

# Parish Council Elections May 2019:

## Have you thought of standing?

The Parish Council is up for re-election in May 2019 and as some current councillors have indicated they are standing down, we would like to encourage new people to find out more about being a parish councillor.

From May 2019 there will be only two levels of local government; the new Dorset unitary council and parish and town councils. This new structure will mean that parish and town councils will be even more important in how quality services are delivered to their local community.

Your Parish Council's role is to:

- Represent the local community
- Deliver services to meet local needs
- Strive to improve the quality of life in the parish

Corfe Mullen Parish Council manages the recreation ground, its play area, wildflower meadow, community orchard and skate park, Springdale Road Public Open Space, Towers Way play areas, the Village Hall, the cemetery, the allotments, Hillside Road play area, and the Lockyers Community Hub (in conjunction with Lockyers School). Its office, based in Towers Way, offers an advice, information and referral service to residents on all local government matters. The Council employs a total of 11 staff, including Mrs Katrina Blee, who manages all the council's affairs on its behalf.

In addition to the above services and facilities, the Parish Council comments on all planning applications in the parish and lobbies and liaises with other organisations and higher tier councils on local issues.

If you think you would be interested in standing, please come along to our Open Morning in February to find out more, or contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

### Parish Council Election Information Morning

#### Saturday 9th February 2019 from 10 am to Noon

#### Small Hall, rear of Corfe Mullen Village Hall, Towers Way

Come along and find out about:

- What is a Parish Council
- What does a Parish Council do?
- What does a Councillor do?
- What is it like being a Councillor—meet current Councillors
- How do I apply to become a councillor and when?
- How do I have a say in who becomes a Parish Councillor?

***Just drop in!***

#### Will we have to vote in Parish Councillors?

There are fourteen parish councillors. If fourteen or less people stand, they are deemed to be elected unopposed without a community vote. If fifteen or more people stand, there will be a poll on 2 May 2019 and every vote counts. It is important when you vote to ensure that you vote for a total of fourteen people and not just a few.

Profiles of all candidates will be available on the Parish Council website and from the Parish Council office so you can find out more about who is standing.