

Parish Council Election 2015

A message to the Residents of Eydon from Keith Simmons - Parish Council Chairman.

On Thursday 7th May 2015 the United Kingdom is holding a General Election, with District, Borough and Parish Council elections taking place at the same time. In Eydon this means that we need more than 7 people to stand for election to Eydon Parish Council for an election to take place in the Parish.

Now is the time you can stand as a Parish Councillor to make a difference to our community in Eydon. Please give it real consideration and let us see democracy in action!

What is the Parish Council?

The Parish Council is a democratically elected body established by legislation. It is the first tier of local government and has a range of statutory powers which may be carried out if voted on. The Parish Council has a statutory power to precept (tax) the local electors to finance activities following decisions made within the Council.

In Eydon, the Parish Council expects to spend around £15,000 in 2015/16 set out in a budget which shows how this tax payers money will be spent in the forthcoming fiscal year.

What does the Parish Council do?

The Parish Council is responsible for:-

- Village street lighting: their electricity supply and maintenance
- General village maintenance within the 30 mph signs
- Maintenance and management of the Burial Ground.
- Maintenance of Bus Shelters in Lime Avenue and High Street
- Provision and maintenance of Noticeboards in High Street and Lime Avenue
- Promotion of village activities by funding the monthly publication of the **Eydon Village News** and also the eydon.org.uk web site, without any editorial control or responsibility for content.
- Appoints a Parish Paths Warden to keep an eye on all the footpaths and other rights of way around the village
- Organises public meetings and represents the public regarding significant developments when required.
- Comments on all planning applications relating the the village, making sure that all development is appropriate and in keeping with the village.

These are just some of the things that the Parish Council gets involved with. Do you have a particular project in mind? Join the council and try to make it happen!

You should consider becoming a Parish Councillor if:

- You Want To Do Something Positive for the Community
- You Want To Spend Your Time Productively
- You Can Think, Listen and Act Locally, in the best interests of the Parish of Eydon

- You Want to Give Something Back to Your Community

The Effort Required

A Parish Councillor is required to attend each Parish Council meeting and participate in debate and decision making. The meetings are held monthly on a Tuesday Evening and should last for no more than 2 hours.

There are various committees and working groups and it is up to you if you would like to participate in these.

It is really important that the Parish Council has a range of different Councillors; Councils work well with a mix of ages and demographic profiles.

The term of office is four years and anyone over the age of 18 who is a citizen of the UK, lives in the Parish, works in the Parish or works/lives within three miles of the Parish may put themselves forward to be a candidate in the election.

Election Timetable

If you decide to stand for election to the Parish Council you **must** submit your nomination in person to Election Officers at South Northants Council by **4:00 pm on Thursday 9 April 2015**. It is an absolute deadline (4:01 is no good!). Preparing your nomination papers can take several days to get all the details together and you should deliver your papers personally by hand to South Northants Council who will be operating an appointment system to receive nominations. Your papers will be checked for you and their validity confirmed.

Polling Day itself is Thursday 7 May 2015.

Nomination process.

A prospective candidate must deliver in person to the Returning Officer for the election (or their deputies) a valid nomination paper. You can get a nomination pack from the Parish Clerk or from the elections team at South Northants Council. Please see contact details below.

Your surname, forename(s), residence and description (if required) must be entered as well as your electoral roll number from the current register of electors. The elections team at South Northants Council has a copy of this register, as does the Parish Clerk. The nomination paper must also contain similar particulars of a proposer and a seconder who must be electors in the Parish of Eydon: they must sign the nomination paper.

What Next?

If you are considering becoming a candidate for election you are very strongly recommended to contact the Parish Clerk or the elections team at South Northants Council to obtain information on what you need to do to be nominated. South Northants Council produces guidance on Election Procedures and it is imperative that these are followed or you may find yourself disqualified from candidacy.

If you want to know more about the duties do not hesitate to contact myself, the Clerk or any of the other current Parish Councillors whose details are available on the Parish website.

Please Contact :

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