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Town Council Co-option

Application Form

TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL

I WISH TO BE CONSIDERED FOR CO-OPTION OF TOWN COUNCILLOR for the	
Town of Tavistock	Tavistock Town Council (South West Ward)

Details of Applicant		
Surname	Edlmann	
Other forenames in full	Richard John Reynolds	
Commonly used surname (if any)		
Commonly used forenames (if any)		
Description (i.e. if you intend to represent a political party)	Conservative and Unionist Party	
Home address in full	11 Woodpecker Way, Tavistock, PL19 9FQ	Mr/Mrs/Miss/ Ms/Dr/Other
<p>I declare that I am qualified to stand as a Councillor by virtue of being a qualifying Commonwealth citizen, a citizen of the Republic of Ireland or a citizen of another Member State of the European Union who has attained the age of 18 years and that (* = complete as many as are applicable below):</p>		
<p>*a. I am registered as a local government elector for the area of the town named above in respect of (<i>qualifying address in full</i>):</p> <p>11 Woodpecker Way, Tavistock, PL19 9FQ</p>		
<i>and my electoral number (see Note below) is:</i>	TCV1/1633	
*b. I have during the whole of the 12 months preceding that day or those days occupied as owner or tenant the following land or other premises in the town (<i>description and address of land or premises</i>):	or	
*c. my principal or only place of work during those 12 months has been in that town at (<i>give address of place of work and, where appropriate, name of employer</i>):	or	

*d. I have during the whole of the last 12 months resided in that town or within 4.8 kilometres of it at (give address in full):		or
I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief I am not disqualified from holding office by reason of any disqualification set out in Section 80 of the Local Government Act 1972, or any decision made under Section 79 of the Local Government Act 2000 (copies of which are printed overleaf).		
Signature:		Date:
Richard Edlman		17/10/2024

Notes: A person's electoral number is their number in the Register to be used at an election (including the distinctive letters of the polling district in which they are registered. Your electoral number is available from the Electoral Registration Officer, West Devon Borough Council Tel 01822 813665).

An applicant who is qualified by more than one qualification may complete any of those that may apply.

Reasons for Seeking Co-option

Please complete the following sections, each of which should not exceed 250 words in length.

I am seeking co-option to the Council because...

For the past 13 years, Tavistock has been my home, ever since my wife and I moved here for her position at Derriford Hospital. Now, as we raise our family in this wonderful town, I am committed to ensuring that Tavistock remains an excellent place to live, work, and raise a family.

Like many towns across the country, Tavistock faces economic challenges. However, we are fortunate to have a Town Council with significant property ownership and influence, which positions us well to navigate these difficult times.

The Town Council's influence has recently been demonstrated with the production of the Tavistock Neighbourhood Development plan which clearly sets out where Tavistock is, as well as a vision for the future. The plan has involved a lot of hard work and consultation and demonstrates what an asset the town council is to Tavistock's residents. It is this kind of work that makes sitting on the Town Council as an exciting proposition.

It can be tempting to avoid stepping forward for roles like these, which are often unpaid, time-consuming, and come with substantial responsibility. However, I believe that my strong connection to this town and my diverse life experiences make me well-suited to contribute to the Council.

I would look to conduct myself in a positive manner and be a proactive member of the Council.

The skills and expertise I would bring to the Council are...

I qualified as a Management Accountant having completed the Chartered Institute Management Accountants examinations. I therefore have a good understanding of accounts and balance sheets.

I also own and operate a public house on Dartmoor, which I have successfully navigated through significant challenges, including a major fire and subsequent insurance claim. This experience has provided me with valuable insights into property development and investment.

Experience of managing people, customers, employees and third parties such as suppliers. More than anything owning this business has taught me the importance of people skills and allowed me to develop these over time.

Running my own business has given me firsthand experience of both successes and setbacks, along with a deep understanding of the growing challenges faced by SMEs today.

My links to Tavistock and knowledge of the area are...

As I have previously mentioned, my family call Tavistock our home. I am also the Treasurer for Tavistock Cricket Club and wish to see the opportunity of sport advanced to all residents because of its amazing health and social benefits that it offers.

My children attend Mount Kelly, which fosters positive and proactive engagement with the local community, strengthening and connections within Tavistock

I have some knowledge of the businesses in Tavistock as a customer, both commercially and as a consumer.

Transparency – my friendships, relationships or other association with any current Town Councillors are as follows (indicate name of Councillor and nature of connection e.g. friend, members of the same group or organisation etc. If none, please state 'none') ...

As stated above I am a member of the Conservative Party and in particular the Central Devon association. I am therefore not overly familiar with any of the Councillors on the Council who may also be Conservative Party members.