

ASH PARISH COUNCIL (Dover District)

CLERK/RFO TO THE COUNCIL – JOB DESCRIPTION – November 2021

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 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. As the Responsible Finance Officer, you will be responsible for all the financial records of the Council and the careful administration of its finances.

Specific Responsibilities

1. To ensure that statutory and other provisions governing or affecting the running of the Council are observed.
2. To monitor and balance the Council's accounts and prepare records for audit purposes and VAT.
3. To ensure that the Council's obligations for Risk Assessment and insurance are properly met.
4. To prepare, in consultation with appropriate members, agendas for meetings of the Council and Committees. To attend such meetings and prepare minutes for approval.
5. To receive correspondence and documents on the Council's behalf and 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.
6. To receive and report on invoices for goods and services to be paid for by the Council and to ensure such accounts are met. To issue invoices on behalf of the Council for goods and services to ensure payment is received. To obtain estimates, quotes, tenders, and implement the Finance Regulations.
7. To study reports and other data on activities of the Council and on matters bearing on those activities. Where appropriate, to liaise and engage on such matters with administrators and specialists in particular fields, including other local authorities and to produce reports for circulation and discussion by the Council.
8. To draw up both on your 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.
9. To supervise any other members of staff as their line manager in keeping with the policies of the Council and to undertake all necessary activities in connection with management of the salaries, conditions of employment and work of other staff.

10. To monitor the implemented policies of the Council to ensure they are achieving the desired result and where appropriate suggest modifications.
11. To act as representative of the Council as required
12. To issue notices and prepare agendas and minutes for the Parish Meeting; to attend the assemblies and the parish meetings and to implement the decisions made at the assemblies that are agreed by the Council.
13. To prepare, in consultation with the Chairperson, press releases about the activities of, or decisions of, the Council. To maintain the parish council web-site, events diary, Facebook page and to write the monthly reports for the Village Correspondent.
14. To attend training courses or seminars on the work and role of the Clerk/RFO as required by the Council.
15. To work towards the achievement of the status of Qualified Clerk as a minimum requirement for effectiveness in the position of Clerk to the Council.
16. To continue to acquire the necessary professional knowledge required for the efficient management of the affairs of the Council.
17. To collect the Council's allotment rents annually and 'lightly' supervise the allotments.