

APPENDIX B

CO-OPTION ELIGIBILITY FORM

- Are you a British subject, citizen of the Commonwealth or citizen of the European Union? **YES**
- On the 'relevant date' (i.e. the day on which you are nominated or if there is a poll the day of the election) are you 18 years of age or over? **YES**

PLEASE TICK THOSE BELOW WHICH APPLY TO YOU

a) on that day I have and thereafter I continue to be a local government elector for the area of Honiton; or	
(b) during the whole of the twelve months preceding that day I have occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in Honiton; or	✓
(c) my principal or only place of work during those twelve months has been in Honiton; or	
(d) I have during the whole of those twelve months resided in Honiton; or	✓
(e) in the case of a member of the Town Council I have during the whole of those twelve months resided either in Honiton or within three miles of it.	

Under Section 80 and 81 of the Local Government Act 1972 a person is disqualified from being elected as a Local Councillor or being a member of a Local Council if specific criteria are not met:

- a) Are you an employee of Honiton Town Council? **NO**
- b) Are you the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or interim order? **NO**
- c) Have you within the last five years been convicted of an offence in the UK, Channel Islands or Isle of Man which resulted in a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of three months or more without the option of a fine? **NO**

To be approved annually
 Approved by Full Council May 2026, 26/13

d) Are you subject to any relevant notification requirement or order in respect to sexual offence (Sexual Offences Act 2003), risk, harm or restraining order?

NO

e) Are you disqualified by order of a court from being a member of a local authority? **NO**

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DECLARATION

I **GORDON WILLIAM MARTIN** hereby confirm that I am eligible for the vacancy of Honiton Town Councillor in the Ward of St. Michael's/ St. Paul's (Please delete the one you **DO NOT** wish to be considered for), and the information given on this form is a true and accurate record.

Signed:

Print: GORDON MARTIN

Date: 28/05/2026

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APPENDIX C
HONITON TOWN COUNCIL
CO-OPTION APPLICATION FORM

NAME	GORDON WILLIAM MARTIN
ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE NUMBER	
EMAIL ADDRESS	
<p>Please tell us something about what experience you can bring to Honiton Town Council, for example; previous local government experience, work in the voluntary or charitable sector, business or trade union experience (please continue on an additional page if required).</p> <p>I have no previous local government experience or worked in the voluntary or charitable sector.</p> <p>I have had career experience of being both employed by National Companies and owning and running my own businesses in both the private and commercial sectors.</p> <p>I have been single minded and disciplined in both career and sporting activities but as they say have also been a "team player". I offer a professionalism required to work with colleagues and when engaging with the general public.</p> <p>I am at ease with and enjoy meeting people from all walks of life and can engage and listen to different views and opinions of people of all ages.</p> <p>I have employed and taught Apprentices to enjoy a career in the engineering trade and in the same industry i.e. installation of stairlifts and disabled adaptations I have engaged with the aged and disabled to assist with maintaining mobility.</p> <p>I am not opinionated or forceful in my views except where safety is concerned preferring to be objective and impartial with a sympathetic ear when the occasion arises.</p> <p>Running successful businesses and project managing installations and employing staff has given me a wide range of life skills, therefore if these and my time and enthusiasm can be of assistance to help with the needs of the local community I would like to put my name forward.</p>	

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Please tell us something about skills you can bring to the Council, for example; professional qualifications, financial or project management expertise (please continue on an additional page if required).

My professional qualifications as a Mechanical and Electrical Engineer -

1966 – Lift Industry - Otis Elevators

Commenced Lift Engineering Apprenticeship to qualify as a Lift Engineer and Supervisor

1980 – Motor trade

I left the Lift Industry to set up and own 2 x MOT testing centres and body shops

1990 – Hammond & Champness (ThyssenKrupp)

Head hunted back into the Lift Industry as a Lift Supervisor

2000 – Jackson Lifts

Came off the tools to become a Lift Sales Engineer covering the South West of England

2009 – Hanover Lifts

Moved to Honiton to own my own business in Exeter. Turning a small Stairlift operation into a successful Lift & Stairlift Company covering the South West of England in both private and commercial sectors

2023 – Sold business to fully retire

I have lived and worked for most of my life in Wimborne, Dorset and the surrounding areas, having started my career in the Lift Industry with a National Lift Company.

However, with my mechanical skills I took a break and started up a successful garage business which enabled me to fulfil one of my sporting passions at the time, car rallying. I was successful at local events and this took me on to National level.

I was also able to concentrate on my other sporting passions for both Rifle & Pistol shooting. Successful in both disciplines locally continued at National level in Rifle shooting managing to reach selection for the Olympic squad during 1984 to 1988. However, due to the Dunblane school massacre in 1996 Clubs had to relinquish all pistols leaving the United Kingdom with no Pistol competition teams to this day – only in air pistol.

Returning to the Lift Industry and marrying my wife in 2004 we made the decision to purchase a small stairlift company in Exeter and move to Honiton.

We turned the business around to a successful Lift & Stairlift Company covering the South West of England counties gaining Contracts with Local Authorities such as Exeter City Council, Plymouth Community Homes & Devon County Council.

We were involved with Nursing Homes & the PPE scenario during the COVID times and finally sold the company to fully retire in December 2023.

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Please explain why you are interested in becoming a Town councillor

Having retired, I am starting to fully appreciate where I live as I spend more time in the town itself meeting and talking to locals and trades-people. It is a town which I am beginning to realise has a lot to offer, much more than I realised.

The town has a wonderful history and the High Street remains a focal point for tourists and passing trade which all need to be preserved and built on to ensure it continues to be welcoming to all.

It was during a discussion with a local person that inspired me to put in this application – an avenue I had not considered before.

I am at a period of my life when I would like to go beyond taking on another role in an activity-based Club as I am sure I have sufficient life skills and experiences which would be of benefit and that I could offer the Town and its inhabitants.

Should I be elected as a Town Councillor I am positive I will find an avenue of interest and an opportunity to find a role where I can engage in the community but in a more professional and formal role.

Please include any other information you would like to add in support of your application. (please continue on an additional page if required)

Personal information

I am married with 4 x sons all in their 30's and 40's and I have 2 x grandchildren – all living and working in Dorset.

My wife and I have every intention of remaining here in Honiton and I have the full support of my wife, behind the scenes.

We enjoy caravanning holidays and belong to a Morgan car Club.

Are there any questions you would like to ask the Town Council?

Signed:

Print: GORDON WILLIAM MARTIN

Date: 28/05/2026

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