

Ward Councillors

Ludlow Town Council would like to co-opt three councillors for four year term of office

Ludlow Town Council currently has twelve elected Councillors for a total of fifteen available seats.

Vacancies

There are three vacancies in the following wards:

Clee View (2)

Hayton (1)

Q: What is co-option?

A: Co-option is when the town council chooses someone to fill a vacancy; this occurs only if insufficient candidates are proposed for seats at an election.

Q: Can I become a co-opted councillor??

A: A person is qualified to be elected and to be a councillor if they are a British, Commonwealth, Irish or European Union citizen and on the relevant day (that is, the day of nomination or election), they are 18 years of age or over.

In addition, the person must meet at least one of the following criteria:

(1) on the relevant day and thereafter, they continue to be on the electoral register for the parish, or

(2) during the whole of the twelve months before that day, they have owned or tenanted land or premises in the parish, or

(3) during the whole of the twelve months before that day, their principal or only place of work has been in the parish, or

(4) during the whole of the twelve months before that day, they have resided in the parish or within 4.8 kilometres of it.

Except for qualification (1), these qualifications then continue for the full term of office, until the next ordinary elections.

Certain people are disqualified from standing, and these include paid officers of the council, bankrupts and those subject to recent sentences of imprisonment.

Q: Who should apply?

A: Diversity is a great asset in democracy, and people from all walks of life, interests and areas of Ludlow are welcome to apply to become town councillors.

Q: How do I apply?

A: Please complete the application form and skills audit and return both to townclerk@ludlow.gov.uk or the Guildhall, Mill Street, Ludlow SY8 1AZ by 5pm on Tuesday 8th June 2021.

Q: What happens next?

A: Ludlow Town Council will advertise the vacancies and invite applications from residents in the local press and on town council website <u>www.ludlow.gov.uk</u>

Those that apply for co-option will be invited to attend a Council meeting on Wednesday 16th June 2021 where their applications / nominations will be considered by the existing twelve councillors.

There will be a chance to speak in support of your application for up to three minutes. Once all candidates have spoken – nominations for each ward will be taken and the twelve councillors will vote in rounds until one candidate is elected by majority vote.

Once a councillor has been co-opted, they must sign a Declaration of Office witnessed by the Town Clerk to become a councillor.

Councillors must make a written Declaration of Interests to the Monitoring Officer with 28 days of taking up office, and observe the Code of Conduct.