

Appendix D

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

CONSULTATION ON POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES FOR 2023/24

Responses received during consultation period from 2 October to 5pm on 13 November 2023

Polling Place	Ward		Summary of comment
		ARO Hart	No Comment
		ARO East Hants	No Comments
	General Comment	Winchester resident	Disabled access (eg flat or ramp) is essential. Sometimes something as apparently trivial as a doorstep can prevent access. I suggest having any new potential polling stations checked by someone actually in a wheelchair. Disable toilets would be a bonus!
	General Comment	Winchester Labour Party	General Comment. In City Council elections there is an exceptional range in turnout between polling stations in the various wards. Having carefully looked at the turnout figures for all of the polling stations in the May 2023 City Council elections I think consideration should be given to this issue and whether the range of turnouts from 6.72% to almost 55% is affected by the convenience of individual polling stations and the significant distance some electors have to travel to use their vote at a polling station. I am of course aware of special factors in certain polling districts, such as service voters, and the availability of postal voting.
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Kings Barton Residents Association	There is not a polling station within Kings Barton and we now have 500 occupied residences. Travelling to other polling stations is inconvenient. Could we please have a polling station in Kings Barton? May we suggest Barton Farm Academy School as a potential venue? It is situated in the geographic centre of Kings Barton.

Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident of Kings Barton	There was not a polling station within Kings Barton development for the last elections, despite that fact that we have over 500 occupied residences. Travelling to other polling stations is inconvenient for the vast majority of residents and physically challenging for significant number. Could we please have a polling station in Kings Barton?
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident of Kings Barton	I'm emailing to say that a polling station in Kings Barton would be very handy. Much handier than having to get the car out and voting in the usual station.
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident of Kings Barton	As a resident of the quickly growing Kings Barton estate, I would like to request that as part of the review, you make Kings Barton its own polling district and as such, add a polling station in Kings Barton. Thank you for considering this feedback.
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident of Kings Barton	As the Kings Barton development is increasing therefore it would make sense to have a polling station here. Possibly at the Primary School or a freestanding portacabin?
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident of Kings Barton	We are resident in Kings Barton and feel there should be a polling station here in our local area so that we can walk to it and not use the car.
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident of Kings Barton	There is not a polling station within Kings Barton and we now have 500 occupied residences. Travelling to other polling stations is inconvenient. Could we please have a polling station in Kings Barton? May I suggest Barton Farm Academy School as a potential venue? It is situated in the geographic centre of Kings Barton.
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident of Kings Barton	Further to your consultation on the subject of polling places, we are strongly of the opinion that a polling place should be provided at the King's Barton development. The reasons for this are that King's Barton is now a self contained community with its own special character and the current location in Kings Worthy is inconvenient for car users
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Cllr from Headbourne Parish Council	There is not a polling station within Kings Barton and there are now about 520 occupied residences. Travelling to other polling stations is inconvenient. Could we please have a polling station in Kings Barton?

			May we suggest Barton Farm Academy School as a potential venue? It is situated in the geographic centre of Kings Barton.
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident of Kings Barton	I would like to support that you set up a polling station in Kings Barton so that those customers who live here and who don't have a car are able to vote.
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident of Kings Barton	This is just a quick response to the Winchester polling places review, to let you know that I would really value the addition of a polling station in Kings Barton. Currently, we need to drive to the Jubilee Hall in Kings Worthy to cast our vote in person or arrange a postal vote. There are enough people living in this estate now to merit the addition of a polling station at the local primary school (Barton Farm), I would think, and I would be most grateful if you would consider this as part of your review.
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident of Kings Barton	I heard of a consultation currently being carried out on the placing of polling stations for the upcoming elections and would like to add my support to having one in Kings Barton.
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident of Kings Barton	I am vaguely aware of a consultation currently being carried out on the placing of polling stations for the upcoming elections and would like to add my support to having one in Kings Barton.
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Headbourne Worthy Parish Council	Headbourne Worthy Parish Council would like to comment on the Polling station review presently being undertaken. Headbourne Worthy PC is of the opinion that with close to 750 people now resident in Kings Barton it is imperative that there is a polling station within the Kings Barton community. At present the polling station that residents are required to use is Jubilee Hall in Kings Worthy. This is too far to walk for many people, especially those living in Kings Barton 1a. With 2 elections next year (one for WCC and a General Election) it is important that residents feel enabled and encouraged to cast their ballot and the ability to quickly "pop out" to do so is an important part of this. Many people prefer not to cast a postal vote (especially in a General Election) because they like to take the last days of the campaigns into their decision making. HWPC would like to suggest the following venues:

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Barton Farm Primary School – there are rooms at the back that are not occupied with direct access to the car park. 2) The CALA Welcome Office – there are two large front rooms at the office where it should be possible to set up a polling station for a day. 3) A portacabin placed at the area at the front the development or near the new playground in 1a. There are a few other spaces that a portacabin could be placed for one day. <p>HWPC feels that it is vital that there is an appropriate polling station venue for the elections next year in order to ensure that residents feel that their vote is valued and encouraged</p>
Jubilee Hall, London Road	The Worthys	Resident in The Worthys	I cannot see any reason to change any of the places to vote within The Worthys - I am unable to comment regarding other places.
St Marys Church Hall	The Worthys	Winchester District Liberal Democrats	We propose that the XE polling district be split so that Worthy Down camp residents vote at St Andrew’s Community Centre in Worthy Down (XV2). As a result of the current placement of the boundary, there are currently 28 electors resident in the camp who face a 15 minute drive – instead of a 20 minute walk – in order to vote.
Jubilee Hall, Kings Worthy and Wesley Methodist Church	The Worthys and St Barnabas	Winchester District Liberal Democrats	<p>We propose that the WW polling district be split along the railway line to enable Kings Barton residents to vote more conveniently. Currently they vote outside their polling district and parish in Kings Worthy. We would prefer the creation of a new Kings Barton Polling District preferably voting at a location in the new development or, if that isn’t possible, in a shared polling station with Harestock (XF). Either way, we would want the remainder of Headbourne Worthy to continue voting in the Jubilee Hall, Kings Worthy (in King Worthy’s XD polling district).</p> <p>Harestock (XF) currently votes in Wesley Hall (YH1). If this was moved to a Harestock location – such as the March Hare Pub – and shared with a new Kings Barton polling station, this would mean a dramatically reduced walk or cycle for Harestock residents and Kings Barton residents (around a 15-20 minute reduction each way from both the north and south of Kings Barton).</p> <p>If it isn’t possible to create a new polling station for Harestock, then ALL the current polling stations in St Barnabas are significantly more</p>

			<p>accessible than Jubilee Hall for Kings Barton residents – both in the northern and southern parts of the development, with St Barnabas Church Hall and Wesley Methodist Church Hall being marginally closer than Winchester Racquets and Fitness – saving 10-15 minutes' walk each way for Kings Barton residents compared to Jubilee Hall.</p>
Wesley Methodist Church	St Barnabas	Cllr from St Barnabas	<p>You asked for feedback/suggestions from councillors. If I may be quick off the mark, while I was out campaigning for the local elections in May, I spoke to quite a few people in Harestock and Teg Down who complained about how hard it was to get to the polling stations, even though they were keen to do. As it stands, the two churches on Fromond Road in Weeke are both used as polling stations, which, as they are only a short distance apart, doesn't really provide coverage of the ward and creates some confusion among voters about which one they are supposed to go to. I'm sure you've already looked into this but I would suggest seeking an alternative venue for one of the polling stations in Harestock, possibly in Harestock Primary School or Henry Beaufort School. I'm told that The March Hare used to be used as a polling station but is sadly no longer available.</p>
Tichborne Arms	Upper Meon Valley	Two City Cllrs for Upper Meon Valley	<p>I see from the review that, for polling district XZ, the shift of polling place from the Tichborne Arms to Cheriton Village Hall is to become permanent. I have real concerns that we are, in effect, disenfranchising many of the voters in this polling district. Cheriton is too far and too dangerous to walk (particularly in the dark) from Tichborne Village; for those in this district at Bakeland Gardens, Winchester Road and Ladycroft in Alresford (a significant proportion of the whole) it is an unacceptable distance to travel to cast their vote. I can suggest two possible alternatives: Use Makins Court polling place in district XK - convenient for Bakeland/Winchester Rd/Ladycroft but much less so for</p>

			those in Tichborne village; XK is in a different Ward as well as being separate polling district. Use Alresford Golf Club - more convenient for Bakeland/Winchester Rd/Ladycroft but still requires a walk across the Tichborne Estate from the village. Both are less than perfect solutions with differing drawbacks. I can discuss with Tichborne PC at their next meeting, but likely to be a month or so before they meet.
Tichborne Arms	Upper Meon Valley	Winchester District Liberal Democrats	<p>We strongly disagree with the proposal to permanently move the Tichborne (XZ) polling station to Cheriton. The proposed Cheriton location is not in the polling district: around half the Tichborne (XZ) polling district's inhabitants live in the settlement of Alresford – in Bakeland Gardens, Ladycroft and a small number in Spring Gardens – and the majority of the electors in the polling district (164 out of 186) live closer to Alresford than Cheriton.</p> <p>If it isn't possible to find a site in the polling district itself, such as the Alresford Golf Club, then we would propose that the polling place be relocated to the XK polling station in Makins Court, Alresford.</p>
Upham Millenium Hall	Upper Meon Valley	Upham Parish Council	Upham Parish Council would like to support the Upham Millenium Hall as the Polling Station for Upham residents. This is the only public building that is large enough for everyone to use and is accessible for all. Please take this comment when discussing the Polling Places in the future.
Durley Memorial Hall	Bishops Waltham	Durley Parish Council	Durley Parish Council has viewed the Polling Stations and Districts at their Parish Council Meeting this week and they would like to support the use of Durley Memorial Hall, Durley Brook Road, Durley as the best place to have a Polling Station for Durley Parish. This is the most accessible public building in Durley and is the only place suitable for residents to come and vote. We are please that Durley Memorial Hall is continuing to be the Polling Station for Durley residents.
Greens Close	Bishops Waltham	Resident of Bishops Waltham	My polling station is tucked away in a side road, without any parking (Greens Close, Bishops Waltham). If I'm voting on my way to or from work and I'm in my car, this is a pain. It's also somewhat hard to locate

			<p>the first time you visit. Could you move this polling station to somewhere with parking, and somewhere more well known? I suggest Priory Park pavilion could work. I acknowledge that there may be groups using the facilities too, but there is an overflow car park.</p>
	Whiteley & Shedfield	Parish Cllr for Curdridge	<p>I see no problems with the proposal to leave WQ unchanged at Curdridge Reading Rooms. The other sites in Whiteley and Shedfield seem fine, though I cannot speak for the other parishes.</p>
Meadowside Leisure Centre	Whiteley & Shedfield	City Councillor Whiteley & Shedfield	<p>I would like to recommend that the new area of North Whiteley is allocated 2 new polling stations. With the current voters in of all of Whiteley (currently at 3731), the Meadowside Leisure center is not suitable for so many voters.</p> <p>Please consider using the Cornerstone School (perhaps the room that is used for Hope Church) as one Polling station for residents who live in Curdridge Meadows area and the newly opened Zoe Clarke Academy (parcel 5) as the second polling area for Whiteley Meadows residents. These can both be used as a temporary measure until a permanent arrangement can be made as North Whiteley is being built out.</p>
Meadowside Leisure Centre	Whiteley & Shedfield	City Councillor Whiteley & Shedfield	<p>At present all the residents of Whiteley Including North Whiteley - numbering currently at 3731 - are expected to cast their votes at Meadowside leisure centre. This is one of the largest polling station. This means residents of Curdridge Meadows and Whiteley Meadows have to travel a distance to get to Meadowside polling station.</p> <p>As temporary solution, I suggest we provide two additional polling stations, one at Corner Stone primary school and the other at Zoe Clarke academy established at parcel 5 in Whiteley Meadows.</p> <p>Corner stone Primary School can serve residents of Curdridge Meadows, while Zoe Clerk Academy (located in porta cabins) will serve residents of Whiteley Meadows.</p>

Meadowside Leisure Centre	Whiteley & Shedfield	Winchester Liberal Democrats	<p>We propose that the Whiteley polling district be split into three polling districts – old Whiteley to the south, Curdrige Meadows to the west and Whiteley Meadows to the north. The rapidly expanding population means that, since the polling places review was published, the Whiteley polling district has overtaken WR1 (Denmead) to become the largest polling district in the Winchester area with over 3,800 electors – nearly 4 times the size of the average polling district – and the continued construction in the area means this gap will continue to grow rapidly.</p> <p>It's currently a 45-minute walk each way from the Whiteley Meadows area at the north of the development to Meadowside Leisure Centre. We would propose that the Zoe Clarke Skills Academy could be the polling district for this area.</p> <p>Similarly, it's a 30-minute walk from Curdrige Meadows development to the west to Meadowside Leisure Centre (and longer from Curdrige Meadows to Whiteley Meadows). We would suggest that Hope Church/Cornerstone School on Whiteley Way could be the polling district for this area.</p>
St Marks Church Hall	Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery	Resident in Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery	Hello - I am writing to register my opinion that the polling station at St Mark's in Oliver's Battery should continue.
St Marks Church Hall	Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery	Resident in Oliver's Battery	I would like to register my wish that the Polling Place should please remain at St Marks in Oliver's Battery. It is an important that this remains especially as a good number of local residents may only be able to access this Polling site to register their vote
St Marks Church Hall	Badger Farm & Oliver's Battery	Resident in Oliver's Battery	I am writing to support the existing arrangements of a polling station at St Marks Church Hall in Oliver's Battery.
	Bader Farm & Oliver's Battery	Cllr from Badger Farm & Olivers Battery	I am quite happy for the polling stations to remain in the same places as they sever the communities quite well.
Winnall Community Centre	St Bartholomew	Winchester Labour Party	Electors living in the polling district YM currently have to vote at the Winnall Community Centre in Garbett Road, together with electors in

			polling district YN. There used to be a separate polling station for YM in Chester Road. (Which is oddly still shown on the current map!) Since the turnout for elections in these 2 polling stations this May was 24.6% for YM and 19.3% for YN we believe this issue should be addressed again to provide more convenient polling places for local residents. The current boundaries between YM and YN are absurd in places and it seems to us that if a second polling station can now be provided the boundary between YM and YN should be made more logical, so that as far as possible there is easy access on foot for local people to their allotted polling station.
Winchester Hotel	St Bartholomew	Winchester Labour Party	The Polling station at Winchester Hotel is listed as a “no change” for YJ, YJ1 and YK but in reality it has not always been available and portacabins on a car park are a very inadequate alternative. Surely more reliable polling stations should be found for these 3 polling districts nearer to the electors.
St Luke’s Church Centre	St Luke	Winchester Labour Party	A similar issue arises in St Luke Ward. Electors living in Polling Districts YQ1 and YQ2 both now vote at St Lukes Church Centre in Mildmay Street. There used to be a separate polling station for YQ1 in the Valley. Since the turnout for elections in these 2 polling stations this May was 20.69% we believe this issue should also be addressed again to provide more convenient polling places for local residents. The topography of this area is very misleading on the map as it obviously takes no account of the gradient of the area. Significant numbers of local people have no access to a motor car and surely in fairly densely populated urban areas the starting point should be easy access on foot to all polling stations. In addition St Luke’s Church is likely to be demolished in the near future so that venue will no longer be available. I do hope these issues can be carefully considered by the City Council.
Newlands Community Hall	Denmead	Winchester District Liberal Democrats	We propose that the XW2 and WR2 polling districts in Denmead ward are merged. They are contiguous, share a polling place (Newlands Community Hall in XW3), ward (Denmead), county division (Winchester Southern Parishes), parish (Denmead) and Westminster parliamentary

			constituency (Fareham & Waterlooville) – and so there is no need to keep them separate.
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