

## Coddenham Parish Council Newsletter

### **BECOME A CODDENHAM PARISH COUNCILLOR AND MAKE A CHANGE**

#### **Coddenham Parish Council Election, Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

Are you passionate about Coddenham? Do you want to help make a long-lasting change? Do you have innovative ideas for the Council? Do you have concerns about a specific issue and want to do something about it? If this is you, then Coddenham Parish Council needs you. We need people from all backgrounds and experiences, who reflect the community, to put themselves forward for election. We have 11 councillor positions to fill.

Local councils can only be as helpful, connected and energetic as the people elected to run them, so we need councillors- capable, enthusiastic and engaged- to reflect the community of Coddenham.

#### **Who Can Stand?**

- **You must be at least 18 years old**
- **You must be a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of any member state of the European Union**
- **You must meet at least one of the following four qualifications:**
  - You are, and will continue to be, registered as a local government elector for Coddenham from the day of your nomination onwards.
  - You have occupied, as owner or tenant, any land or other premises in Coddenham during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of the election.
  - Your main or only place of work during the 12 months prior to the day of your nomination and the day of the election has been in Coddenham.
  - You have lived in Coddenham or within three miles of it during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of election.

#### **Who Can't Stand?**

- You are employed by the Coddenham Parish Council or hold a paid office under the Parish Council (including joint boards or committees)
- You are the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order.
- You have been sentenced to a term of imprisonment of three months or more (including a suspended sentence), without the option of a fine, during the five years before polling day and the ordinary period allowed for making an appeal or applications in respect of the conviction has passed.
- You have been disqualified under the Representation of the People Act 1983 (which covers corrupt or illegal electoral practices). The disqualification for an illegal practice begins from the date the person has been reported guilty by an election court or convicted and lasts for three years. The disqualification for a corrupt practice begins from the date a person has been reported guilty by an election court or convicted and lasts for five years.
- You are subject to the notification requirement of or under Part 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003, and the ordinary period allowed for making an appeal or application in respect of the order or notification has passed.

## Election Timetable

No later than 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Publication of Notice of Election will be posted on the Coddendam Parish Council noticeboard and website.
No later than 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Submit your nomination to the Mid Suffolk District Council Elections Officer. Nomination papers must be delivered by hand, either by the candidate or someone acting on their behalf. Wait for your nomination to be accepted.
5 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Publication of Statement of Persons Nominated. Your nomination is made public by the District Council
25 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Publication of Notice of Poll
4 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Election Day

## What Happens After Election Day?

Newly elected councillors would normally take up their position on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023 but, as this is to be a Bank Holiday (following the King's Coronation), they will now take up their position on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

You can find out more about standing for election and becoming a councillor by contacting:

Mid Suffolk District Council  
Electoral Services Team  
Endeavour House  
8 Russell Road  
Ipswich IP1 2BX

Telephone 0300 123 4000

Email: [Elections@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Elections@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk)

Website: <http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk>

Or contact

Coddendam Parish Council Clerk, Mrs Sue Frankis

Telephone 07548 152181

Email: [clerk.coddendampc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.coddendampc@gmail.com)

## Budget and Precept

In finalising the Parish Council's budget for 2023-24, a balance had to be struck between there being sufficient funds to meet the Parish Council's obligations and to support those amenities that are so important to our community on the one hand and, on the other, keeping the precept as low as possible given the strains on household finances. Unfortunately, the Parish Council is not immune from inflation, which impacts the cost of street lighting and some of its maintenance contracts. The result is a budget of £33,678.76 and resulting in a precept charge of £33,428.76. This represents a 3.70% increase to householders compared to the previous year.

The mainstay of Parish Council's budget remains meeting the historical debt incurred when The Coddendam Centre (TCC) was built, with our having to allocate £13,135 per annum in loan reductions. This burden starts to ease in 2027, when one of the two loans will be repaid. In addition to the historical debt, the Parish continues to provide operational support to TCC by way of financial contribution. This is set at £8,250 for next year, the same sum as in 2022-23, despite TCC having to deal with significant headwinds due to the increased cost of energy. Your Parish Council will continue to work with the Trustees of TCC to reduce the impact on the precept, whilst maintaining this very important Parish facility, with all aiming to see a reduction in the level of contribution for 2024-25.