

Appendix B

POLLING PLACE REVIEW WORKING GROUP

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

on Monday 16 September 2019 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillor Jason Zadrozny in the Chair;
Councillors Melanie Darrington (Substitute for Tom Hollis),
Samantha Deakin (Substitute for Helen-Ann Smith) Dale
Grounds, Andrew Meakin, Lauren Mitchell

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Tom Hollis and Helen-Ann Smith

Officers Present: Ian Dobson and Rachel Newton

PP.6 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.7 Minutes of the Last Meeting

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

PP.8 Consultation – Table of Representations

The Chairman briefly outlined the content of the table of representations as detailed in the report.

KWY2 and KWY4

The Service Manager, Electoral Services advised Members that he had undertaken a visit to the Kingsway Cemetery Chapel building. His findings were such that the building and surrounding areas were unsuitable for use as a polling place, this was due to a number of issues, such as:-

- Insufficient lighting in the approach to and once inside the building;
- Furniture of a fixed nature;
- The notice period which could be given to grieving families and the Funeral services was not thought to be practicable;
- No facilities were available for the staff to use throughout the day.

At the last working group St Thomas church hall was identified as an alternative venue, although this falls just outside of the polling district this property offers good facilities for

both electors and staff and supports the Authority in ceasing the use of schools wherever possible.

SUM4

During the consultation process representation had been made in support of relocating the polling station from Sports Hall at Morven Park School to the Catholic Club.

Members felt that this would have minimal impact upon electors as the building is located directly across the road from that currently used and further this would again support the Authority in reducing the number of schools used.

HS03

No representations were received in respect of moving the existing polling station a short distance to the Bestwood Miners Welfare, the welfare offers better facilities for both electors and staff.

HS01 & HS05

No representations were received in respect of moving the existing polling station a short distance from Titchfield Park Pavilion to the Grove Methodist Church which provides better facilities for both electors and staff.

The Service Manager, Electoral Services advised Members that during the consultation period he had noted that organisations such as Scope, Mencap and RNIB recognised the difficulty in securing buildings for use as polling stations and placed more importance on the experience of electors and the positive interaction with staff. This information will be included in the training delivered to polling station staff in order to support electors and provide a positive experience.

Recommended

that Council approve the amendments to the scheme of Polling Places as detailed in the report and set out above.

PP.9 Communications

The Service Manager, Electoral Services advised Members that once the changes had been ratified by Council he would make the necessary arrangements for the information to be disseminated to electors via the Council's Social Media and Website, through local groups and that a press release will be prepared and displayed in the Hucknall Dispatch and the Ashfield Chad.

In addition to this emails will be sent to affected households using the data available to the Elections Unit and any amendments would be highlighted in bold type on the poll cards of affected electors.

The meeting closed at 10:10 a.m.

Chairman.