

Standing for Election

Camborne Town Council



What do Town Councillors do?

Town Councillors make decisions that influence how the Town Council works. The decisions they make affect the lives of everyone who lives and works in Camborne or comes to visit here. Town Councillors also help people get and access the services they need when they experience difficulties.

If you are a Town Councillor, you will:

- represent everyone in your area
- be a community leader, bringing together partner organisations
- help sort out problems for the people you represent
- work with community groups, the police and others to get things done
- hold the Town Council and other public organisations to account for their performance and the decisions they make
- help agree the budget for the Town Council and the level of tax
- help decide which services the Town Council will provide
- be honest, open and abide by accepted standards of public life
- work with the Town Council Officers to help resolve issues in your Ward and receive their support to do your job
- explain and justify Town Council decisions and policies
- be a public figure and have your contact details published as a point of contact

Could you do it?

It is important that the Town Council represents a cross section of all the walks of life of our community and that Town Councillors have different levels of education, knowledge and experience. Using your own skills and experience will help your Town Council make a real difference to your community.

You can stand for election as an independent Town Councillor or as a representative of a political party, but you must be their duly authorised candidate. You will serve a four-year term and will be required to attend at least one meeting per month.

Does this sound like you?

- involved in community life
- confident
- keen to help people and prepared to listen
- determined
- flexible
- practical



- well organised
- keen to see community initiatives succeed
- good at communicating and working with people

'The Small Print'

To be a Councillor you must:

- be at least 18 years old
- be a British, commonwealth or EU citizen
- be on the electoral register, or have lived, worked or owned property in the parish for at least twelve months before the date of election
- you cannot be an employee of the town council

How much time will it take?

Every Town Councillor approaches their role differently, but it does require a significant commitment. You will have agreed to attend every meeting that you are nominated to. On average the Town Council meets once per month and runs a number of committees in support of its work. There will also be other informal meetings including Cornwall Council network meetings and other community organisations. You may also be appointed as a town council representative to an outside body attending those meetings and reporting back to council.

Do I get paid?

The Town Council will meet the cost of your approved training, travel and subsistence allowances for attending outside meetings. You may also claim expenses to cover mileage to cover authorised travel on behalf of the town council.

What training will I receive?

There will be induction training for all Councillors during the first six months. You must be available to attend these evening sessions which are essential to your work as town councillor. [In addition, the Town Council has made it a requirement that Town Councillors undertake specific training for certain roles: e.g. to sit on the Planning Committee or the Staffing Committee, or to Chair a Committee.]



Standards in Public Life

The Town Council has signed up to the national requirement to have a code of conduct which promote standards in public life. You must agree to abide by this Code and meet the standards whenever you are acting as a town councillor, or when the public would think that you are acting as a town councillor. It is essential that you treat all people fairly and respectfully.

The Code of Conduct also requires you to complete a public register of your interests and those of your partner within the parish and this will be published on Cornwall Council's website. As a Town Councillor you must declare your interests e.g. business, landholdings, personal etc that may influence the decisions of the Town Council.

Being a Town Councillor

Depending on your interests and experience you could find yourself taking on particular responsibilities in your Town Council work. Whatever role you take on you will need to work closely with other members, Cornwall Councillors and our partner organisations.

<u>Being a local representative</u>: this is a rewarding part of the job and is the role of all councillors. You will work with others to raise issues on behalf of local residents.

<u>Being a member of a Committee</u>: e.g. Planning or Licensing say, where sometimes matters can be very controversial. Committees are a place for a real focus on specific areas of the town council's work and a chance to get involved in the detail of decision making.

<u>Being a council representative</u>: as a town councillor you will have opportunities to attend meetings of the Cornwall Council Community Network Panels and meetings of other organisations as a town council representative. You will be able to feedback to the council on the work of others.

Working Together

As a Town Councillor you decide upon polices with advice from the Town Clerk and Officers directed by the Town Clerk who will then put them into practice. This is a close working relationship and mutual respect is important. Officers are employed by the Town Council, not Councillors, and therefore can only be directed by the Town Council and Town Clerk.



Structure of the Town Council

Management Team Town Clerk, Finance Officer (RFO), Engagement Officer, Amenities & Projects Officer, Library Service Officer

Staff Team Finance and Administration Assistant, Committee Support Officer, 3 x Library & Council Support Assistants, Amenities Supervisor and 4 Amenities Technicians

Full Council- Committees Finance and General Purpose Committee, Planning and Development Committee, Amenities Committee, Staffing Committee

Working Parties- Passmore Edwards Building, Estates & Devolution, Street Naming, Tour of Britain, Awards, Climate Emergency, Neighbourhood Development Plan, Donald Thomas Centre, Corporate Governance, Strategic Budget.

We Work Closely With:

- Business Improvement District (BID) Camborne
- Cornwall Council and Councillors
- Camborne Town Deal
- Safer Camborne & Redruth
- Devon & Cornwall Police
- Trevithick Day Committee
- Cornwall College Group
- Camborne Royal British Legion
- Camborne schools, religious groups and organisations
- Camborne Pubwatch

Town Council Key Services

KEY SERVICE: Crucially the Council is the collective voice for our community. We out community first in everything we do. 'Kemeneth Kynsa- Community First'

- Camborne Library Service
- Planning Consultee
- Allotments (Enys Road and Pengegon)
- CCTV and community safety (include COVID response)
- Town management (including planting, events and festivals)
- Community planning (neighbourhood, climate change)
- Parks and greenspaces (Camborne Rec, Park Gerry, Beacon and Troon Treslothan)
- Managing community assets such as the Fountain, Town Clock and street furniture.
- Community Grants and donations.



Facts

- Geographically Largest Parish in Cornwall (2,800 hectares)
- Approx 23,000 residents
- 5 wards
- 18 Town Councillors
- Over £1.2 million annual budget

Election timetable

Nomination papers available: 22nd March 2021

Close of nominations: 4pm 8th April 2021

Polling Day: 6th May 2021

If you are elected to serve on the town council, please remember to contact the Town Clerk as soon as possible to complete the process. You will take up office on Monday, May 10th, 2021 and the first meeting of the council will be held on Wednesday 19th May 2021.

What do I stand for?

Tell your residents in your Ward in your election literature, online postings etc. what you feel you can bring to the Council. What you stand for personally and what you want the Council to be doing to help the community in the next five years.

Tell them relevant details about yourself and evidence of how you have been involved in community activities and initiatives.

Please look on the Town Council's website and social media to see what the current issues might be.

Questions?

Please contact the Town Clerk: Mrs Samantha Hughes

shughes@camborne-tc.gov.uk

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