



# ECCLESHILL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

### Co-Option Interview

*Minutes of the Co-Option Interview held on Wednesday 05<sup>th</sup> April 2023*

**Welcome:** Chair (Cllr HK) Welcomed all in attendance.

**Present:** Councillors H Kershaw (HK), M Smalley (MS), & C Tyrie (CT) L Taylor (LT) acting Clerk.

**Officers:**

**Applicant:** Wendy Dewhurst

<b><u>Q1</u></b>	<b>Can you start by telling us what attracted you to the post?</b>
<b><u>A1</u></b>	I am a local resident and love the community I live in. I want to give back and pay it forward to the community I love.
<b><u>Q2</u></b>	<b>What is your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of a Parish Councillor?</b>
<b><u>A2</u></b>	If I am the successful candidate, as a Parish Councillor, I will serve the residents of the Parish. If I am successful in my application, I will endeavour to work with my fellow councillors, external agencies and residents to bring our community closer.
<b><u>Q3</u></b>	<b>What interpersonal skills do you possess that you feel you could bring to the team that would improve the running of the Parish Council?</b>
<b><u>A3</u></b>	I am a very approachable person and very much so a team player.
<b><u>Q4</u></b>	<b>How would you handle conflict at meetings and when you are around the parish?</b>
<b><u>A4</u></b>	I can stay distanced, see both sides of a dispute and be the voice of reason.
<b><u>Q5</u></b>	<b>Can you advise on any improvements / changes that could benefit the Parish Council for the future in terms of meetings / information/ communication?</b>
<b><u>A5</u></b>	I have been to a number of meetings. The current Councillors have a great vision for the future and are starting to build a great strategy for the future. If elected I will endeavour to fit in and work with my fellow councillors to bring their vision to life.
<b><u>Q6</u></b>	<b>What advice can you give on how to handle persistent resident abuse towards the Council and its employee?</b>
<b><u>A6</u></b>	This is a whole Parish Council issue. I will work with my fellow councillors and follow the adopted policies to handle any problematic resident.
<b><u>Q7</u></b>	<b>The Parish Council precept has fixed costs of approximately 82% which means that no major budget decisions on improvements can be made. What suggestions have you got to generate funds for the Council?</b>
<b><u>A7</u></b>	The new sitting Parish Councillors are very forward thinking, proactive and engaging with the community. They already have fantastic ideas to raise funds. By being open about prioritising projects and raising funds per specific project gains trust within the parish which in turn will gain momentum and cohesion. So, start small to gain the trust and support of the residents in order build strong foundations. This happens with small events. Slowly move to bigger events. Also keep looking for pots of funding that could be tapped into.