

SARAH BLACKWELL

[OFFICIAL]



Co-option Applicant Supporting Statement

Please set out your reasons for wishing to be a Councillor and any relevant qualities or experience.

If you are lucky enough to live in Whitby, you know it inevitably becomes part of your soul. Preserving what makes Whitby so special – the landscape, heritage, character, culture and community – is everything, and the opportunity to be a voice for local people and help deliver improvements to our town, would be a real privilege.

Although I now live down Bog Hall, I have an affinity with the West Cliff, having lived on John Street and Rose Avenue for many years. I work at the Whitby Leisure Centre and know many of the residents and business owners, so hopefully I have a good understanding of the pain points and opportunities for the ward.

I was born and educated in Whitby, working for local businesses such as Boulby Mine, The Magpie Café, The Whitby Bookshop, McCain Foods, and most recently, as a Global Marketing Manager for Anglo American's Woodsmith Project.

Due to the project slowdown, my time at Anglo is coming to an end, and from April I will be working as Marks and Spencer Partnership Manager for LEAF (Linking Farming and the Environment).

I teach Body Pump every Saturday, where I enjoy regular interaction with many residents. I would work hard to support our local facilities, which are so incredibly important for people's wellbeing and are at the heart of our community.

Whitby beach is something incredibly special and brings so many people joy and peace. My partner is a RNLI Lifeguard and fighting to keep our beaches clean and safe for local families to enjoy is something that I feel very strongly about.

Green spaces are also precious and one of my main interests is nature and wildlife. My garden at home is a mini ecosystem on the railway, and preserving the natural habitats, where possible, would be a priority. Once a piece of land, or tree, is lost – it is usually lost forever.

Having said that, I understand the importance of affordable housing to our community. So many young families have been forced to move away – there needs to be a balance.

Previous voluntary/community/council work includes being a Parish Councillor for Sandsend/Lyth and coach and charity treasurer for The Whitby Boxing Club. I'm also a former member of Whitby Tennis and Golf Club – looking forward to playing again when I retire!

Other interests include supporting our farming community and I attend the Whitby Grassland and Dairy Discussion Group every month.

Main skills that I can bring to the council are marketing and commercial strategy, social media, copywriting, public speaking and more. I have worked from fashion to FMCGs with nearly 30 years' experience in consumer goods marketing.

I also have a BA honours degree in Fine Art and Art History, so with a very creative background, I'd be keen to support the Pannett wherever possible.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and your kind consideration. I promise to be honest, straight-talking, considerate and most importantly, to always put Whitby and its residents first.

(500 words)

HAZEL PEACE

Co-option Applicant Supporting Statement

Please set out your reasons for wishing to be a Councillor and any relevant qualities or experience.

As a resident and elector I am increasingly interested in the town and its potential obviously I would prefer to be elected but am aware of the pressure two vacancies would have on the busy Council agenda.

I am a retired resident of 11 years I am very involved in the community for instance I belong to the U3A, and local groups.

My interests are not only in the town much need tourism but the lives of local people.

I have recently been in conversation with youth leaders and have discovered that the young people are not getting experiences and taking as most areas can offer and would be particularly interested in that group.

I have a working history of working with mental health issues and the impact of the community and what it has to offer.

I am aware that I am new to this but would hope that the Council and Councillors would support me and guide me.

Thank you.

Michelle Harte

Written summary as requested.

Please see below my reasons for applying to be considered as a local councillor. I feel I have the right qualities and skills to be able to make a difference, and I would also be able to use my past and present business and professional skills to do this.

1. I would like to work in the local community. I would like to be able to facilitate local peoples views being heard and taken into account.
 2. Make sure local people get the right services and help where possible.
 3. I am passionate about my hometown, my birthplace Whitby. I'm particularly interested in the well-being of the local community as a whole and would like the opportunity to influence decision making on local issues.
 4. I feel I am a very good spokesperson and I could easily represent the community views of the people living in our town.
 5. I have recently also engaged with the Whitby Lions and hope to be accepted into their group in the next few weeks officially.
 6. I want to know more about Council policies and processes.
 7. I am an excellent problem solver and an equally good complaint handler. This has come with many years of experience in the hospitality business.
 8. I am happy to undertake any development and training that would be needed to fulfil the role.
 9. I have experience and knowledge gained through employment in a Senior management position throughout my years as a General Manager. I have successfully raised two wonderful children into great adults, I have a lot of valuable skills to offer to this role.
- I have good and solid leadership skills, open and honest with the upmost integrity. I feel I would be an asset to the local team.

Michelle Hawke (2/

Additional Information

I consider myself to be a very hard working, honest and loyal employee. I have enjoyed my time with this Company but feel the need for challenge and change. I have been with the Cairn Hotel Group since 1993 to May 2024 – Leaving and coming on-board with HRH hotels who bought over the Royal Hotel Whitby. I have been here since May 2024 as Hotel Manager..

I have many strengths i.e. self motivated with excellent organisational skills. I manage the Hotel well, I am considered to be firm but very fair. I am a great team leader and have the utmost respect from my 95 staff.

I have level 1 / 2 and 3 in food safety also (iosh) course completed with distinction in managing health & safety.

In my spare time I read and cook for friends and family. I am also a Personal Licence holder.

References ~~– Sir John Hare, APM, Chairman~~

Excellent references available on request.

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