

[REDACTED],

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Kirkbymoorside.

YO62 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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19/2/26

Dear Town Council,

I am very interested in becoming a town councillor and Lisa the Town Clerk recommended that I write to you to apply.

I have found Kirkbymoorside a wonderful place to live and would like to give back to the community. I believe I have skills that will be useful to the council and my experiences will bring useful perspectives. I have the time, energy and enthusiasm to commit to helping the council.

I have lived in Kirkbymoorside since buying my house in August 2022 and am passionate about living here. I am an active member of the community, spending time walking my dogs and chatting to people. I run my gardening business from here, breed the occasional litter of puppies and work through the winter out beating with my dogs on local estates where I meet local farmers and gamekeepers. I care about the town and the environment and am an active member of Kirkbymoorside in Bloom.

I have been self employed for 20 years which has taught me resilience and to be a good listener. I am used to listening to my clients, understanding their needs and feeding their requirements back to them in simple language. Self employment has given me a good understanding of numbers and budgets. Before running my own business, I had a range of civil service, administrative and sales roles including fostering, these have given me strong organisation and

administrative skills. I am technologically literate and make good use of social media and document production.

I have lived in different areas of the UK including Rosedale Abbey, also I lived 4.5 years in France, returning to the UK in 2016. I consider I am good at assimilating myself into a community and building rapport and friendships. I am very resourceful and used to thinking laterally resulting from 20 years self employment in England and France. I am also very practical and creative, I enjoy making things and renovating my houses. I have a wide range of interests and approach life with an open mind and optimism, welcoming new challenges.

I live on my own in Kirkbymoorside, I am 65 years old. I bought my house in August 2022 and have since renovated it and landscaped the garden. I opened my garden last year in Kirkbymoorside in Bloom Open Gardens where it was well received. I also look after several of the in Bloom planters in the town. I have 5 working Cocker spaniels whom I work out beating in the winter and I also compete in Hoopers competitions at weekends. I have a successful garden design and landscaping business which I am slowly winding down as I recently bought a house in Pickering which I have renovated in under 3 months and is now successfully rented as a holiday let. I also help a friend in Farndale with her holiday cottage changeovers.

In summary, I feel I have time, energy, skills and ability that would be useful to the council and as an active member of the community have a sense of its needs. Kirkbymoorside has made me feel very welcome and I would like to give back to the community that I am passionate about.

Yours sincerely

Debbie Grounds