

## ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Vacancy on the Parish Council! Being a Councillor

Orton Parish Council needs a new team member; if you think you would like to take the wishes of the Parish of Orton forward and are over 18 years of age please contact the Clerk:

Email: [clerk@ortonpc-carlisle.org.uk](mailto:clerk@ortonpc-carlisle.org.uk) or

Write: Eriskay Cottage, Bromfield, Wigton, Cumbria CA7 3NB

#### What is a councillor?

Councillors are elected to represent an individual geographical unit on the council, known as a ward or parish, in Orton it is the entire parish. They are generally elected by the public every four years, but there is a Co-option space available on the Parish Council now.

#### What do councillors do?

Councillors have three main components to their work.

1. **Decision making** –Through meetings and attending committees with other elected members, councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented.
2. **Monitoring** - Councillors make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services by keeping an eye on how well things are working.
3. **Getting involved locally** – As local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their constituents and local organisations. These responsibilities and duties often depend on what the councilor wants to achieve and how much time is available, and may include:
  - Going to meetings of local organisations
  - Going to meetings of bodies affecting the wider community
  - Taking up issues on behalf of members of the public

#### How much time does it take up?

Quite often councillors say that their duties occupy them for about an hour a week. Obviously, there are some councilors who spend more time than this – and some less, but in the main, being a parish councilor is an enjoyable way of contributing to your community and helping to make it a better place to live and work.

As a councillor representing your community you will help keep it a great place to live and work. You will be supported in your role and will be expected to undertake training. You should be comfortable working electronically. You should have a positive outlook and a can-do attitude and be willing to work as part of a team.

If after reading this notice you are interested in applying, please contact the council clerk using the above details.

**The closing date for applications is Friday 10 July**