Council elections 2017 -Almond Ward – Ward 1

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The current councillors for the Almond Ward are SNP Councillor Norman Work who is also the Carers' Champion, Cllr Alastair Shields began as a LibDem councillor but then resigned from the party and now sits as an Independent and Conservative Party Cllr Lindsay Paterson.

Cllrs Shields and Paterson are resigning at the 2017 election.

The ward is now a four member ward meaning that four councillors will be elected to represent the area which extends from South Queensferry to Newbridge, incorporating Kirkliston and extending to Cramond.

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There were 3,570 school pupils in the ward in the 2015 figures and this has led to a requirement for a new school in South Queensferry. Funding for this was confirmed in January 2016.

Head Teacher John Wood said in 2016 : "The school's staff, pupils, parents and partners are excited by the new build and the contribution we can make to its design. It will give us opportunities to make sure that the facilities are appropriate for the most up to date thinking around learning and the courses that we can offer our young people.

"Of course we will also need to challenge ourselves to look ahead to the future generations of young people who will follow and how they too may benefit from this exciting new phase of Queensferry Community High School."

In 2012 8413 votes were cast from an electorate of 18996. This was a turnout of 44.3% which had reduced from 63.3% in 2007.

This was the way the results turned out last time.

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Candidates for this ward in 2017 are:

FRASER, Daniel (Scottish Libertarian Party)

HUTCHISON, Graham (Scottish Conservative and Unionist)

INGLIS, Otto (UKIP)

LANG, Kevin (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

LONGSTAFF, John (Independent)

MCKINNON-WADDELL, Iain (Scottish Green Party)

MITCHELL, Pamela (Scottish National Party (SNP))

WHITEHEAD, Bruce (Scottish Labour Party)

WORK, Norrie (Scottish National Party (SNP))

YOUNG, Louise (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

Graham Hutchison Conservative party

Great night on the campaign trail in Silverknowes and Barnton with @LSPaterson & @AStewartClark. #VoteHutchison1 #TeamRuth pic.twitter.com/ysg80uLw9E

- Graham Hutchison (@GrahamHutch2017) 18 April 2017

Bruce Whitehead Labour

Bruce will be campaigning on the party's manifesto launched formally in March 2017, the draft of which is reproduced here:

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Kevin Lang Liberal Democrats

Enjoyed my Easter Sunday off but time to get back to the campaign trail. <u>#17daystogo</u> <u>pic.twitter.com/LUqILIib5u</u>

– Kevin Lang (@kevin_lang) <u>17 April 2017</u>

Louise Young Liberal Democrats

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Louise lives in Kirkliston with her husband and two young daughters.

She is a professional marketing and project manager, as well as a celebrant for the Humanist Society of Scotland. Louise was an elected Councillor in Edinburgh previously.

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Norman Work SNP

Norman Work SNP

Councillor Work was elected at Stage One in 2012, and has been a Bailie and Carers' Champion during this administration. He is adamant that rural west Edinburgh needs a better bus service.

We spoke to @CllrNormanWork about his priorities for Almond Ward in the election campaign pic.twitter.com/FH8idAVqyF

– Edinburgh Reporter (@EdinReporter) <u>April 27, 2017</u>

Pamela Mitchell SNP

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Pamela Mitchell is also an SNP candidate.

Pamela Mitchell has a <u>Facebook page here.</u>

Iain McKinnon-Waddell Green Party

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Iain, 32, is the Green candidate for Almond ward. He has lived, studied and worked in and around Edinburgh for most of his life. He works in healthcare and has spent a lot of time working with people and listening to what really matters to them. This includes: housing that they can truly afford, not worrying about whether or not they can afford to heat their homes and being able to get around the city easily and are all things he is keen to pursue on their behalf. He is a local activist and has participated in beach clean ups, campaigning for equal access to services for all and more local powers over taxation and rent controls.

At the time of initial publication of this article (19 April 2017) we have not yet been able to interview many of these candidates.

If you are one then do <u>get in touch</u> and we will update this page accordingly.