



**QUALITY  
PARISH  
COUNCIL**

The parish council is pleased to report that that they were awarded Quality Status in July 2008. The scheme was launched in 2003 with the aim of providing a benchmark minimum standard for town and parish councils.

The council is the fifth parish/town council in North East Derbyshire to achieve Quality Status and one of the top 25% in the country.

This accreditation demonstrates our ability to deliver efficient services to local residents and speak with greater authority to principal councils.

**Comprehensive benefits of Quality Status;**

Quality town and parish councils are expected to;

- Be representative of and actively involve all parts of their community.
- Be effectively and properly managed, with members and officers upholding a high standard of conduct.
- Work closely with voluntary and community sector groups, and articulate the community's needs and wishes through effective communications, which might include the production of parish plans or other similar documents.
- Work in partnership with other local authorities and agencies and, depending on their size, be able to deliver local services which give the best deal for the local community.

Community benefits;

- More responsive services - the quality council will be capable of solving local problems without recourse to the principal authority.
- Real contact and discussions with its Quality council.
- A local access point providing information on services.
- A council which is more accountable, visible, representative and provides community leadership.

Benefits to the parish or town council itself;

- Greater credibility in the eyes of the local community,

voluntary and private sectors, and principal local authorities.

- Greater civic pride.
- More representative of the local community.
- Better ability to articulate the needs and wishes of the local community.
- More will be achieved by working in partnership with other organisations.
- Ability to demonstrate that it is effectively and properly managed, which will instil greater confidence in the community.
- Can deliver more local services - if the council wishes to.
- greater involvement by the voluntary and community sector and by principal local authorities (e.g. developing parish plans, market town health checks etc.)
- A better informed community.
- A well trained clerk, through the Certificate in Local Council Administration (or University of Gloucestershire qualification in Local Policy.)