

## 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...

I wish to serve the community of Tavistock.

I have served as a West Devon Borough Councillor and as a Tavistock Town Councillor.

Following discussions with my consultant and the Town Clerk, medical considerations compelled me to stand down as Town Councillor during the COVID pandemic. Without those considerations, I would have continued to serve.

I had intended to re-stand for election in 2023 but, once again, health issues intervened, and I did not stand.

However, those health issues are now under control and, having been informed that there is still the opportunity to serve Tavistock as a Town Councillor by filling one of the vacancies, I wish to be considered for co-option.

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

I am an experienced town planner, both in local government for over 20 years and as a planning consultant for 25 years. In particular, I am experienced in:

- Conservation, having run a large Conservation Team and served as a member of the Cornwall and West Devon World Heritage Partnership.
- Development Management, having a professional lifetime's experience in planning applications of all scales and having served on the Development Management Committees of West Devon Borough Council and Tavistock Town Council, including serving as vice-Chairman of the former.
- Planning policy, having led Bristol City Council's planning policy team for 12 years, lectured on the subject at University level over 15 years, led the Joint Local Plan Team and having advised Parish Councils and community organisations on local and neighbourhood plans throughout my professional career.

I have run businesses for 25 years.

I have extensive general experience of local government at District and Parish Level

I have many contacts throughout Tavistock. As well as personal contacts, these include businesses, voluntary and community organisations. These will, hopefully, enable me to add to the Town Council's already-extensive body of knowledge about the concerns and priorities of local people.

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

I have lived in Tavistock for 12 years, and during that time, have developed connections with a wide range of people and organisations, as well as familiarity with the town itself through the following activities:

- Serving as WDBC Councillor for Tavistock South West Ward.
- Serving as TTC Councillor for Tavistock South East Ward.
- Serving as President of Tavistock Rotary Club, organising a variety of youth activities.
- Serving as a Trustee and Chairman of Tavistock Community Sensory Garden.

- During the pandemic, working with Tavistock Locals Helps, organising food deliveries to families in Whitchurch.
- Volunteering with the Saturday Food Hub, organising food distribution to families in the area, at the same time reducing food waste,
- Organising Tavistock Christmas Treats.
- Promoting the interests of bus users in Tavistock.
- Helping various people and organisations with planning issues.

**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') ...

Mandy Ewing	Friend Former TTC colleague
Steve Hipsey	Friend Volunteering at Tavistock Locals Help
Andy Hutton	Friend Former TTC colleague Membership of TaviHelps
Julu Irvine	None
Alan Lewis	Friend Former TTC colleague
Ann Johnson	Former TTC colleague
Ursula Mann	Former TTC colleague Volunteering at Tavistock Locals Help
Neil Martin	None
Bev Moody	Friend Membership of Tavistock Edge
Jeff Moody	Friend Former TTC Colleague Former WDBC Colleague Membership of Tavistock Edge
Trev Munro	None
Barry Smith	Friend Former TTC colleague
Peter Squire	Former TTC colleague
Alick Venning	Former TTC colleague
Paul Ward	Friend Former TTC colleague Volunteering at Tavistock Saturday Food Hub and Christmas Treats