

# Vacancy in Uplands Ward May 2022

Stroud Town Council has councillor vacancy in Uplands ward. If you would like to help us to deliver our aim of serving the people of Stroud to create a thriving, sustainable community please read on and check whether you are eligible.

## What is a councillor?

In Stroud councillors are elected to represent an individual geographical unit on the council, known as a ward. They are normally elected every four years, but there is currently a casual vacancy available.

## 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 councillor 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?

Councillors generally say that their duties occupy them for at least an hour a week. Obviously there are some councillors who spend more time than this, but in the main, being a town councillor 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, be community-minded and willing to work as part of a team.

If after reading this notice you are interested in applying please read our co-option policy, check the eligibility criteria and then write to the Town Clerk confirming your eligibility to sit on the Town Council, including a short statement explaining the reasons why you want to become a Town Councillor. Please note that your letter will be published on the Council website. The closing date for applications is **9<sup>th</sup> July 2022**. The Council will consider applications at their meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022.