

HEYDON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillor Vacancy

If you are interested in becoming a councillor then please contact the parish clerk. Your time will be well spent and there are no real barriers to becoming a councillor. The council meet usually every two months on the last Tuesday, for approximately two hours, depending on what needs to be discussed, and council meetings are open to the public.

A parish, town or community council is the closest level of local government to the community. It is a local authority in its own right that makes decisions on behalf of the residents in its "parish" and has a District/County or Unitary authority hierarchy that sits above it. Councillors are elected but are unpaid for their time. Becoming a parish, town or community councillor is a rewarding experience and often described by those that get involved as a way of giving something back to their community.

Qualifications - any person can be elected as a councillor if they are

1. a british national, commonwealth citizen or a euro-national on the day they are nominated **and**
2. 18 years of age or over **and**
- 3 a) on the day they are nominated and thereafter they continue to be a local government elector for the area of the authority **or**
- 3 b) 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**
- 3 c) their principal or only place of work during that twelve months has been in that area **or**
- 3 d) during the whole of those twelve months has resided in that area **or**
- 3 e) in the case of a member of a parish, town or community council has during the whole of those twelve months resided either in the parish or community or within three miles of it

Disqualification

A person is however disqualified from being elected or being a councillor if they

- a) hold any paid employment or office in the authority that they seek election **or**
- b) are the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or other interim order **or**
- c) have within five years before the day of election or since their election been convicted of any offence and has had passed on them a sentence of imprisonment of at least three months (whether suspended or not) without the option of a fine **or**
- d) has been found guilty of corrupt or illegal practices or responsible for incurring unlawful expenditure and the court ordered their disqualification

If you are interested please contact the Parish Council Clerk by the 19th January 2020

Sally Walmesley
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