

**Long Ashton Parish Council** (serving Long Ashton and Leigh Woods)

## **Become a Councillor!**

The Parish Council extends a very warm welcome to anyone who would like to apply to become a Councillor. We are looking for all sorts of people, all shapes and sizes, bringing all kinds of skills. We are seeking to involve anyone interested in improving local lives. We are particularly keen to increase diversity on the Council and to embrace a range of different knowledge and experience.

**Could this be YOU?** *Do you have concerns about any local matters? Would you like to have your say? Would you like to have an impact and create change that matters to local people?*

**This is the deal:** Meetings are generally held on Monday evenings: everyone attends Full Council, but you can decide just how much you want to get involved in the three sub-Committees covering Finance, Planning Applications in the villages, and Environmental concerns.

**Some of the hands-on work takes place in Working Groups** (at various times of day) and again you can choose, for example: *Community Engagement, Village Enhancement, Biodiversity, Library, Skate Park, Health and Wellbeing, Children and Young People, protecting the Green Belt, LA Community Association.*

### **Am I eligible to become a Parish Councillor?\***

- You need to be 18 or over to serve on the Council.
- Be a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of any member state of the European Union.
- And meet at least one of the following four qualifications:
  - You are, and will continue to be, registered as a local government elector for the parish/community in which you wish to stand from the day of your nomination onwards.
  - You have occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the parish/community area during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of election.
  - Your main or only place of work during the 12 months prior to the day of your nomination and the day of election has been in the parish/community area.

- You have lived in the parish/community area or within three miles of it during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of election.

\*Read more about the requirements of anyone wishing to become a Parish Councillor here: <https://tinyurl.com/4hscpmt2>

You will have the option of contact with a 'Buddy' – an experienced Councillor to help you ease into, and understand, the intricacies of Council Life.

**To apply, read the person specification and complete the application form below, and return it to:**

**The Clerk  
Long Ashton Parish Council  
Long Ashton Community Centre  
Keedwell Hill  
Long Ashton  
BRISTOL  
BS41 9DP**

## CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR PERSON SPECIFICATION

COMPETENCY	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
<b>Personal Attributes</b>	Sound knowledge and understanding of local affairs and the local community. Forward thinking.	Can bring a new skill, expertise or key local knowledge to the Council.
<b>Experience, Skills, Knowledge and Ability</b>	Ability to listen constructively. A good team player. Ability to pick up and run with a variety of projects. Solid interest in local matters. Ability and willingness to represent the Council and the local community. Good interpersonal skills and able to contribute opinions at meetings whilst willing to see others views and accept majority decisions. Ability to communicate succinctly and clearly. Ability and willingness to work closely with other members and to maintain good working relationships with all members and staff. Ability and willingness to work with the Council's partners (e.g. voluntary groups, other parish Councils, principal authority, charities). Ability and willingness to undertake induction training and other relevant training.	Experience of working or being a member in a local authority or other public body. Experience of working with voluntary and or local community / interest groups.
<b>Circumstances</b>	Ability and willingness to attend meetings of the Council (or meetings of other local authorities and local bodies) at any time and events in the evening and at weekends – in particular, on Monday evenings.	

## LONG ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL: CO-OPTION APPLICATION



Please complete this form and return by post to:

**Long Ashton Parish Council, Long Ashton Community Centre, Keedwell Hill,  
Long Ashton, BRISTOL, BS41 9DP** or by e-mail to **clerk@longashtonparishcouncil.com**

Please include a covering letter detailing how your experience and skills may be of benefit to the Parish Council.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:- \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address:- \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Landline \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

**Qualifications** (as provided in the Local Government Act 1972, s79).

You must be able to answer "YES" to at least one of the following four questions; please circle as many as apply to you.

Are you registered as a Local Government Elector for the area of Long Ashton Parish Council?	YES	NO
During the whole of the last 12 months have you resided in the Civil Parish of Long Ashton, or within 3 miles (4.8 kilometres) of it? YES	YES	NO
During the whole of the last 12 months have you occupied as owner or tenant land or premises in the Civil Parish of Long Ashton?	YES	NO
During the whole of the last 12 months has your main place of work been within the Civil Parish of Long Ashton?	YES	NO

**Disqualifications** (as provided in the Local Government Act 1972, s80).

If you answer "YES" to any of the following questions it is likely that it will not be possible to co-opt you to the Parish Council. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Do you now hold, or have you in the last 12 months held, any paid office or any other position of profit with this Council?	YES	NO
Have you ever been surcharged by the District Auditor for £500 or more?	YES	NO
Have you ever been disqualified by a Court from holding Public Office?	YES	NO
Have you ever been declared bankrupt?	YES	NO
Have you ever been convicted of any offence where the sentence of imprisonment was more than 3 months (even if sentence suspended)?	YES	NO
Have you ever been found guilty of corrupt or illegal practices under Election Laws	YES	NO

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_