

## Appendix A

### POLLING PLACE REVIEW WORKING GROUP

Meeting held in Meeting Room 1, Council Offices, Urban Road,  
Kirkby-in-Ashfield,

on Thursday 1 August 2019 at 10.00 a.m.

**Present:** Councillor Jason Zadrozny in the Chair;

Councillors Dale Grounds, David Hennigan (Substitute for Tom Hollis), Andrew Meakin, Lauren Mitchell, Helen-Ann Smith

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillor Tom Hollis

**Officers Present:** Ian Dobson and Rachel Newton

#### **PP.1 Declarations of Interest by Members and Officers**

A general personal interest was declared by all Members of the Working Group in respect of the polling places and districts review and their standing for election as Councillors.

#### **PP.2 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Group agreed the minutes as a true record of the last meeting.

#### **PP.3 Timetable**

The Service Manager, Electoral Services outlined the timetable for the Polling Place Review, advising Members that due to the date of the Council meeting to which the findings would be submitted there was little scope for movement of the proposed dates.

Councillor Mitchell requested that the next meeting of the Group be rescheduled as she was unable to attend. All Members were in agreement and requested that a revised date be circulated to them in due course.

In the event that an election is called prior to the completion of the interim review the Group were advised that the existing scheme would be used called and would continue after polling day as there would not be sufficient time in which to undertake a full consultation exercise and place before Council for ratification.

#### **PP.4 Review**

The Service Manager, Electoral Services informed Members that he had received representation from both Members and interested parties in relation to the 5 polling places as set out below:-

### Kingsway Primary School (KWY2, KWY4)

Potential Alternative - St Thomas Church Hall

The school provides good facilities, however, numerous complaints had been received from parents during the local and European elections requesting that the school be removed from the list of polling places.

### Sports Hall at Morven Park (SUM4)

Potential Alternative - Sherwood Court, Ashwood Centre, Kirkby Catholic Club

The school provides good facilities, however, numerous complaints had been received from parents during the local and European elections requesting that the school be removed from the list of polling places.

### Bestwood Youth & Community Centre (HSO3)

Potential Alternative - Bestwood Miners Welfare

The Elections Unit had been advised that the centre was no longer available as a polling place, however, the Miners Welfare has been offered as an alternative and provides facilities of an equal standard.

### Titchfield Park Pavilion (HSO1, HSO5)

Potential Alternative – The Grove Methodist Church Hall

The operational changes to the café in Titchfield Park Pavilion impedes the polling station, concerns were raised by the Presiding Officer during the local and European elections.

### George Street Working Men's Club (HNO1)

At the Council meeting held on 25 July, 2019 a request was received to explore providing more convenient arrangements for electors on Ward Avenue, Barbara Square, Wighay Road, Beardsmore Grove and Annesley Road.

A discussion took place in respect of George Street Working Men's Club. The Group felt it unnecessary to explore an alternative polling place at this time. The venue provides good facilities and no representations had been made by electors.

Members discussed each of the remaining polling places separately, having particular regard to the location of each proposed alternative and the effect that this would have upon electors. Transport links, accessibility and safeguarding were amongst the topics considered by the Group during the debate.

It was agreed that a public consultation exercise would be undertaken with regard to relocating the polling places at Kingsway Primary School, Sports Hall at Morven Park, Bestwood Youth and Community Centre and Titchfield Park Pavilion to those identified as potential alternatives within the report. The findings of which will be reported back to this Group.

**PP.5**      **Communications**

The Service Manager, Electoral Services advised Members that he would make arrangements for a web page would be uploaded to Council's website and for the information to be disseminated via social media. Additionally public notices would be displayed and interested parties, such as Members and local Organisations would receive written communication.

Additionally the Group agreed that press releases would be provided to the Hucknall Dispatch and Ashfield Chad in order to fully engage with electors.

The meeting closed at 10:34 a.m.

Chairman.