

Interested in what's happening in Perton?  
Do you want to help make it better?  
Do you have spare time and skills?

## Become a PARISH COUNCILLOR

### What is a Parish Council?

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A parish council is the tier of local authority closest to its community as it elects representatives from within that community. Parish councils are democracy on your doorstep. Perton Parish Council can spend money and make a real difference in the community by listening to the needs of the residents of Perton when making decisions.

### What does Perton Parish Council do?

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Perton Parish Council represents the residents of Perton and provides services to meet the needs of the community, such as Perton Civic Centre and soon to come Allotments. Perton Parish Council provides grants to support local community groups as well as the flower planters in Anders Square, war memorial, the children's play area, Multi Use Games Area and outdoor gym and contributes to improving the Village by providing a Christmas tree and lights each year.

### What are Parish Councillors?

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Parish Councillors are democratically elected members of the community who work hard to represent the interests of the community. Perton Parish Council consists of 15 Councillors who are elected for a 4 year term. Being an effective councillor requires commitment as you will be required to attend meetings of the council and represent the views of the local people and ensure the community interests are taken into account when making decisions.

To become a Parish Councillor you must meet the below eligibility criteria and follow the 7 principles of public life:

- Selflessness
- Integrity
- Objectivity
- Accountability
- Openness
- Honesty
- Leadership

# How to become a Parish Councillor

Anyone can stand as a candidate provided they meet the qualification requirements.

You should be:

- Aged over 18.
- A British, Commonwealth citizen, or Euro-national citizen (who is a registered elector)
- Resident for 12 months prior to the day of election – either in the parish or within 3 miles of the boundary.
- Occupied land or premises for 12 months as owner or tenant – either in the parish or within 3 miles of the boundary
- Had a principal place of work – either in the parish or within 3 miles of the boundary.

You cannot become a councillor if:

- You hold a paid office with the council.
- If you are subject to a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim order creates disqualification which dates from the judgement or execution and generally ends one year after the relevant order is made.
- If you have within five years before the election or since election been convicted in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man of any offence and been sentenced to not less than three months imprisonment (whether suspended or not) without the option of a fine.
- Imprisonment probably includes any type of custodial sentence.
- This disqualification begins when the ordinary period for making an appeal is finally dismissed or abandoned or fails for want of prosecution.

You can find out more by contacting the local borough electoral services department,

<https://spcaonline.org.uk/information/become-a-councillor/>

**Remember: You don't have to be a Parish Councillor to make a difference!**

**Maybe you know someone who has the skills to be a Parish Councillor, you could nominate them for election and make sure you vote at the next election for those who represent your interests to make a difference to our community.**

For more information contact:

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