



Castle Hedingham Parish Council

The Electoral Services Department of Braintree District Council has confirmed that the required 10 requests from parishioners for an election to be held to fill the current Councillor vacancy have not been received. The Parish Council is now co-opting a Councillor to fill the vacancy. The successful candidate will be a Councillor in their own right and is no different from any other member.

Applications Invited: Parish Councillor Vacancy

Volunteering as a Parish Councillor is an opportunity to serve the community and make a difference to the local area. Any necessary training is paid for and expenses can be claimed, all we need is your time and commitment. If you would like to know more about the role before applying, please email castlehedinghamparishclerk@gmail.com or contact any existing Councillor (contact details are at <https://www.castlehedingham.org/contacts/>) The Council meets once a month (except in December) on the 2nd Monday in the month (or 3rd Monday if the 2nd is a bank holiday).

To apply, please send a **written expression of interest (email or letter)** to the Parish Clerk with a short statement giving reasons why you are interested in being a Councillor and what particular set of skills and experience you feel you can bring to the role. You may enclose a CV but this is optional.

To be eligible, your name must appear on the current electoral register **and/or** you must have during the whole of the past twelve months resided in or within three miles of the parish **and/or** your only place of work during the whole of the past twelve months is in the parish. You must not be debarred from standing as a Councillor (see Appendix A or contact the Clerk for more information)

The closing date for written submissions of interest is

Friday 29th September 2023

It is planned that a decision to co-opt will be made at the meeting to be held on

Monday 9th October 2023

at Castle Hedingham Club, starting at 7.30pm

Applicants for co-option will be invited to attend the full council meeting on Monday 9th October 2023 and are welcome to make a short, maximum 5 minutes address to the Parish Council giving their reasons for wishing to be considered as a Parish Councillor.

Please send applications to:

Claire Waters, Parish Clerk

25 Bayley Street, Castle Hedingham, Essex CO9 3DG

castlehedinghamparishclerk@gmail.com

07845 056597

4th September 2023

Appendix A

Qualifications to be a Councillor

A person is qualified to be elected or co-opted to be a Councillor if they are a British, Commonwealth, Irish (or European Union citizen - see note a) below) and on the day of election or co-option they are age 18 or over.

In addition, the person must meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. on the relevant day and thereafter they continue to be on the electoral register for the parish, **and/or**
2. during the whole of the twelve months before that day they have owned or tenanted land or premises in the parish, **and/or**
3. during the whole of the twelve months before that day their principal or only place of work has been in the parish, **and/or**
4. during the whole of the twelve months before that day they have resided in the parish or within three miles (4.8km) of it.

Except for qualification 1, these qualifications then continue for the full term of office, until the next ordinary elections which will be in May 2027.

Certain people are disqualified from standing, and these include paid officers (including the Clerk) of the council, bankrupts and those subject to recent sentences of imprisonment.

- a) All EU citizens who have been living in the UK since before the end of the Implementation Period, which ended at 2300 on 31 December 2020, will retain their local voting and candidacy rights, provided they retain lawful immigration status. This is in line with the Government's commitment to respecting the rights of EU citizens who chose to make their home in the UK before the end of the Implementation Period.