

# Election update

06 March 2024

## OVERVIEW

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The election for parish councillors will be held on Thursday 02 May 2024.

Chadlington has six councillors.

## NOTES FROM WODC ELECTION BRIEFING

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The Clerk attended the Election Briefing on 06 March.

- All current councillors who wish to remain as councillors must complete and return a nomination form.
- There are six councillor positions for Chadlington.
- Nomination packs will be available from early/mid March. The Clerk will receive some. More packs can be obtained directly from WODC.
- The election period will start on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March.
- The Notice of Election must be displayed in the parish on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March.
- Nominations for councillors must be received by WODC **BY HAND** by 4pm on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April.
  - Postal nominations will not be accepted. The candidate will be contacted by WODC to collect their nomination, which then has to be handed in.
  - The nomination form can be handed in by someone on behalf of the candidate.
- There is no withdrawal period after the close of nominations.
- The Clerk will receive a Statement of Persons nominated by 4 pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April  
This will show either
  - the result of an uncontested election, or
  - notice of poll.
- Candidates
  - must have British, Irish, Commonwealth or EU citizenship
  - must be 18 or over
  - satisfy at least one of four qualifications:
    - be on the electoral register
    - occupy land in the parish as an owner or tenant
    - have their principal or only place of work in the parish
    - live in or within 4.8 km (3 miles) of the parish

The list of disqualification reasons can be obtained from WODC.

- Voter registration is open until Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April.
- Polling hours are from 7 am to 10 pm.
- The count (if required) will take place on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.
- New councillors come into office, and the previous councillors retire on the 4<sup>th</sup> day after the election, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May.
- The Annual Council Meeting must be held between Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May.
- If there has been a contested election the earliest the ACM can be held is Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

- The first order of business at the ACM is to elect a new Chairman. The retiring Chairman, if present, opens the meeting and calls for the election of the new Chairman. The retiring Chairman cannot vote for a new Chairman, but does have the casting vote in the event of a tie.
- The Declaration of Acceptance of Office has to be completed and signed in the presence before or at the beginning of the ACM, unless Council formally approves to accept a later date of signing.
- If a Declaration of Acceptance of Office is not signed, that position automatically becomes vacant.
- WODC must be informed of any vacancies.
- Register of Interest forms must be returned by Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June.
- The election expenses form, even if none are incurred, must be returned to WODC.
- If fewer candidates are elected than the full number of councillors, but the council will be quorate, extra councillors can be co-opted to the council.
- If fewer candidates are elected than the full number of councillors and the council will be inquorate, there will be a fresh election for the remainder of the councillor positions at a further cost to the council.
- The cost of the election will be billed by WODC in April 2025.
- OALC is running an online event “So you want to be a councillor” on 11<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30 pm.