

Personal Statements from Candidates for Co-Option.

For: Northstowe Town Council, Full Council meeting 25th March 2025, item

Listed below are the personal statements from the four prospective candidates for co-option. They are listed in order of receipt. Listed is the surname and first name initial.

Candidate 1- Cattaneo, M.

- I am deeply committed to enhancing the well-being of our community and believe that as a councillor, I can effectively represent and address the needs of us residents.
- As a consulting director, I have been working in multicultural environments, for very large corporations, to deliver innovative solutions and help transforming their business, nationally and internationally.
- Now close to retirement, I would like to bring my experience to foster a collaborative and inclusive environment and ensure that our town thrives and meets the evolving needs of its citizens in a timelier manner
- I have direct experience working with suppliers in commercial engagements, from the initial definition of requirements to negotiations and finally to deliver the expected outcomes.
- I have a well-recognised ability to manage people effectively also in stressful situations and develop constructive relationships towards joint objectives, with a win-win approach that minimises tensions and maximises the outcomes.
- I would like to work in developing and managing realistic plans and achieve measurable results for our community in the least possible time and in the most effective way, proactively managing risks that could undermine development programs.

Candidate 2- Rahman, S A Dr Syed Asad Rahman, PhD

I am a **Senior Director at AZ** with extensive experience in **strategic leadership, data driven decision making, and stakeholder engagement**. I want to use my expertise to support Northstowe's growth, ensuring it becomes a **thriving, well-connected, and well-served town**.

Why I Want to Become a Councillor

Northstowe is developing rapidly, but there are ongoing challenges, including **infrastructure delays, lack of amenities, transport issues, and public services**. I want to help drive **practical, community-focused solutions** that improve daily life for residents. I am passionate about **clean and well maintained public spaces, reliable transport, and accessible sports and recreation facilities** to promote a strong and active community.

Skills, Knowledge & Expertise

- **Strategic Leadership & Decision-Making** – Experience managing large-scale projects and working with diverse teams.
- **Community & Stakeholder Engagement** – Skilled at bringing people together to drive positive change.
- **Transport & Infrastructure**- Understanding of data-driven planning to improve transport links, road safety, and cycling lanes.
- **Financial Acumen**- Budget management expertise to ensure efficient use of funds.
- **Sustainability & Environment** – Committed to keeping Northstowe clean, green and well maintained.

Committees & External Partnerships

I would contribute to:

- **Planning & Sustainability** – Supporting responsible development, improved transport, and accessible public spaces.
- **Finance & Governance** – Ensuring transparent and responsible spending on key projects.
- **Events & Markets** – Encouraging community events, sports, and recreational activities to bring residents together.

I want to help **shape Northstowe into a well-connected, vibrant, and sustainable town** where people enjoy living, working, and raising families. I would be honoured to serve as a Councillor.

Candidate3- Huges, G.

I have lived in Rampton Drift for over 20 years and have watched Northstowe grow around it. As we become more and more integrated into the new town, I would like to join the council to ensure that Rampton Drift is a fully-fledged part of a thriving community. As a resident of Rampton Drift, I would bring a different perspective to the council, that of a resident that hasn't moved to Northstowe. However, I would be more than just Rampton Drift's representative on the council; I would be fully invested in the success of Northstowe as a whole.

I have been a director of Rampton Drift Residents Company for many years. In this role, I have dealt with key partners in the development of Northstowe, in particular with Homes England, Urban Splash and Keepmoat concerning development surrounding Rampton Drift. As a result, I have knowledge and experience of some of the issues around the development of Northstowe, and I have working relationships with key people in Homes England. Since moving here, I have also been a school governor at Hatton Park Primary School in Longstanton.

I currently work in a senior management role at Cambridge University Press & Assessment, where I have experience overseeing budgets and managing personnel.

In terms of representation on committees, I would be happy to fulfil any role. Perhaps of most interest among external partnerships would be the Town Hub Steering Group and the Homes England Quarterly Meetings, but I'm happy to be flexible.