**WHIMPLE PARISH COUNCIL**

**CO-OPTION APPLICATION FORM**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Full Name:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Telephone Number:** |  |
| **Email address:** |  |

**Legal qualifications for being a Councillor:**

To qualify you must be able to answer ‘Yes’ to both of the following questions:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Are you a British or a citizen of the Commonwealth? You may also be eligible as a citizen of the European Union, however the criteria has changed now that the UK has left the European Union. Please check on the [gov.uk website for advice about EU citizens’ voting and candidacy rights](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-voting-rights-for-eu-citizens-living-in-the-uk/local-voting-rights-for-eu-citizens-living-in-the-uk) in local elections.\* | Yes/No |
| Are you 18 years of age or over? | Yes/No |

Note \* - The Representation of the People (Franchise Amendment and Eligibility Review) Regulations 2023 are currently in draft form and will come into force from 7 May 2024.

To qualify you must be able to answer ‘Yes’ to at least one of the following questions:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Are you on the Parish electoral register for the Parish of Whimple? | Yes/No |
| Have you lived in the Parish of Whimple, or within 3 miles of its boundary, for at least a year? | Yes/No |
| Have you been the owner or tenant of land or other premises in the Parish of Whimple for at least a year? | Yes/No |
| Have you had your principal or only place of work in the Parish of Whimple for at least a year? | Yes/No |

**Disqualifications\*\***

To qualify you must be able to answer ‘No’ to all of the following questions:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Do you work for the council you want to be a councillor for, you can work for another local authority as long as you are not in a political restricted post. | Yes/No |
| Are you the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order? | Yes/No |
| Have you been sentenced to prison for three months or more (including suspended sentences) during the five years before election day? | Yes/No |
| Have you been convicted of a corrupt or illegal practice by an election court? | Yes/No |
| Are you subject to any relevant notification requirements, or a relevant order, in respect of a sexual offence? | Yes/No |

Note \*\* - for full details on disqualifications please visit the Electoral Commissions website <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/>

|  |
| --- |
| **Please briefly outline why you are interested in being a Parish Councillor:** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Please tell us something about the life experience you will bring to the Council.** (For example, previous local government experience, work in the voluntary or charitable sector, business or any other relevant experience) |
| **Please tell us about the skills you feel you would bring to the Council, for example, professional qualifications, financial or project management expertise:** |

**Training and Development**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Are you prepared to undertake Parish Councillor training within Devon? | Yes/No |

**Attendance at Parish Council meetings**

Whimple Parish Council meetings take place in the evening at 7pm at Whimple Victory Hall.

Whimple Parish Council meetings take place on the first and third Monday of every month. A Planning meeting is held on the first Monday of the month, but may be subject to cancellation if no consultations have been received from East Devon District Council. The Full Council meeting takes place on the third Monday of the month (with the exception of August when the Council does not meet).

If you are unable to attend a meeting you are required to notify the Parish Clerk as soon as possible, to ensure that your apologies are given to the meeting and you are not recorded as being absent.

If you fail to attend any meeting of the Council for six consecutive months from the date of last attendance, you automatically cease to be a Councillor on Whimple Parish Council as per the Local Government Act 1972, unless the Council accepts a reason for the failure to attend before the six month period expires.

**Declaration and Consent**

I declare that I am eligible to become a Parish Councillor in the Parish of Whimple and I certify that the contents of this application form are true and correct.

I consent to my details being retained if I am co-opted as a Councillor.

I consent to having a Parish Council email address and to receiving Parish Council documentation via electronic means.

I consent to my name, address and telephone number being published together with my Parish Council email address.

I consent to my Register of Declaration of Interest form being published on the Parish Council/East Devon District Council website. I fully understand that this sets out my interests and those of my spouse, partner or civil partner.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signed:** |  |
| **Dated:** |  |

Please return this form to:

Amy Tregellas

Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Whimple Parish Council

Email: whimpleparishcouncil@gmail.com

Post: Whimple Parish Council, Whimple Victory Hall, School Hill, Whimple, Exeter, Devon, EX5 2TS