



Chair's Monthly Newsletter – January 2023

As we go to print we have just received the timetable for the May 2023 Parish Council elections.

These happen every four years and are such an important part of local democracy ensuring that those who know and understand their local community can be elected to take an active part in delivering change.

Slindon Parish Council is a proactive and forward thinking council, and one which actively supports the national 'Make A Change' campaign by the National Association of Local Councils encouraging residents to stand in the local council elections.

We are therefore looking for people from all backgrounds and experiences who are passionate about their local area to stand for nomination. This is an opportunity to join a group of like-minded people, enthusiastic and engaged members of the community with a shared desire to make a long-lasting change.

Whilst there are some eligibility requirements, formal qualifications are definitely not required and instead creativity, enthusiasm, a desire to make a difference and community focus are so much more important.

If you think this is something that might be of interest to you, please either contact us, look out for further details which will be circulating or visit our website which has a designated page.

Our meetings are held in public in the interests of transparency so you are always very welcome to come and see whether you might like to be involved.

We also plan to hold an informal meeting with the opportunity to meet both our Clerk and current members so do please look out for details.

In brief, the role of a councillor is very rewarding for the right person, the eligibility criteria are few and as the Council usually meets just once a month, the demands are really not onerous. There is also a very willing Clerk, ready to guide and support plus full training will be available.

Whilst the role of the parish councillor is still often associated with Jackie Weaver, and the chaotic Handforth online meeting that went viral, Slindon Parish Council is proud to have pledged its support for the Civility and Respect Project. Changing culture and improving civility is so important in the sector and we have adopted policies that address these issues, attend training courses and encourage others to do the same.

Working together we can build a stronger community that can deliver what matters to local people.

You just have until Tuesday April 4th to make your nomination, so if this role appeals to you do please act now!

Jan Rees, Chair, on behalf of Slindon Parish Council