



ARE YOU READY FOR THE LOCAL ELECTION 2019?

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT STANDING AS A TOWN COUNCILLOR



Have you ever considered becoming a Councillor?

Town and Parish Councils within Teignbridge District Council will be holding local elections on 2 May, 2019 and maybe becoming a Councillor is something you would like to do. This could be your chance to be considered. As a resident of Kingsteignton you may like to consider this role and become a member of the Town Council to help represent the community you live in, in representing resident's views for the wellbeing of our town.

What is a Councillor's role?

Being a Councillor is a varied role and one of its most important tasks is to listen and understand the views of people in our community. This may involve helping people in ways from finding solutions to issues that concern them as individuals up to working with colleagues to improve services generally. Town Councillors propose and undertake projects that enhance the Towns amenities and services or support our local voluntary organisations and schools. The Town Council also has an important advisory role to Teignbridge District Council in planning and development matters.

As a Councillor you will be expected to attend regular council meetings, which are held in an evening, usually on a Wednesday; sit on committees, you can decide on which ones; represent the Town Council at other local government meetings or on local bodies and act as an ambassador for your community, keeping everyone aware of local needs and concerns.

Through these functions you will draw on your own skills and experiences and it is the sharing of these skills that makes a strong team. If you were elected to the role of Councillor, training would be available.

Other information about being a Councillor is given below:

- A Councillor's normal term of office is four years
- Any person over the age of 18 who is a citizen of the United Kingdom, the EU or the Commonwealth can be a Councillor if they are an elector in, work in, live in or live within a three mile radius of the town of Kingsteignton, unless they are disqualified.
- A Councillor has no authority to make decisions about council business on his/her own – decisions are made by the council as a whole
- The main role of a Councillor is to participate in the collective decision making processes of the Town Council
- A Councillor's financial and certain other interests in council business must be transparent
- A Councillor is subject to obligations set out in the code of conduct adopted by the council

A local council is a legal entity in itself, but it is constituted by Councillors, one of whom must be the Mayor. When a person is a Councillor, he/she is first and foremost the holder of a public office. Legislation dictates the terms of his/her office, the conduct expected of him/her whilst acting as a representative of the local council and his/her role in making decisions about council business.

A Councillors responsibilities are:

- To raise matters that the council can consider and formally decide to take action about at meetings
- Attend council meetings
- Make informed contributions which influence the debate on the business that needs to be decided at those meetings
- Participate in his/her council's decision making process which in itself is subject to strict rules and regulations
- Represent his council externally

Councillors are not expected to possess the knowledge, skills or experience that are required for all aspects of their council's work. At a formal meeting of the council, committee councillors are expected to make informed decisions based on the consideration of relevant information. If councillors find themselves unable to make informed decisions because they lack information or understanding, or because they consider their council would benefit from the input of experts or professional advice, they should defer making decisions until is made available to them.



If you think that being a councillor could be something you would be interested in, please come along to one of our Full Council meetings, which are held on the first Wednesday evening of each month at 7pm in the Mary Hall Suite at the Community Hall, Rydon Road, Kingsteignton.

If you wish to stand as a councillor in the forthcoming elections, forms will be available

from either Teignbridge District Council or from Kingsteignton Town Council Office, Rydon Road, Kingsteignton nearer the Election. You can contact the Town Clerk, Mrs C Lakin, on Tel. No: 01626 364089 and ask for forms to be sent to you.



Shown above are two of the projects which were completed last year within Oakford Lawn and shown to the right are the children of Rydon Primary School who took part by singing and playing music for the Mayor's Civic Carol Service which was held at the Community Hall on December 10th, 2018.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Council Office, Community Hall, Rydon Road,

Kingsteignton, Devon, TQ12 3LP

Tel: 01626 364089

E-mail: clerk@kingsteignton.gov.uk

Web: www.kingsteignton.gov.uk

Office Opening Hours: 9:30 am -12:30 pm Mon-Fri.

COUNCIL STAFF:

Town Clerk, Carol Lakin clerk@kingsteignton.gov.uk

Deputy Clerk, Michelle Lewis-Clarke deputyclerk@kingsteignton.gov.uk

Admin Assistant, Shirley Simmons admin@kingsteignton.gov.uk

Office Assistant, (Bookings) Caroline Lowe office@kingsteignton.gov.uk

Finance/Events Officer, John Stacey finance@kingsteignton.gov.uk