

What my Local Council Does?

The powers of a town council are wide and various. The Council exists as the most localised form of government and is there to serve and represent the town and their residents and electors. It covers:

- Allotments, MUGA and Skate Park
- Public Hall Complex and Foresters Hall
- The Guildhall and Town Clock
- Public Toilets at 3 locations in town
- 33 public benches
- Maintenance of the War Memorial, Fountain, Pipewell and certain footpaths
- Weed control in the town centre no longer funded by Cornwall Council
- 10 year Management Agreement for Westbourne Gardens and Lease with Cornwall Council for Events Area
- Maintenance and monitoring of 8 new CCTV cameras
- Monitoring 4 defibrillators
- Special projects and events
- Social media and websites

These are just some of the areas where your town council can act to improve the town, its amenities and support to local people.

Town Councils play a major role in local consultation.

- Consultation on waste, tourism, education and transport and on planning in Liskeard, local plans for the area, provision of services within the district.
- Government consultation on legislation which might affect the future of your village, county, region or country.
- Forming local policy – neighbourhood plans and emergency plans

Being a Councillor is worthwhile?

Being a local Councillor can be a rewarding experience; here are some views of our current Town Councillors

“I’m really proud of my town and, as a parent, felt very passionately about making sure it was a town where there were really good opportunities for future generations...”

“As a councillor I have enjoyed making connections with and between other organisations so we can jointly use our different resources to achieve things.”

Cllr Helen Price, Local Councillor and Chairman of the Cornwall Association of Local Councils adds:

“Councillors are people from all walks of life, from all age groups who wish to give a little of their time and expertise to representing their community. A good local council is active for its people, representative of and listening to ALL sections of its community. Such a council can only be achieved by a council drawn from a variety of different people from every adult age group.

They are people like you!”

A Councillor... Who Me?

**Could you be
a Town Councillor
and take a lead in
providing services
in your community?**



LISKEARD COUNCIL
WORKING FOR YOU

3-5 West Street
Liskeard
PL14 6BW

01579 345407
(9am – 1pm)

www.liskeard.gov.uk

A Councillor.... who me?

To be a Town Councillor you must be:

at least 18 and a British, Irish, Commonwealth or European Citizen.

- is either:
 - in the Register of Electors for that Parish/Town **or** has during the whole of the preceding twelve months
 - occupied land as owner or tenant
 - had a principal place of work there
 - resided in or within 4.8 km of it.

Why would I want to be a Councillor?

People stand for election for many reasons:

- To speak on behalf of the local community and help local people.
- To contribute professional skills to their community
- To shape the future of their local community
- Councillors play a vital role in shaping and directing the effectiveness of local services for the benefit of local people. They work with public, private and charitable bodies to improve their community.
- The role of a Councillor can be varied at the best of times. Your council is the voice and champion of Liskeard. Being a local councillor can be exciting, intimidating, interesting and even frustrating at times. Above all it is a chance to make a real difference in the place where you live.

What's involved in being a Councillor?

Local councils normally meet monthly and may also hold additional meetings to discuss particular issues. You will need to attend regularly and be prepared to give time to being a councillor.

You will be asked to complete a public register of interests published on the Cornwall Council website, and to abide by the local council's code of conduct.

You will be asked to keep an open mind, and take part in decision making for your area including spending money for local services and facilities.

So how do I get elected?

Local Council elections will be held on May 6th, 2021. Further information including links to the nomination papers is available from the council's website www.liskeard.gov.uk/become-a-councillor/

To find out more about what's involved in being a Councillor, contact the Cornwall Association of Local Councils

Tel Truro (01872) 272648

email enquiries@cornwallalc.org.uk

www.cornwallalc.org.uk

If I am elected

What do I need to know?

- You take your seat on 10 May
- You will need to sign an acceptance before the first meeting – this is likely to be in the week of 17 May, but must be held before 24 May
- You'll need to provide us with your preferred contact details so we can invite you to meetings

What would my time commitment be?

- It will depend on the extent of your involvement and what role you choose take in the work of the Council
- Most local Councils meet once or twice a month. The average length of a meeting is 2 hours

Can I afford it?

- Councillors are volunteers, but costs for approved travel and subsistence outside of the town can be reimbursed.

What initial help will be given?

- Each Council is supported by a Clerk who is knowledgeable in Council procedures. The Clerk is always ready to advise new councillors.

Will I receive any form of training?

- Training, seminars and courses for Councillors are organised throughout the year across the county.
- Topics include the basic functions of local councils and the skills needed to make decisions on behalf of your community.