

Northstowe Town Council

Report to: Full Council
Meeting date: 23rd February 2022

Report for agenda item: **196/21-22 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR**

- (3) To receive a report with information from applications received from prospective candidates for the casual vacancy (Note that information from applications shared is restricted to people's initial, surname and the profile as prepared by the candidates - note that in the profile the candidates are asked to describe their reason(s) why they would like to become a Councillor, as well as details of any skills, knowledge, experience or life experiences that they think would benefit the Town Council and the Northstowe community).**
- (4) To vote on who is to be co-opted as Town Councillor**

Report prepared by: Clerk and RFO - Report last updated: 16th February 2022

Background to Co-option of a Town Councillor for Northstowe TC

In January 2022, one of the Northstowe Town Councillors resigned, triggering a procedure to attract a new Councillor, to fill the resulting casual vacancy through co-option.

During the period 21st January to 14th February 2022 the casual vacancy was advertised through the Town Council's website ([news item](#)), shared on Facebook – including on a number of Northstowe-focused Facebook groups - and Twitter, and advertised as small posters on the noticeboard at The Green and on the railings in front of the Pathfinder Primary School, with Councillors and partners also sharing this opportunity wider through their respective networks.

As a result, the Town Council has received a number of enquiries, resulting in five application forms received before the deadline of 14th February. Initial checks have been made on eligibility and, based on the information supplied by the applicants, all are deemed eligible to stand for co-option.

Candidates

Please note in the below overview candidates' information is listed;

- In the order application forms have been received;
- Personal information shown: initial and surname only;

- Text supplied is what prospective candidates have entered on the application form in the main 'profile' box – this is where candidates were asked (in maximum 250 words) to 'describe their reason(s) why they would like to become a Councillor, as well as details of any skills, knowledge, experience or life experiences that they think would benefit the Town Council and the Northstowe community.'

Candidate	Name	Profile
1	E. Barzey	<p>My interest is to serve the community of Northstowe in any way possible, knowing that everyone in the community will benefit from the help I will provide, the positive changes I can make is also a motivating factor for me to apply for this vacancy.</p> <p>It is my heart's cry to see everyone feel valued in the community and their voices are heard regardless of their race, background, or social class or even age. Everyone should have access to what is required for them to thrive and live peacefully in the community with one another.</p> <p>People really matter and I will ensure that all voices are considered and perspective taken into account. I want a Northstowe that is rich in diversity and culture.</p> <p>I am currently the treasurer for the Northstowe News community group and undertake other volunteering in and around Cambridge from helping out in a youth group, mentoring to being available to provide meals/shopping for the vulnerable.</p> <p>The Town Council and Northstowe community will benefit greatly from all my skills set I have acquired over the years working in various sectors and team sizes within the IT industry and currently working for a biotech company.</p> <p>My relatable nature with people and can-do attitude will be a tremendous asset for the Town Council and ensuring that the needs of others who people usually overlooked are taken care of and have a voice.</p>
2	N. Sardar	<p>I would to be the voice of community and play an important part of ensuring best quality of life for all residence</p> <p>I completed BSc (Hons) in Mobile and wireless Computing from London Metropolitan University. I worked as Assistant Store Manager of a retail company in London.</p> <p>I am an IT professional working currently in Addenbrookes Hospital.</p>

Candidate	Name	Profile
		<p>I would like to help and do some contributions towards community in all possible aspects. I had done some charity work back home by managing projects during natural disasters and helping people in need.</p> <p>I managed a local cricket team for 2 years in Cambridge.</p> <p>I will appreciate if I get chance to be part of local council and the development of Northstowe Town.</p>
3	S. Nikoro	<p>I have migrated from New Zealand to live here in Northstowe, Cambridge. Being a resident myself since December 2018 with my English Partner, we have seen how our community has progressed with more residential homes and community areas. I would be honoured to represent our community. Being from New Zealand, I have the legendary Kiwi “Can Do” attitude and intend to help build a better community. I have over 10 years experience working with a diverse mix of people/ cultures through my work in the Hospitality and the motor trade.</p>
4	B. Kinnera	<p>I am a Solutions Architect, I have been part of the many local groups. I would like to serve my Northstowe Community. My aim is a healthy, happy and safer community. I love to serve the people and love to be a part in build the safer and healthy community.</p>
5	J. Bentley	<p>I am interested in becoming a town councillor to help develop the future of the town that I am now a part of. I have lived and worked locally for over 20 years and have seen how the new town has been planned and built and start to become a great community focused area.</p> <p>Working to help develop the future for the younger members of our town is a great opportunity that I would like to be involved in. I have been a Brownie Leader and am currently the Safeguarding officer of a local cricket club, and have a 16 year old daughter so I feel that I can bring relevant experience and understanding of youths in our area.</p> <p>I hope you will consider my application to become a part of your team.</p>