

Stoke Mandeville Parish Council

Join our local team and become a Parish Councillor

Are you passionate about your community? Do you want to help make a long-lasting change? Do you have innovative ideas for the Council? Do you have concerns about a specific issue and want to do something about it? If this is you, then we need you. We need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect their community to put themselves forward for co-option to the Parish Council.

No special qualification is required to be a councillor. It is important that all sorts of people serve as councillors so that all parts of the community are represented. Training for new councillors is available to help you understand the responsibilities of the role.

If you think you'd like to join the Parish Council or would like to know more, please get in touch with the clerk on **01296 613888** or email **clerk@stokemandeville-pc.gov.uk** who is happy to talk with you about the role and what's involved.

Becoming a councillor is a rewarding experience as you will be able to make a change in your community to help improve residents' lives.

How much time does it take up?

Stoke Mandeville Parish Council meet once a month for the Full Council meeting, to which members of the public are also invited. Meetings may last two hours, depending on the agenda. Stoke Mandeville Parish Council has four committees; the Communities Committee, the Planning Committee, the Finance and Governance Committee and the Staffing Committee to deal with specific subjects. There are two working groups, the Neighbourhood Plan and Marsh Lane Burial Ground working groups.

In addition to the regular meetings, councillors are required to attend other meetings representing the council, for example acting as a representative on an outside body, community activities or helping develop a new project for the community.

Am I eligible to be a Parish Councillor?

To stand for election on a parish council, you must:

- Be 18 years old or over.
- and a UK, EU, or Commonwealth Citizen.
- And either be registered to vote on the current register with the local council; **or** have either worked or lived in the council's area for 12 months **or** been an owner or tenant of any land or premises in the council's area or within 3 miles of it for 12 months.

You cannot stand for election if you:

- Are subject of a bankruptcy restriction order or interim order.
- Have, within five years before the day of election, been convicted in the UK of any offence and have had a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of over three months without the option of a fine.
- You work for the council you want to become a councillor for (but you can work for other local authorities, including the principal authorities that represent the same area).

Check out the Parish Council website to see what is going on.

www.stokemandeville-pc.gov.uk