



# OTTERY ST MARY TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2019

The next Ottery St Mary Town Council ('the Town Council') Elections will be held on **THURSDAY 2nd MAY 2019** when parishioners will be able to vote for the people they wish to represent them for the period 2019 - 2023.

**Here is some helpful information to get you started!**

**A Drop-in event will be held on Monday 4th March between 4pm and 7 pm at East Devon District Council ('EDDC'), Blackdown House, Border Road, Heathpark Industrial Estate, Honiton, EX14 1EJ**

EDDC's Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer and Electoral Services Manager will be available to discuss what the role involves and how parishioners can put themselves forward for the election. You will be able to find out about the nomination process, voting procedures, the importance of campaigning, how the count will work and information about our recent boundary changes.

The East Devon district is divided into 32 electoral wards, represented by 59 councillors who are elected for four years.

## **THE PROCESS**

**The only legal requirements to be a councillor are as follows.**

You must be:

- British, from the Commonwealth or the EU
- At least 18 years old
- Registered to vote in the area or have lived/worked/owned property there for a year

**You are ineligible to stand as a councillor**

- if you are currently employed by the Town Council
- if you hold a politically restricted post
- if you have been previously convicted of a corrupt or illegal practice or
- if you have been sentenced to prison for three months or more during the five years before election

## **Person Specification**

i. Many councillors are members of political parties, but there is no obligation to do so – independent candidates are just as welcome.

ii. You do not need any formal qualifications to be a good councillor, just skills and experiences that best represent your local community. Examples of these could include, skills gained through volunteering or working with community groups.

iii. You need to be well organised and someone who can apply themselves to problems. You will also need to be able to communicate well with a wide range of public and professional bodies.

### **Nomination Packs and where to obtain them**

To stand as a candidate you need to complete the documentation contained in a Nomination Pack obtainable from EDDC, However the Town Council may have a few packs available. Please see contact information below

#### **East Devon District Council**

**Post:** Electoral Services, East Devon District Council, Blackdown House, Border Road, Heathpark Industrial Estate, Honiton. EX14 1EJ

**Phone:** 01395 517402

**Email:** [elections@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:elections@eastdevon.gov.uk)

**Link to the EDDC elections webpage:**

<http://eastdevon.gov.uk/elections-and-registering-to-vote/election-documents/east-devon-district-council-elections-2-may-2019/>

#### **Ottery St Mary Town Council**

**Post:** Ottery St Mary Town Council, Council Offices, 8 Broad St, Ottery St Mary, Devon, EX11 1BZ

**Phone:** 01404 812252

**Email:** [enquiries@otterystmary-tc.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@otterystmary-tc.gov.uk)

## **VERY IMPORTANT!**

Completed Nomination forms must be **HAND DELIVERED AND NOT POSTED** to:- East Devon District Council, Blackdown House, Border Road, Heathpark Industrial Estate, Honiton, EX14 1E **by 4:00 pm WEDNESDAY 3RD APRIL 2019**  
**It is your responsibility to ensure that your nomination papers are delivered in the correct manner and by the required deadlines.**

### **Attached documents and useful links**

- A copy of the Election Timetable <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/our-work/elections-2/2818-elections-timetable/file>
- Electoral Commission – ‘Can you stand for Election?’  
[http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/141784/Part-1-Can-you-stand-for-election-LGEW.pdf](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0007/141784/Part-1-Can-you-stand-for-election-LGEW.pdf)
- National Association of Local Councils - ‘the Good Councillors Guide’

### **You may also find the following link to the Electoral Commission helpful**

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/candidate-or-agent/parish-and-community-council-elections-in-england-and-wales>

**Good Luck!**

