

Dear Madam,

Re: Vacancy in the Office of Town Councillor

I write with reference to the above vacancy and I would be grateful if consideration could be given to this letter as I would like to be considered for the vacant position.

I am a retired solicitor having retired from full time private practice in June 2015. I have over 30 years experience as a solicitor having been a partner in a large national legal practice. I was based in the firms Manchester office for most of my career having moved to Manchester with my family when the firms Manchester office was opened in 1989.

I was for a number of years a partner member of the firms management board which dealt with all matters of strategy/marketing and budgeting. I also became managing partner of the Manchester office.

My legal specialisation was in professional disciplinary representation and fraud.

I am 60 years of age. I retired early following the acquisition of my firm by Australian listed law firm Slater Gordon.

Following my retirement I undertook some limited legal consultancy work in relation to a large ongoing investigation which concluded recently. I also applied for and was appointed to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous of Great Britain as a non alcoholic trustee. This was a voluntary role and Board duties included attending several board meetings during the year in York, annual conference, other service meetings and dealing with public information on behalf of AA. This included particular emphasis on presentations around the country to medical professionals and other care professionals about AA and what the Twelve Steps programme offered to the still suffering alcoholic in terms of recovery and sobriety. Last year I was invited to speak to Scottish MP's at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh. I also liaised with the media and contributed to a public information video for AA. I performed these duties over a period of 2 years. As a trustee I was in part responsible for overseeing the finances of the charity and its expenditure.

In 2012 my wife and I purchased a property in Keldholme which required substantial renovation. Renovation was completed in 2014 and in 2015 we sold our house in Manchester and moved permanently to Kirkbymoorside. We have been extremely happy since we moved and we have been keen to involve ourselves in the local community. Since concluding my time with AA and concluding my legal consultancy work I have been in a position to think about and look for new opportunities.

With this in mind I have joined the local Labour group, having been a long time member of the Labour Party. I am now a member of the local CLP Executive for the Thirsk and Malton constituency party and also a member of the Executive committee of North Ryedale Labour Group. In the short time that I have been actively involved we have done a great deal to help with the Ryedale Food Bank and to raise funds for its operation. I have also hosted a meeting in Helmsley at which a senior Labour politician gave an address to members.

I see the role of Town Councillor as an opportunity to help members of the local community specifically in Kirkbymoorside. It would be an entirely new experience for me but hopefully a rewarding one and I would also hope that my experience and skills could be utilised by the council in carrying out my duties.


I regularly walk my dog around Kirkbymoorside and this provides an opportunity to speak to other dog walkers. I detect a much greater sense of community and care about local issues than was the case when I lived in the urban sprawl of Manchester.

I would describe myself as diligent, able to read and assess large volumes of documents and I understand how to conduct myself in meetings and generally. I believe that I am reasonably articulate and having experience of advocacy in courts I can develop a sensible argument and present it in a clear way. I also have time available to submit to the necessary commitment that I expect such a role will require.

I am motivated by a desire to not only occupy myself in my retirement and keep reasonably busy but also to offer something back to others at the same time through voluntary service. This is what motivated me to become involved with AA together with having a close friendship with an alcoholic who is now 18 years sober.

My interests include most sports but particularly football, walking, politics, reading and travel. Since retirement we have travelled regularly and will hopefully continue to do so.

I hope that the information above is sufficient for your purposes but please feel free to contact me should you require further information or clarification.



Nick Holroyd