

SELLING PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillors are being sought
to represent Selling

in the local elections taking place on 4th May 2023

What does a Parish Councillor do? As a parish councillor, you will be someone your community will look to for help, guidance and support, a community leader with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the people you serve. Training will be given and you are supported by The Clerk who will advise and provide administrative support. Seeing your community change for the better as a result of decisions you have helped make, is worthwhile and something that will give you a sense of achievement and pride.

What does Selling Parish Council do? We are statutory consultees in local planning matters, we work with the police on crime prevention and on road safety issues. We negotiate with, and have the power to influence Swale Borough Council and Kent County Council and, in this respect, parish councils are extremely effective.

Parish Duties The duties and functions of a parish council are many and varied so it is an interesting position to hold. Councillors meet 12 times a year. Meetings are held in the evening for approximately 2 hours. We discuss and decide upon planning applications and any other matters referred to by local residents. Residents can bring to the attention of the parish council anything that concerns them, either directly or through the Clerk.

How much time does it take? In addition to the 12 meetings, there will be some reading that the Clerk will send, for you to be informed in preparation for the next meeting. If something is of particular interest, it is your choice to get more involved and to attend training courses if you wish, but for even the most enthusiastic, it won't take over your life!

Am I eligible to be a Parish Councillor? Yes, if you are 18 years or older and for the last 12 months have lived in the parish or within three miles of the parish boundary.

What skills and knowledge do I need? No specific skills or knowledge are required but it will be helpful for you to have an understanding of local affairs and the community. Ideally you will have experience of working as part of a committee with good communication and interpersonal skills, a team player with a desire to maintain and improve the quality of life for residents in the village.

For a nomination pack or to find out what it's like to become a parish councillor, talk to someone who's doing it now. Come to a parish council meeting, alternatively, speak to the clerk, Wendy Gregory on **07790 903442** or by email clerk@sellingparishcouncil.gov.uk or visit our website www.sellingparishcouncil.gov.uk