

DIRECT ELECTION TO THE SMALLER COUNCILS COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM

Candidates should complete the nomination form by 8 November 2019 and send it to NALC at **nalccommittees@nalc.gov.uk**.

Title	Mrs
First name	Sarah
Surname	Hayden
Home address	
Contact number	
Email address	
County association	Norfolk
Council name	Gresham Parish Council
Precept	£7,200
Electorate	329

Explain why you are standing for this position (250 words max)

Having worked for small parish councils for the past five years, I am interested in the difficulties of time management and budgets for small parish councils, in particular:

- (a) the difficulties of time management for the limited hours of one clerk/RFO in balancing compliance with legislation, enthusing new projects and keeping up with existing matters in their parish;
- (b) the problems of funding for small parish councils with a low precept and the balancing of funds needed for administration tasks and funds used to benefit the parish.

Secondly I am interested in improving the relationship between clerks and councillors to enable the real purpose and aims of the parish council to progress unhindered by misunderstandings and conflict. I have noticed that councillors

can be ignorant of legislation parish councils have to comply with and can take their frustrations out on the clerk. I would like to investigate more resolutions and perhaps whether local association newsletters that are circulated to smaller local councils could publicise information on the work of the clerk and the duties of councillors in a simple to read format. As small parish council have such a low precept both clerks and councillors may feel guilty using their budget for training. I believe NALC has the capacity to help more in this regard. I would also like to see NALC provide some simple available advice on dealing with difficult situations for both councillors and clerks dealing with the public attending the smaller parish council meetings.

Please outline three key achievements, skills or experiences that are relevant to the position applied for (250 words max each)

I have achieved CiLCA qualification for my job as clerk/RFO.

I have also worked for a local firm of solicitors for 35 years, which enables me to read legislation easily and think clearly to achieve aims.

I started worked for small parish councils for five years and currently work for four.

Declaration

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information given on this form is correct and can be copied and distributed to other NALC members.

Signature

Sarah Hayden

Date

08.11.19

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