

THE DEMISE OF COWFOLD PARISH COUNCIL

YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!

The make-up of the Council

The first Cowfold Parish Council met on January 7th 1895 at which time there were nine councillors with Mr C.B. Godman as Chairman. Now we should have 11 councillors but only have six members.

Next year 2015 is an election year when all Councillors' term of office ends and a new Council should be elected. There will only be an election if more than 11 people volunteer to be nominated and stand for election. In the past 25 years, we have only once had enough candidates to run an election, the usual number being about five.

Could 2015 see the end of Cowfold Parish Council???

The answer to this is yes if more people do not come forward. This is because it requires a minimum of three members to be at a meeting to allow the Council to conduct its business and with other commitments it is not possible for all councillors to attend every meeting and so at present we can sometimes struggle to get the required quorum.

Does this matter???

I think the answer is definitely yes because, if we do not have a Parish Council, we will become an "unparished" area with the responsibilities of the Parish reverting to Horsham District Council. This means that we lose our voice in influencing the policies of the District and County Councils and greatly diminish our ability to fight for improvements in local services and infrastructure.

What we do!!

The Parish Council has an overall responsibility for the well-being of the local community. Its work falls into three main categories:

- representing the local community
- delivering services to meet local needs
- striving to improve the quality of life in the parish

The Council is directly involved in the provision and/or monitoring of the following local services:

Allotments	Car parks	Community transport scheme
Footpaths	Bridleways	Bus shelters
Crime reduction measures	Leisure facilities	Litter bins
Local youth projects	Open spaces	Planning
Litter picking	Street lighting	Traffic calming measures
Recreational facilities (playing field)		

Apply now!

To be a councillor, you need to be over 18 years old and either live or have your main place of work (for more than 12 months) in the Parish or within 3 miles of the parish boundary. You can apply to be co-opted now or register as a candidate for election in May 2015. For more information on being a councillor please contact the clerk Mrs Jan Wright on 01403 864806 email clerk@cowfold-pc.gov.uk.

Vic Allmond

Chairman Cowfold Parish Council