

Review of polling districts and polling places

Summary of responses received during consultation period (25 October – 31 December)

CV – Moulsecoomb & Bevendean Ward

Councillor Mo Marsh reiterated her support for the change of polling station from Bevendean Primary School to the Church Hall in Norwich Drive. Officers have looked at the Church Hall, and found it to be a suitable polling place, following complaints about Bevendean Primary School at the May 2010 General Election from voters, ward councillors and the polling station staff.

DY and ES – East Brighton and Queen's Park Wards

Roy Pennington sought clarification on where the Craven Vale polling stations would be situated. It is intended that two issuing desks will be set up with the Craven Vale Resource Centre, to keep the votes separate for the different wards.

GZ – Hollingdean & Stanmer / JZ Preston Park Ward

Jenny Moore, a resident of Hollingbury Park Avenue commented that she is unhappy with voting at Hertford School, as St Matthias Church Hall is nearer to her address.

However, this is because of the ward boundary – Hollingbury Park Avenue falling within Hollingdean & Stanmer ward, rather than Preston Park Ward. Ward boundaries are not within the remit of this review.

HV and HX – Patcham Ward

Due to anecdotal reports that some electors might find the current polling district boundaries problematic, electors in the top end of Ladies Mile Road were asked where they would prefer to vote.

HX

- 12 respondents wish to continue to vote at the Old Boat Community Centre.
- 1 respondent would prefer to vote at the portacabin, Mackie Avenue
- 11 respondents would prefer to vote at Patcham Methodist Church
- 5 respondents have no preference

HV

- 8 respondents wish to continue to vote at Patcham Methodist Church
- 1 respondent would prefer to vote at the portacabin, Mackie Avenue
- 3 respondents have no preference

IY – Withdean / JZ Preston Park Ward

Brian and Marion Cunningham, residents of Balfour Road, commented that there are unhappy with voting at St Matthias Church Hall, as Balfour School is nearer to their address. However, this is because of the ward boundary – Balfour Road falling within Preston Park ward, rather than Withdean Ward. Ward boundaries are not within the remit of this review.

JW – Preston Park Ward

Francis Tonks, OPC commented that the temporary building (portacabin) in Preston Park was problematic for frail and disabled voters. However, no suggestion for an alternative was put forward.

KS – St Peter's Ward

Francis Tonks, OPC commented that the use of St Bartholomew's CE Primary School causes the school to close, which should be avoided. However, no suggestion for an alternative was put forward.

Janine Cox, poll clerk, commented that this polling station was quiet at the 2007 local elections, and wondered whether voters for KS could be allocated to the nearby Pelham Street (KY) polling station. However, it could be considered that with the growth in population in this area, the polling station is warranted. The turnout at this polling station in the 2010 elections was 59%.

Ward Councillors Ian Davey and Pete West are happy with the proposed use of the Friends Centre, Brighton Junction, as long as the new polling station is well sign-posted.

KT – St Peter's Ward

Francis Tonks, OPC commented that St Pauls CE Primary School is a suitable polling station causing little disturbance for the children.

SX – Wish Ward

Councillor Garry Peltzer Dunn commented that this polling station has been used over a period of many years, and that he has never had a

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resident adversely commenting on this station. However, it is essential that lighting etc is working in a proper manner.

