

ECKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Application for Co-option to the Parish Council

Eckington Parish Council will consider applications from people who satisfy the qualifications for election. Brief details of those qualifications and disqualifications are given below. More detail can be found at

http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/141798/Part-1-Can-you-stand-for-election-P-and-C.pdf

Qualifications

- be at least 18 years old on the day of your nomination
- be a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of any other member state of the European Union
- meet at least one of the following four qualifications:
 1. You are a registered as a local government elector for the parish/community
 2. You have occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the parish/community area during the whole of the preceding 12 months
 3. Your main or only place of work during the 12 months has been in the parish/community area.
 4. You have lived in the parish/community area or within three miles of it during the whole of the preceding 12 months

Disqualifications

Apart from meeting the qualifications for standing for election, you must also not be disqualified on account of the following reasons

- You are employed by the parish/community council or hold a paid office under the parish/community council (including joint boards or committees).
- You are the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order.
- You have been sentenced to a term of imprisonment of three months or more (including a suspended sentence), without the option of a fine, during the preceding five years.
- You have been disqualified under the Representation of the People Act 1983 (which covers corrupt or illegal electoral practices and offences relating to donations) or under the Audit Commission Act 1998.
- A person may also be disqualified from election if they have been disqualified from standing for election to a local authority following a decision of the First-tier Tribunal (formerly the Adjudication Panel for England or Wales).

The Parish Council can co-opt members to the Council where a casual vacancy has occurred and no election has been called.

Elections to the Parish Council take place every 4 years.

The National Association of Local Councils has issued the following role description for prospective parish councillors.

Local councillors have three main areas of work:

Decision-making: *through attending meetings and 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.*

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

Getting involved locally: *As local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their constituents and local organisations. This often depends on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available.*

Activities are varied and may include:

- *Going to meetings of local organisations such as tenants organisations*
- *Going to meetings of bodies that affect the wider community, such as the police, the Highways Authority, schools and colleges*
- *Taking up issues on behalf of members of the public, such as making representations to the district or borough council*
- *Holding a surgery for residents to bring up issues*
- *Meeting with individual residents in their own homes*

Eckington Parish Council has 11 regular monthly meetings, quarterly Committee Meetings and an Annual Parish Meeting. Other ad hoc committees operate with specific remits and include a Communications Group and a Markets Group.

Eckington Parish Council has adopted a Training Statement of Intent and encourages its councillors to undertake relevant available Training either in-house or provided by external bodies. For example the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) runs regular Councillor Induction courses.

Eckington Parish Council has adopted a Code of Conduct and all members are required by law to complete a Register of Interests.

If you feel that you are qualified to apply for co-option please complete the following form and return to the Clerk either by post or by completing the on-line form.

Thank you for your interest you have shown in Eckington Parish Council.

Application for Co-option to the Parish Council

Name	
Address	Telephone Number(s) E-mail Address
<p>Please write a statement outlining why you think you would be an asset to the Parish Council. The Council would be interested to know about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• what skills you could bring to the Council• what experience you have had with first tier local government• your community involvement• whether you are a member of any local group	
The Parish Council may wish to interview applicants. Please confirm that you are willing to attend an interview	YES/NO
Please confirm that you have read the information supplied and that you are qualified to apply for co-option to the Parish Council	YES/NO
Signed	Date