

# ILMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

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Town Clerk: **Joy Norris**

3 February 2015

Dear

Thank you for your letter asking for information about Town Councillors and elections, which I have treated as a Freedom of Information request.

All the Town Councillors will complete their term of office in May, however I am unable to tell you who will be standing down and who will be standing again, that is up to each Councillor to decide and is not information held by the Town Council. South Somerset District Council are the authority responsible for arranging elections in Ilminster and they will be issuing and receiving the nomination forms for the May 2015 elections and will also issue the statement of persons nominated; this will all be done in accordance with timescales set out in legislation.

I understand that at the last elections, in May 2011, there were less than 15 candidates for the Town Council so all those who stood were elected unopposed and as there were still some vacancies they were filled by co-option. Since then there have been a number of vacancies which have been filled by a mixture of elections and co-options.

The information held by the Town Council on the current Town Councillors and the method by which they became a Councillor is given below:

Cllr Steve Austin	co-opted January 2012
Cllr Phillip Burton	co-opted January 2012
Cllr Carol Goodall	elected unopposed May 2011
Cllr Vernon Higgins	co-opted September 2013
Cllr Val Keitch	elected July 2013
Cllr Andrew Lawson	co-opted June 2011
Cllr David Miller	elected unopposed May 2011
Cllr Rose Neave	elected July 2013
Cllr John Pallister	elected unopposed May 2011
Cllr Andrew Shearman	co-opted June 2011
Cllr Stuart Shepherd	elected unopposed May 2011
Cllr Jo Sothern	elected unopposed May 2011
Cllr Roger Swann	elected unopposed May 2011

Cllr Sophie Storey      co-opted April 2013  
Cllr Emma Jane Taylor    elected unopposed May 2011.

I hope that this letter provides the information that you require but should you require any additional information or feel that your request for information has not been dealt with appropriately please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Joy Norris  
Town Clerk