



Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) Information for Applicants

Thank you for your interest in this vacancy. We have put together some additional information about Harbury and the work of the parish council which we hope you will find useful. In addition, we encourage you to visit our website www.harbury-pc.gov.uk which contains a wealth of information about all aspects of the council's business and the local community.

The parish of Harbury includes the hamlet of Deppers Bridge and is located in south Warwickshire within the district of Stratford-upon-Avon. Harbury is a very attractive village with a number of stone built cottages and listed buildings. We have a population of approx. 3000 people and a thriving, busy village centre which includes pubs, shops, a primary school, a doctors surgery, and a community run library. The parish council office is situated in the heart of the village and is open to the public for part of each day.

We have 10 councillors and our budgeted expenditure for 2026/27 is £167,500. The council is very proactive and provides a number of local services which include:

- Extensive play areas at both Harbury and Deppers Bridge with multiple items of play equipment, football pitches, tennis courts and a skate park.
- Maintenance of several village greens, including trees, and verge mowing
- Ownership, maintenance and administration of Harbury Cemetery
- Ownership and maintenance of all streetlights within Harbury and Deppers Bridge.
- Management of two allotment sites.
- Provision of community grants to local clubs and organisations
- Provision and organisation of annual Christmas/seasonal lights

Harbury is a community where people like to be involved and we are not usually short of volunteers. We have some excellent facilities run purely by volunteers such as the library and the village hall. There are also sports clubs and regular weekly activities for all age groups which are all led by local people for other local people. The parish council is an integral part of this village life and councillors work hard to serve their community by supporting and representing local residents.

However, like many communities, Harbury is facing some challenges over the next few years. Despite having an approved neighbourhood plan in place, recent changes to the government's national planning policy and how housing supply is calculated, have resulted in a number of planning applications which are currently under consideration. If all these applications are approved, we could see up to 430 new homes in the parish. This would have a significant impact on the village and its infrastructure, including the local schools and GP services.

Some projects we are, or will be, working on over the next few years include the provision of a new cemetery, a new skate park, continued upgrading of streetlights with new LED lanterns, continued support for a community led project to install public EV chargers in our car park, significant improvements to the parish council owned allotments, and at some point in the not too distant future, a review of the neighbourhood plan.

We are looking for a parish clerk with the relevant skills and experience to support the council and the local community as it faces new challenges and takes forward new projects. We offer excellent working conditions, a modern well equipped office, and opportunities for ongoing training and development. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the current clerk, Alison Biddle, for an informal and confidential chat. Tel 01926 614646 or email clerk@harbury-pc.gov.uk