



# Boxley Parish Council

## Parish Council Elections 6 May 2021

### Have you ever thought about being a Parish Councillor?

Do you have an interest in your community and want to make a difference?

#### HOW?

To be a Parish Councillor, you must be over 18 and live in or within 3 miles of the Parish boundary. Boxley Parish Council is non political. You will need to complete a nomination paper and return this to Maidstone Borough Council.

#### WHAT WILL MY COMMITMENT BE?

Boxley is the largest Maidstone Parish with over 10,000 residents. It has 15 Councillors representing all areas of the Parish, supported by a Parish Office (open 5 days/week). If elected the term of office is 4 years (but you could resign at any time should you need to). A small allowance to cover expenses can be claimed by elected Councillors. You will need to attend the 10 monthly Parish Council meetings, normally held on the first Monday of the month. Boxley also has a Finance and General Purposes Committee (6 meetings/year) that looks at all aspects of the Parish's finance, an Estates Committee (5 meetings/year) that looks after all property owned by the Parish Council and an Environment Committee (18 meetings/year {10 short after PC meetings and 8 full}) that looks at planning, highways and any other environmental issues. You can be as involved as your time permits.

#### WHAT DOES THE PARISH COUNCIL DO?

A Parish Council is the first tier of Government. It is funded by residents by way of a Precept paid as part of their council tax. The Parish Council is governed by its Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. Councillors must abide by a Code of Conduct. The Parish Council has a number of formal powers that are used to maintain and improve the Parish and the lives of the community.

Boxley Parish Council supports various local organisations such as Vinters Valley Nature Reserve, Walderslade Woods Group, village halls and local schools.

The Parish Council responds to and comments on planning applications, structure plans, government, Maidstone Borough Council and Kent County Council discussion documents. They get involved in crime prevention measures and any other initiatives or issues that improve the quality of life for residents of the Parish. They manage Franklin Drive Play area, the Weavering Diamond Jubilee Orchard, the Burial ground and an Allotment site at Dove Hill. The Parish Council runs the popular venue for hire, Beechen Hall.

Residents are kept informed of Parish activities by way of the Website, Newsletter, Community Alert emails and Facebook.

For further information visit our website or contact the Parish Office: Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade, ME5 9RU. 01634 861237 or the Clerk, Daniela Baylis direct on 07875 426215. [clerk@boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk)  
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