



Your name on the ballot for Kirkbymoorside Town Council?

The town council **can** make a difference to local life – to do that, it needs vigorous, forward looking councillors. The whole of our town council is up for election on **7th May 2015**. Have **you** thought about standing for election as a town councillor? It is an opportunity to serve your fellow townspeople as a member of the part of local government that is closest to our community.

What can the town council do?

The priorities for the council are to: represent and support citizens in their dealings with larger public authorities provide cash grants or practical assistance to promote local projects of value efficiently and economically provide a range of services, currently including provision of play areas, street lighting and the management of Manor Vale respond to consultation requests, including planning, from other authorities

How do you get to be a town councillor?

Once every four years, there is an election for the nine seats on Kirkbymoorside Town Council. Sadly, in the last three elections, there were too few candidates and so no poll was held. When vacancies occur between elections, they can be filled either by co-option or through a by-election. There was a by-election in Kirkbymoorside on 11th November 2010. **The council clearly has a far better basis for representing the town if a diverse group of members has been elected. Could one of them be you?**

What does a town councillor do?

Individual councillors have no special status, but when members meet together as a council, normally in public, they jointly make decisions about local matters. Full council meetings are usually once a month, but there are also committees to deal with particular areas. Council members need to allow some time for finding out about current issues, and for talking to townspeople about their hopes and fears.

The council has the power to raise money through the council tax collected by Ryedale District Council. Next year, the amount will be £73,000. Obviously, the council must try hard to spend this money sensibly, always aiming to gain the best possible advantage for the people of Kirkbymoorside.

More about Kirkbymoorside Town Council

Full meetings of the council are held on the third Monday of each month except August, at the library, Church House, High Market Place.

Presently, the council's main services include:

The Moorside Room
Manor Vale Woodland
Old Road and Ryedale View Play Areas
Town Cemetery
Sportsfield
Christmas lights
Public seats
The Moorsider
Grass and hedge maintenance
Approx half the town's street lighting
Pavement sweeping & snow clearance

Decisions of the Town Council are monitored and actioned by the Town Clerk, who is employed by the council, and policies are established in conjunction with the council and committee members and implemented by the Town Clerk. Where required, contractors are brought in to provide services.



Becoming a Candidate

There are a number of steps, but the process is really quite simple. Your main contact is Ryedale District Council. You need to:

- Obtain a candidate's pack from Democratic Services, Ryedale District Council
- Request a copy of the Kirkbymoorside electoral register, or borrow one
- Find two people to propose you as a candidate. They need to be on the Kirkbymoorside electoral register and you will need their numbers from the register
- Complete the forms for yourself as candidate and get your proposers to sign the proposal form.
- Submit everything to Ryedale District Council
- Wait for the list confirming the candidates

Meet the Council

An informal meeting has been arranged for **7 pm on 26th February 2015 in the Moorside Room**, 9 Church Street, when you can meet current town councillors, talk to them about the role of a council member and ask them questions.

People who can help you include:

Kirkbymoorside Town Council

Feel free to contact any of the present council.

Addresses and phone numbers can be found in the council office window and on the council web site.

Ryedale District Council

Democratic Services Manager : Simon Copley

Democratic Services Officer: Jo Dodgson

Ryedale House, Malton YO17 7HH.

Tel: 01653 600666 ext 272.

Schedule of Dates 2015

- *Thursday 26th February – Informal meeting with the Councillors, 7pm in The Moorside Room*
- **2nd March 2015 - Formal Notice of Election**
- **Earliest submission of nominations – Between 10am and 4pm on any working day after publication of notice of election**
- 9th April 2015 - Last day for nominations, no later than 4pm
- 9th April 2015 - List of candidates published at 5pm (if no objections)
- 9th April 2015 - Last day to withdraw by 4pm
- 9th April 2015 - Notice of poll - If no objections, at 5pm
- **7th May 2015 - Election day 7am – 10pm**

The Election Campaign

It is entirely up to you how much effort you put into campaigning for election. People may be less inclined to vote for you if they do not know much about you.

Ryedale District Council will provide you with a Kirkbymoorside electoral register, on request, and you can use it to help plan your campaign. You can spend money on your campaign if you wish; there is no public funding to support this. There is a limit on how much you can spend, which is a little above £600.

