

Parish Councils were set up in 1894 and are the first tier of local Government. Of course, Vigo Parish Council is much younger. It was formed in 2000 and absorbed the roles of the Village Trust and the Residents Association. We are a statutory body that is tasked with providing services to meet local needs and improve the quality of life and well-being in the community. As a Statutory body we have certain duties and legal powers and we are democratically and financially accountable to our local community.

It is not so easy in the current times, to find out about what being a Councillor with Vigo Parish Council involves.

At the moment Parish Council meetings are held on line, so you can't just drop in to a meeting in the Village Hall. But you could always sit in on an on-line meeting - just ask our clerk to send you a link for the next meeting.

Vigo Parish Council is a friendly Council and always welcomes visitors.

We meet once a month, on the third Monday, at 7.30pm; currently on line, but normally in the Village Hall.

In the meetings we discuss a wide range of Vigo issues and issues relating to the wider locality. On a regular basis, this can include oversight of the work on trees, grass verges, litter etc, and ensuring the safety of the play park and ball park. We discuss planning issues and Covenant 3 applications and subjects that residents bring to our attention. We oversee the payments made and income received and carefully monitor our budget.

There are always new matters that arise for which solutions need to be found - for example the parking on Waterlow Road, by the Country Park and the ruts that joy riders seem to take such pleasure in creating.

Between meetings there is regular email contact between our Clerk and Councillors, that ensures urgent matters can be dealt with between meetings if required.

Each Councillor is allocated a particular area in the Village, which they are asked to check at least once every 3 months, to see if there is anything that needs to be dealt with; things such as undergrowth that is creeping over the footpaths, cracks that appear, bins that need emptying etc.

Each Councillor is also assigned to one or two working parties - according to their choices. We have a Finance Committee and currently our working parties range from Grounds Maintenance to Covenants, to links with other organisations, such as the Village Hall and Trosley Country Park

And the most important person on our Council is our excellent Clerk. She is always there to support us, to help us to be well informed and well organised and to make sure that we are always acting within the law!

And there are, of course, training courses that you can attend – again they are on line at the moment. They are organised by the Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC). They regularly run courses for new Councillors, along with others on Finance, Planning and many more.

If you are interested, please contact our Clerk, Mrs Joanne Glass
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phone: 01732 823337