

Vacancy for a Parish Councillor

Hathersage Parish Council has a casual vacancy for a Parish Councillor to be filled by co-option. **The Council invites any residents interested in serving their community, as a Parish Councillor, to come and observe the 5 December Parish Council meeting (at St Michael's School, School Lane – 7.30pm start). If you are able to come, please confirm attendance with the Parish Council Clerk by email (clerk@hathersageparishcouncil.gov.uk); or call her on 07766 629 419. The Council is also asking formal expressions of interest to be submitted (via the Clerk) by Friday 15 December see *application details including an application form on the Parish Council website* (hathersageparishcouncil.gov.uk).** You can also talk to the Clerk, or to any of the current Councillors, about what becoming a Councillor entails.

The Council will look to appoint a new Councillor at the 2 January 2024 meeting. Candidates will be invited to come to that meeting and expand on their statement on why they want to join the Council; if there is more than one candidate current Councillors will vote to appoint a candidate.

What does a Parish Council - and what do Parish Councillors - do? Broadly, Parish Councils represent their local community; deliver services to meet local needs; and strive to improve the quality of life in the parish. Councillors represent the Council to the community, and the community to the Council; effectively represent the interests of their parish to representatives of other authorities and organisations; fulfill and enact any statutory requirements of an elected member of the Council; actively and constructively contribute to good governance.

Hathersage Parish Council, located in the Peak District National Park, liaises and works with the PDNPA and with the District and the County Councils. Hathersage Parish Council is responsible for management of amenities including the swimming pool and King George's Field. **Councillor time commitment** – the Council meets monthly, on the first Tuesday (evening) of the month, and has a number of committees (including Planning; Swimming Pool, Facilities and Amenities) which also meet monthly - generally on a Tuesday evening but there are some daytime meetings. Councillors are encouraged to join at least one committee.

Eligibility to become a Councillor – you must be:

- A British citizen or citizen of the commonwealth or the European Union and aged 18 years or older at the time of your application.

For the whole of the 12 months prior to your application you must:

- Have been an elector of the Parish and either occupied or owned/rented premises in the Parish or resided within 3 miles of the boundary of the Parish **or** have your principal or only place of work in that area.

You **cannot** become a Councillor if you:

- Are subject to bankruptcy order or interim order.
- Have, within five years before the day of application, been convicted in the United Kingdom of any offence and have had a prison sentence for a period of over three months.
- Work for the Parish Council.