

OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Co-option process-initiated 17th May 2023

Following the South Ward & North East Ward, a statutory notices of the vacancy was posted. As no request for an election has been made, the council is now seeking to fill the vacancy through co-option of a volunteer.

The council is responsible for providing services such as maintenance of the play area, Christmas lights, public conveniences, and liaising with Rutland Council regarding services which they provide. OTC meets the cost of services for which it is responsible through a "Precept" which is collected with the RCC Council Tax.

Town Council meetings are held in the evening; There are usually 12 ordinary meetings per year. Additional extraordinary meetings may be called to discuss matters, such as planning, which need to meet specific deadlines or to address urgent issues. The office of councillor is unpaid.

If you 18 or over, an elector in the Parish, or meet one of a number of other eligibility criteria set out in the application pack and are interested in applying to serve as Councillor please complete the application form in this pack and return to the Town Clerk by Monday 12th June 2023.

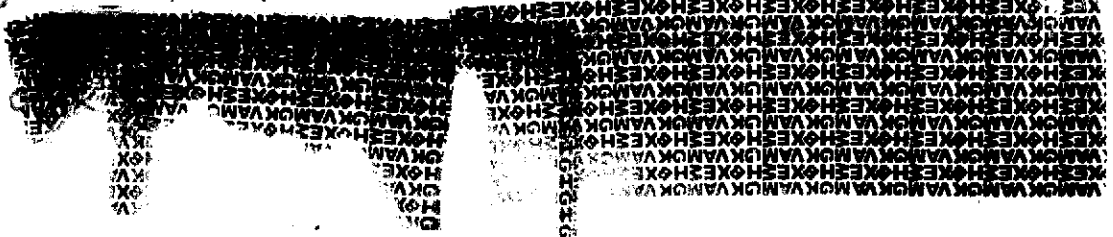
1. Candidates must apply in writing (by post or e-mail) using the application form attached. If you have any queries please contact TownClerk@oakhamtowncouncil.gov.uk or phone on 01527 723627.
2. All candidates should have submitted applications by the deadline, Monday 12th June.
3. All Councillors will receive copies of the candidate applications.
4. The co-option will be decided at the next meeting of the Town Council which will be held on 14th June 2023.
5. To be appointed to the council any applicant must secure an absolute majority in a ballot at a full council meeting. If there is more than one candidate for the vacancy the process will be that the person with the least votes gets taken off the list and a fresh vote is taken until an overall majority is reached. In the event of a tie the Chairman shall have the casting vote. If a majority is not attained an appointment will not be made.
6. If a further casual vacancy arises within three months after co-option, those that were unsuccessful can request that their application is resubmitted, this does not affect their rights to submit a completely new application.
7. Successfully co-opted applicants become Councillors in their own right with immediate effect, having signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, and are no different from any other member. Their term of office runs until the next quadrennial elections for the Parish Council. They must fill in an entry to the Members' Register of Interests within 28 days with a copy passed on to the monitoring officer at Rutland County Council.
8. There will be opportunities for training during their term of office.

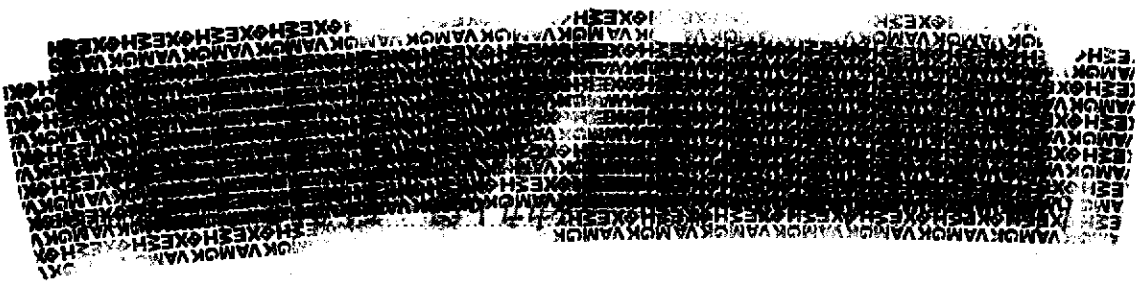
OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL Application form for co-option to the Town Council

Please complete this form to be considered as a candidate for membership of the Town Council then return by post to: The Town clerk, Oakham Town Council, Rol House, Long Row, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6LN or by e-mail (preferably as a printable pdf document) to TownClerk@oakhamtowncouncil.gov.uk

NAME: (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other) SYLVIA RUTH PRYER

ADDRESS:





Qualification to serve

You are at least 18 years old and a British citizen or an eligible Commonwealth and you must be able to answer "YES" to at least one of the following four questions; please circle as many as apply to you.

1. Are you registered at the above address as a Local Government Elector for the area of Oakham Parish?
2. During the whole of the last 12 months have you resided in the Parish or within 3 miles (4.8 kilometres) of it? Show address if different from above.
3. During the whole of the last 12 months have you occupied as owner or tenant land or premises in the Parish ? Give address of land or premises.
4. During the whole of the last 12 months has your main place of work been within the Parish? Give address and place of work and employer if applicable.

Disqualifications (as provided in the Local Government Act 1972, s80; Localism Act 2011, s34)

If you answer "YES" to any of the following six questions, then it is likely that it will not be possible to co-opt you to the Town Council. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

1. Do you now hold, or have you in the last 12 months held, any paid office or any other position of profit with this Council or an organisation controlled by the Council? **NO**
2. Have you ever been surcharged by the District Auditor for £500 or more? **NO**
3. Have you ever been disqualified by a Court from holding Public Office? **NO**
4. Have you ever been declared bankrupt? **NO**
5. Have you ever been convicted of any offence where the sentence of imprisonment was more than 3 months (even if sentence suspended)? **NO**
6. Have you ever been found guilty of corrupt or illegal practices under Election Laws? **NO**

I have set out information about my background and reasons for applying to be considered for co-option on pages 3 and 4 of this form.

Signed *S.R. Fryer*

Date..... *10th June 2023*

OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR APPLICATION FORM	
	OTC are keen to co-opt fellow members of the community who are team players, willing to contribute their own ideas whilst respecting those of others and accepting majority decisions. Experience of serving on a council or with other voluntary groups may be useful. Please use this form to explain how your background and skills may enable you to contribute to the running of the Town Council.
	NAME: <i>SYLVIA PRYER</i>
1	BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE (You may attach a separate document)

	<p>1. Graduated in 1964, became a teacher</p> <p>2. Held posts in education, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - specialist subject teacher - head of modern languages - head of 6th Form - deputy head of 11-18 school - headteacher - curriculum adviser: Suffolk LEA - chief inspector of schools: Cambridgeshire - education adviser and senior inspector - school governor at request of LA's - free-lance 'trouble shooter' at request of DES
2	<p>REASONS FOR WISHING TO BE A COUNCILLOR</p>
	<p>Desire to get things done for and behalf of the community I live in:</p> <p>Particular interest in disability, mental health, community development and cohesion, opportunities for the under-25s and over 70s.</p>

3	<p>PREVIOUS COMMUNITY/VOLUNTARY/COUNCIL WORK</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Head of an inner London community comprehensive secondary school, open 364 days a year from 8.0 am to 9.30 pm. Courses for 11-18 year olds and all adults - Community driver for people without cars eg for shopping, medical appointments etc. - Member of Dry Drayton Parish Council for seven years - Organiser of film and book clubs at Lonsdale Park.

4	YOUR SKILLS WHICH MAY BE USEFUL AS A COUNCILLOR
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 45 years of work with teenagers • knowledge of needs of elderly and disabled people, being one myself. • previous experience of legislation and putting ideas into practice • trained as a councillor/counsellor/governor with many years experience of counselling skills • published writer on educational matters • appearances on local + national radio on TV
5	ANY OTHER COMMENTS
	<p>Now that I am retired, I would like to retain and further develop the skills I have, for example analysis of documentation, legal changes and preparation of documentation when bidding for government grants for my community.</p> <p>I can also offer the council skills in developing inter-personal relationships and conflict resolution.</p> <p>I strongly believe that town and Parish councillors should not express personal political points of view, but should judge all matters before them in the light of local needs and relevant evidence.</p>