

Vacancies for two parish councillors

Ludgvan Parish Council

Ludgvan Parish Council needs a new team member. If you think you can make a change for your community at a local level, complete the application form and return it to the clerk.

Casual vacancies

Councillors are generally elected by the public every four years, and where vacancies arise between elections, they are filled either by election or co-option. There are currently two co-option spaces available on the Parish Council.

What do councillors do?

Councillors have three main components to their work.

1. Decision making - Through meetings and attending committees with other elected members, councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented.

2. Monitoring - Councillors make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services by keeping an eye on how well things are working.

3. Getting involved locally - As local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their constituents and local organisations. These responsibilities and duties often depend on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available, and may include:

- Going to meetings of local organisations
- Going to meetings of bodies affecting the wider community
- Taking up issues on behalf of members of the public

How much time does it take up?

Quite often councillors say that their duties occupy them for about an hour a week. Obviously there are some councillors who spend more time than this - and some less, but in the main, being a parish councillor is an enjoyable way of contributing to your community, and helping to make it a better place to live and work.

As a councillor representing your community you will help keep it a great place to live and work. You will be supported in your role and will be expected to undertake training. You should be comfortable working electronically. You should have a positive outlook and a 'can-do' attitude and be willing to work as part of a team. If you are interested in applying please contact the clerk to the council.

The closing date for applications is 5.00 pm on Monday 29 June 2020.

Louise Dowe, Parish Clerk, Ludgvan Parish Council

clerk@ludgvan.org

www.ludgvan.org

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To find out if you are eligible to become a parish councillor, you can check against the criteria set out on the next page.

Councillors: Qualification

See the Local Government Act 1972, sections 79 to 82, 85, 92 and 104

A person is qualified to be elected as a local councillor, and to hold such office, if he or she is a qualifying Commonwealth citizen, or a citizen of the Republic of Ireland, or a relevant citizen of the [European] Union, and on the relevant day (defined below) has reached 18 years of age AND –

(a) on that day he/she is, and thereafter continues to be, a local government elector for the area of the authority; or

(b) he/she has during the whole of the twelve months preceding that day occupied, as owner or tenant, any land or other premises in that area; or

(c) his/her principal or only place of work during that twelve months has been in the area (Note: this could, arguably, be 'the local council's offices' – based on his previous principal or only work as a councillor); or

(d) he/she has during the whole of those twelve months resided in the area; or

(e) he/she has during the whole of the twelve months preceding the relevant date resided within three miles of the parish or community. This qualification only applies to parish or community councillors and does not extend to district or county councillors. (s. 79(1) LGA 1972)

The 'relevant day' means (except in the case of an election not preceded by the nomination of candidates) the day on which the person is nominated as a candidate and, if there is a poll, the day of election. In the excepted case, the term means the day of election.

In order to qualify on the basis of residence, it is necessary for the person at least to have and use sleeping accommodation within the area or within three miles thereof; and it is possible for a person (e.g. a student) to be a resident in more than one place at a time.

A member qualified under (b), (c), (d) or (e) above continues to be qualified during the term of his office even though he/she ceases to be an elector or his/her situation is otherwise changed. However, a councillor qualified on the day of nomination and election only by virtue of his/her being a local government elector must continue to be a local government elector for the local council's area during the whole period of his/her office. Note that registration on the electoral roll is essential to qualification as a local government elector