

**NOTICE OF VACANCY FOR A PARISH COUNCILLOR  
STAPELEY & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL**

**Meeting: Monday, 18 September 2017 – Stapeley Community Hall (7.30 pm start)**

**Does 'grass roots' local government appeal to you? Do you want to make a difference to your community?  
If so, read on.....**

<p>Parish councillors are no different from you or me, except that they have made a decision to 'get involved' and are fortunate enough to have been elected or co-opted onto the Parish Council.</p> <p>The Council comprises 10 parish councillors and they come to the Council mainly at election time (every four years), but also through a by-election or co-option in between the main elections.</p> <p>Councillors are all ages (but over the age of 18 years) and have a diverse range of life experiences. Some have lived within the parish for many years, and some have become residents since the Cronkinson development was built. The one thing they all have in common is that they are committed to ensuring that the parish is a pleasant place to live and that residents receive value for (public) money.</p>	<p>So...how do you become a parish councillor other than at election time?</p> <p>Occasionally a councillor resigns owing to personal circumstances and a casual vacancy is advertised. That is the case in respect of this vacancy. If the Borough Council receives 10 or more requests for an election, one may be held, but if there are no such requests, the Parish Council can co-opt to the vacancy. Its usual procedure is to advertise as widely as possible to ensure the largest pool of potential candidates. This vacancy was advertised and no election was called. It is now up to the Parish Council to co-opt to the vacancy and this will be scheduled for the meeting to be held on <b><u>18 September 2017.</u></b></p> <p>Candidates will be invited to attend and will be given an opportunity to make a brief presentation about why they wish to enter public life. This should be no more than a couple of minutes.</p>	<p>After that, the nominations will be moved and seconded, and a vote taken. If there are more candidates than vacancies, a secret ballot is held, with all candidates present throughout. The successful candidate then signs a declaration of acceptance of office and also agrees to be bound by the Council's Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Once a councillor, you will be required to attend the monthly meetings. Please note that this is not an 'invitation' to attend, it is a 'summons' because it is at the meetings that the decisions are taken.</p> <p>Members of the public are also encouraged to attend these meetings so that they can see the Parish Council at work.</p> <p>Being a Parish Councillor can be a very rewarding and interesting role. Why not have a go?</p>
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**Contact the Clerk (Carol Jones) for an informal chat about the vacancy, or to  
receive more information.  
Tel: 01270 812065: e-mail: [clerk@stapeleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stapeleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)**