the whole of the preceding 12 months, have resided in the parish or within 3 miles (4.8 km) of its border.

Notice posted on 14th June 2017

Neil Ryder, parish clerk