

23rd April 2018

The Parish Council currently has two Councillor Vacancies:

1 for Thornwood Ward

1 for Hastingwood Ward

Parish Councillors are not employees or volunteers. They are elected representatives who volunteer their time for free to work on behalf of their communities. They do not have to be a member of any political party, but should be concerned with local community matters and represent their community on such issues. Ideally, candidates should live in the ward in which the vacancy stands. The above two vacancies do not need a formal election to take place, but can be filled by way of Co-Option, meaning being elected by the Parish Councillors who already sit on the Council.

As a Parish Councillor, you would be required to:

- attend meetings when summoned to do so
- consider, in advance of the meeting, the agenda and any related documents which were sent to you with the summons
- take part in meetings and consider all the relevant facts and issues on matters which require a decision including the views of others expressed at the meeting
- take part in voting and respect decisions made by the majority of those present and voting
- ensure, with other councillors, that the council is properly managed

There are seven *Nolan principles* that apply to the conduct of people in public life. These are:

- **Selflessness** – you should act in the public interest
- **Integrity** – you should not put yourself under any obligations to others, allow them improperly to influence you or seek benefit for yourself, family, friends or close associates
- **Objectivity** – you should act impartially, fairly and on merit
- **Accountability** – you should be prepared to submit to public scrutiny necessary to ensure accountability
- **Openness** – you should be open and transparent in your actions and decisions unless there are clear and lawful reasons for non-disclosure
- **Honesty** – you should always be truthful
- **Leadership** – as a councillor, you should promote, support and exhibit high standards of conduct and be willing to challenge poor behaviour.

If you are interested in becoming a Councillor, please contact the Parish Clerk - Susan De Luca - on 01992 523825 or via email at **Clerk@northweald-pc.gov.uk**

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