

What is a Parish Councillor?

Parish Councillors are volunteers who give up their time to try and make the Parish a better place to live and work. They have a range of powers and duties over local facilities, and make decisions which effect Parishioner's everyday lives.

Councillors are not paid and have to abide by a code of conduct and to rules that apply to the disclosure of some business or financial interests and non-registerable or disclosable pecuniary interests.

There is also a duty to behave in an ethical manner according to a Code of Conduct.

To appreciate what is involved in being a Parish Councillor you need to know what a Parish Council is, and what it can and cannot do. The Parish Council is nothing to do with the Church or Diocese; nor is it a voluntary and community sector body. Your Parish Council is the local authority closest to the electorate. A Parish Council is a separate legal, corporate entity. First created by the Local Government Act of 1894 in most rural areas.

A Parish Council provides services for the local people. These range from recreation grounds to Cemeteries. What is provided is down to your Council. Like any statutory body it can only do the things for which the law or any governing document gives power.

Empingham Parish Council meet once a month, on the first Wednesday of every month in the Audit Hall from 7pm, and would very much welcome interest in co-option.