

****Draft Notice for review by Council****

Alwoodley Parish Council Notice of Intention to Co-Opt New Councillors

There are currently vacancies on Alwoodley Parish Council.

As no election has been called, the Council intends to fill these vacancies by co-option at a meeting in early 2026.

About the Role

Parish councillors are volunteers who work together to represent the local community, influence services, and help improve life in Alwoodley.

We are particularly keen to hear from women and residents who are enthusiastic about contributing actively between meetings, especially those interested in committee and working group involvement on topics such as:

- Community engagement: Outreach, hosting gatherings of community groups, business, and / or interested residents; newsletter creation and distribution; consultations; digital communications.
- Planning: Reviewing planning proposals, reviewing and developing neighbourhood plan.
- Environment, Biodiversity, sustainability: Improving green spaces for habitat and recreation, taking local measures to reduce harm to/ help the planet.
- Local transport and active travel: Measures to improve local infrastructure and initiatives for public and active travel, reduce car congestion and anti-social parking/driving.
- Finance and policy: Attending to financial oversight and good governance.

No prior Council experience required, but we are looking for people who are interested in rolling up their sleeves and giving their time beyond required meetings. You will have a passion for and a commitment to Alwoodley being a great place to live and you'll enjoy working collaboratively. Training and support will be provided. A particular interest in or experience with one of the areas above would be ideal.

Eligibility

To qualify, you must:

- Be at least 18 years old, and
- Be a British citizen, or a citizen of the Commonwealth, the Republic of Ireland, or a qualifying EU citizen, and
- Either:
 - Be registered as a local government elector for the parish, or
 - Have lived, worked, or owned land within the parish (or within 3 miles of it) for at least 12 months before appointment.
- Certain disqualifications apply (for example, if you are disqualified from holding public office by reason of a criminal conviction or bankruptcy).

Meetings

The Parish Council usually meets on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at Alwoodley Community Hall, unless that Monday is a bank holiday, in which case the meeting takes place on Tuesday instead.

There is no council meeting in August.

How to Apply

If you are interested in being considered for co-option, please write or email the **Parish Clerk** briefly outlining:

- Why you would like to become a councillor, and
- What interests, skills, or local experience you would bring.

Applications should be received by **Friday, 10 January 2026**.

Applications and any questions should be sent to:

Jennifer Walper Roberts

The Parish Clerk

Alwoodley Parish Council

Email: the.clerk@alwoodleyparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Website: alwoodleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Further Information

For more details about what parish councils do and the role of a councillor, visit:

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/publications/801-good-councillor-guide/file>