



## **YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU !**

### **WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A PARISH COUNCILLOR ?**

As you will have seen from the various notices around the village, on Thursday May 2nd 2019 there will be an election for Breckland District Council and Rocklands Parish Council in Rocklands Village Hall.

Rocklands Parish Council consists of seven councillors as well as our excellent clerk, Kim Austin, who keeps us all in order and up-to-date with the latest rules and regulations. We are also very grateful to other parishioners who give up their time freely to help and advise on matters such as the Neighbourhood Plan - their input is much appreciated. All councillors have to stand down this year and be re-elected if they wish to continue to serve on the Parish Council.

Parish councils are responsible for setting (and spending) the precept, currently about £6k a year, keeping an eye on planning applications, street lighting and other local issues e.g. Highways, flooding, Parish Council property etc. We can also be a link between villagers and Breckland District Council and Highways.

There are usually 7 meetings a year, spread out fairly evenly over the twelve months, held in the Village Hall, starting at 7pm, and they usually last about an hour and a half, depending on the agenda. Over the last couple of years, there has been good support from villagers at council meetings, which is great! All are invited to speak and give their opinions about what is being discussed and the views of parishioners are taken into account when councillors have to vote. Obviously, not everybody can be fully satisfied but we pride ourselves that democracy is followed in a friendly and caring manner.

Everyone I speak to agrees that Rocklands is a very special place to live - it seems to have an atmosphere of friendship and cohesion that is lacking in many other villages which can easily become dormitories. If you feel you would like to be part of how Rocklands develops in the future, please contact Kim ([clerk2rocklands@gmail.com](mailto:clerk2rocklands@gmail.com) or 07811 287071) or any of the current councillors (Find their details in the Rocklander or on the website [www.rocklands.org.uk](http://www.rocklands.org.uk) ) who will be able to tell you what you need to do to put your name forward. You can also speak to any councillor for further information. Please note the deadline for nomination papers to be received by Breckland Council is 4pm on Wednesday 3 April 2019.

We look forward to having new nominations this year.

Thank you.

Councillor Cath Jones (on behalf of Rocklands Parish Council.)