

SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR TOWN COUNCIL



New Clark House
West Street
Shipston-on-Stour
Warwickshire
CV36 4HD

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Web Site: www.shipstontowncouncil.org

JOB DESCRIPTION – CLERK TO THE COUNCIL AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER

(October, 2020)

Overall Responsibilities

The Clerk to the Council will be the Proper Officer of the Council and as such is under a statutory duty to carry out all the functions, and in particular to serve or issue all the notifications required by law of a local authority's Proper Officer. The Clerk will be totally responsible for ensuring that the instructions of the Council in connection with its function as a Local Authority are carried out. The Clerk's role is to support the council, and as such is expected to advise the Council on, and assist in the formation of, overall policies to be followed in respect of the Authority's activities and in particular to produce all the information required for making effective decisions and to implement constructively all decisions. The person appointed will be accountable to the Council for the effective management of all its resources and will report to them as and when required.

Specific Responsibilities

1. To ensure that legal, statutory and other provisions governing or affecting the running of the Council are observed.
2. To ensure that the Council's obligations to insure are properly met.
3. To prepare, in consultation with appropriate members, agendas for meetings of the Council and its committees; to attend such meetings and prepare minutes for approval.
4. To deal with the correspondence or documents or bring such items to the attention of the Council. To issue correspondence as a result of the instructions of, or the known policy of, the Council.
5. To study reports and other data on activities of the Council and on matters bearing on those activities. Where appropriate, to discuss such matters with administrators and specialists in particular fields.
6. To draw up both on their own initiative and as a result of suggestions by Councillors proposals for consideration by the Council and to advise on practicability and the likely effects of specific courses of action.

7. To supervise any other members of staff in keeping with the policies of the Council and to undertake all necessary activities in connection with the management of the salaries, conditions of employment and work of other staff.
8. To monitor the implemented policies of the Council to ensure they are achieving the desired result and where appropriate suggest modifications.
9. To act as a representative of the Council as required.
10. To issue notices and prepare agendas and minutes for the Town meeting: to attend the assemblies of the Town meeting and to implement the decisions made at the assemblies.
11. To attend working group meetings as required by the Council.
12. To prepare, in consultation with the Chairman, press releases about the activities of, or decisions of, the Council.
13. To attend training courses on the work and role of the Clerk as required by the Council.

Specific Roles Associated with the Position of the Responsible Financial Officer:

The Clerk is also the Responsible Financial Officer within the meaning of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 1996 and is to be responsible for all the financial records of the Council and the careful administrations of its finances, specific responsibilities will include:

1. To keep accurate records of the financial accounts, and institute a system which eliminates fraud.
2. To maintain detailed Receipt and Payment Accounts in accordance with statutory and audit requirements. Prepare accounts and records for audit and VAT purposes.
3. To ensure that bank reconciliations and all transactions are accurately recorded in the minutes.
4. To manage the Council's bank accounts to obtain maximum interest rates, receipt of regular statements, and prepare bank mandates.
5. To issue invoices on behalf of the Council for goods and services to ensure payment is received.
6. To attend all meetings of the Finance Working Group, and prepare such information for this group as required under Financial Regulations.
7. To prepare a budget in consultation with the Finance Working Group for submission to the council.
8. To submit the precept agreed by the council to the District Council and liaise with the relevant officer.