

Would you like to become a Buckland Parish Councillor to help make a difference to your community?

Buckland Parish Council is looking to fill a casual vacancy that has arisen following the resignation of a Parish Councillor. Council will do this by co-option and may co-opt anyone who legally qualifies to be a Councillor and expresses a willingness to be appointed to serve until May 2019¹.

How do you know if you legally qualify to be co-opted as a Parish Councillor?

You are eligible to be appointed provided you are:

- (i) a British citizen or a citizen of the Commonwealth or European Union²;
- (ii) are not the subject of a bankruptcy restriction order or interim order³;
- (iii) have not, during the five years prior to the date of co-option, been sentenced to prison for three months or more (whether suspended or not) without the option of a fine⁴;
- (iv) have not been convicted of a corrupt or illegal practice by an election court⁵;
- (v) on the day you are being considered for co-option you are at least 18 years old and satisfy at least one of the following criteria:
 - (a) you are registered as a local government elector for Buckland;
 - (b) you have during the whole of the preceding twelve months occupied as owner or tenant. any land or premises in Buckland;
 - (c) your principal or only place of work during the preceding twelve months has been in Buckland;
 - (d) You have during the whole of the preceding twelve months resided in Buckland or within 4.8 km (3 miles) of the parish⁶.

Why consider becoming a Parish Councillor?

There are many reasons why people decide to become a Councillor including:

- (i) wanting to make a difference and be involved in shaping the future of your local community
- (ii) being concerned about your local area and wanting to ensure that issues that matter in your local community are taken into account
- (iii) wanting to contribute your business or professional skills
- (iv) concerns about particular issues that may affect your local community

Equally, if you feel you know someone who you think has the potential to become a Parish Councillor please highlight this opportunity to them.

How do I find out more?

For an application form or to discuss this opportunity further please contact our Clerk, Sheena Boyce; either call 01737 448023 or email bucklandpc@sheenaboyce.co.uk.

¹ The date of the next scheduled Parish Council elections

² Local Government Act 1972, Section 79(1)

³ Local Government Act 1972, Section 80

⁴ Local Government Act 1972, Section 80

⁵ Representations of the People Act 1983

⁶ Local Government Act 1972, Section 79(1)