



TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Town Council Co-option

Application Form

I WISH TO BE CONSIDERED FOR CO-OPTION OF TOWN COUNCILLOR for the

Town of Tavistock

Tavistock Town Council (North Ward)

Details of Applicant

| | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Surname | HUGHES | |
| Other forenames in full | JUDY | |
| Commonly used surname (if any) | | |
| Commonly used forenames (if any) | | |
| Description (i.e. if you intend to represent a political party) | I don't believe politics plays a part at town council level, I would be registered as Independent. Though I am a member of the Conservative Party (transparency) | |
| Home address in full | 6 Whitham Park, Tavistock PL19 9BP | Mr/Mrs/Miss/ Ms/Dr/Other |

I declare that I am qualified to stand as a Councillor by virtue of being a qualifying Commonwealth citizen, a citizen of the Republic of Ireland or a citizen of another Member State of the European Union who has attained the age of 18 years and that
 (* = complete as many as are applicable below):


*a. I am registered as a local government elector for the area of the town named above in respect of
 (*qualifying address in full*): **YES – Home Address**

and my electoral number (see Note below) is: TBA

| | |
|--|----|
| *b. I have during the whole of the 12 months preceding that day or those days occupied as owner or tenant the following land or other premises in the town (<i>description and address of land or premises</i>): | or |
|--|----|

| | |
|---|----|
| *c. my principal or only place of work during those 12 months has been in that town at (<i>give address of place of work and, where appropriate, name of employer</i>): | or |
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|---|----|
| *d. I have during the whole of the last 12 months resided in that town or within 4.8 kilometres of it at (<i>give address in full</i>): YES – Home Address | or |
|---|----|

| | | | |
|---|--|---|------------|
| | | | |
| <p>I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief I am not disqualified from holding office by reason of any disqualification set out in Section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972, or any decision made under Section 79 of the Local Government Act 2000 (copies of which are printed overleaf).</p> | | | |
| | | Signature: | Date: |
| | |  <i>Judy Hughes</i> | 16/07/2024 |

Notes: A person's electoral number is their number in the Register to be used at an election (including the distinctive letters of the polling district in which they are registered. Your electoral number is available from the Electoral Registration Officer, West Devon Borough Council Tel 01822 813665).

An applicant who is qualified by more than one qualification may complete any of those that may apply.

Reasons for Seeking Co-option

Please complete the following sections, each of which should not exceed 250 words in length.

I am seeking co-option to the Council because...

As a middle-aged single mother of 5 adult children, caregiver to my mother who has early onset dementia, homeowner with a mortgage, and someone who works full-time, I believe I can relate to and advocate for many people in Tavistock. Having run for the West Devon Borough Council multiple times, I understand the importance of collaboration between the Tavistock Town Council, the Borough Council, and the Devon County Council to attain positive results for residents efficiently and democratically. Though I have been a resident of Tavistock for just two years, my 30-year experience in the South West gives me insight into local practices. Additionally, having spent 20 years in Northern Ireland's farming community while raising my children, I feel a connection to the rural members of our community. I have developed a fondness for Tavistock and am eager to support its continued growth and economic development in any way I can. Despite a busy lifestyle, I'm interested in dedicating time towards altruistic endeavours that could, even in a small measure, enrich the living standards within this part of Devon. An area of particular interest to me is that of small businesses and retail outlets – it appears that the appeal of online shopping may have plateaued, and consumers are recognizing the substantial benefits of making purchases face-to-face.

The skills and expertise I would bring to the Council are...

My professional background encompasses accountancy, spanning from small-scale business finance to legal firm accounts in the public sector, culminating in property accounting. Although I obtained a nursing degree in Ireland, I have never practiced outside of the learning environment. Over the last eight years, my role at NHS Property Services has been in asset management as a Performance and Insight Business Partner, which is likely the most relevant for municipal endeavours. NHS Property Services oversees about 2,700 properties, with a third being leaseholds, making up one of the most varied estates imaginable. We manage relationships with approximately 6,500 tenants, mostly within the NHS, but also including various council, commercial, and charity entities. Currently, only a third of these tenancies are formalized, while the rest consist of more informal arrangements or agreements carried over from past business transfers. As far as I know, TTC is interested in further developing their portfolio optimization; they certainly hold a broad and notable collection of assets. I believe that my expertise could be significantly beneficial in this domain.

My links to Tavistock and knowledge of the area are...

In November 2022, I relocated to Tavistock from Plympton with my daughter and mother. As my work is home-based, the majority of my time is spent within Tavistock, but for church

services, I travel to Horrbridge (St John the Baptist) —somewhere my mother has chosen for her final resting place. My daughter is part of the team at TTC as an events duty manager, and she's really excelling in her role. My own connection to Tavistock strengthened during my candidacy for WDBC; a significant amount of that time involved canvassing in Tavistock North. I'm convinced there is no better way to engage with community members than having conversations with them right on their doorsteps. Although promoting conservative values here was challenging, it was delightful to meet many of the residents and gain insight into their aspirations for our town—a process that has increased my resolve to dedicate my skills to serving the community.

Transparency – my friendships, relationships or other association with any current Town Councillors are as follows (indicate name of Councillor and nature of connection e.g. friend, members of the same group or organisation etc. If none, please state 'none') ...

Although I am known to several of the current councillors due to standing in previous WD elections, I would not consider I have a close relationship with any.

ADDENDUM

PLEASE NOTE

- It is anticipated Applicants may also be invited to attend for interview at the 30th July 2024 Council Meeting,
- A Councillor Role Profile for Tavistock Town Councillors is included;
- Completed Application Forms should be returned to the Town Clerk, Tavistock Town Council, Town Council Offices, Drake Road, Tavistock PL19 0AU by no later than 4.30pm on Thursday 18th July 2024.

NOTES - DISQUALIFICATIONS

Local Government Act 1972: Disqualifications for election and holding office as a member of local authority

80. Disqualifications for election and holding office as a member of a local authority.

(1) Subject to the provisions of Section 81 below, a person shall be disqualified for being elected or being a member of a local authority if he –

- (a) holds any paid office or employment (other than the office of chairman, vice-chairman or deputy chairman or, in the case of a local authority which are operating executive arrangements which involve a leader and cabinet executive, the office of executive leader or member of the executive) appointments or elections to which are or may be made or confirmed by the local authority or any committee or sub-committee of the authority or by a joint committee or National Park authority on which the authority is represented or by any person holding any such office or employment; or
- (b) is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order;
- (c) [This has been removed and no longer applies]

- (d) has within five years before the day of election or since his election been convicted in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man of any offence and has had passed on him a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than three months without the option of a fine; or
- (e) is disqualified for being a member of the relevant council under Part III of the Representation of the People Act 1983, and in this paragraph “the relevant council” means the council of the county or district in which is comprised the area for which charter trustees are established by any statutory instrument made under Part II of the Local Government Act 1992.

(2) Subject to the provisions of Section 81 below, a paid officer of a local authority who is employed under the direction of –

- (a) a committee or sub-committee of the authority any member of which is appointed on the nomination of some other local authority; or
 - (b) a joint board, joint authority, joint waste authority or joint committee on which the authority is represented and any member of which is so appointed;
- shall be disqualified for being elected or being a member of that other local authority.

(2AA) A paid member of staff of the Greater London Authority who is employed under the direction of a joint committee the membership of which includes –

- (a) one or more persons appointed on the nomination of the Authority acting by the Mayor, and
 - (b) one or more members of one or more London borough councils appointed to the committee on the nomination of those councils,
- shall be disqualified for being elected or being a member of any of those London borough councils.

(2A) Subsection (2) above shall have effect as if the reference to a joint board included a reference to a National Park authority.

(2B) For the purposes of this section a local authority shall be treated as represented on a National Park authority if it is entitled to make any appointment of a local authority member of the National Park authority.

(3) Subsection (1)(a) shall have effect in relation to a teacher in a school maintained by the local authority who does not hold an employment falling within that provision as it has effect in relation to a teacher in such a school who holds such an employment.

(5) For the purposes of subsection (1)(d) above, the ordinary date on which the period allowed for making an appeal or application with respect to the conviction expires or, if such an appeal or application is made, the date on which the appeal or application is finally disposed of or abandoned or fails by reason of the non-prosecution thereof shall be deemed to be the date of the surcharge or conviction.

Exception to provisions of Section 80

81 (4) Section 80(2) and (3) above shall not operate so to disqualify –

- (a) any person by reason of his being a teacher, or otherwise employed, in a school ... or other educational institution maintained or assisted by a county council for being a member of a district council by reason that the district council nominates members of the education committee of the county council.