

REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES**LISTED BY BOROUGH WARD****Ascot**

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| WX | 3,304 | 433 | 2,871 (2 stations) | North Ascot Community Centre, Fernbank Road, Ascot SL5 6LA | See comment |
| WY | 825 | 134 | 691 | St Martin's Church Hall, Church Rd, Chavey Down, Ascot SL5 8RR | Yes |

The Periodic Electoral Review (PER) in 2002 agreed to retain the division of this Borough ward into two polling districts to enable convenient and accessible polling facilities to be provided for the electorate in this large geographical area.

North Ascot Community Centre is centrally located in the Polling District, has good parking capacity and good facilities for staff.

At the May 2011 elections concern was expressed regarding access to the building by voters with mobility issues, including those who use motorised scooters, as the path alongside the building is narrow and uneven at one end. Additionally, the entrance door has a tarmac ramp with a further wooden ramp on the inside.

The Council's Health and Safety advisor visited the venue at the end of June to assess the above issues and as a result a letter was sent to NACA regarding the access issues.

No other representations were received relating to this Polling Place.

Alternative locations suggested previously have included North Ascot Youth & Community Centre in Mill Ride but the current location is one of long standing and is well known in the locality.

Returning Officer's Proposal for WX: No change

St Martin's Church Hall is located in the northern part of the Polling District. This Polling District is geographically large with a small electorate and any location would involve transport and travelling.

In a phone call to the Electoral Services Office after the May 2011 elections Councillor Virgo suggested that it would be more convenient for voters in the area of the polling district furthest from the polling station (namely the Coronation Road and Bodens Ride area with a round journey of 7.6 miles) who have to drive along London Road past the Fernbank Road junction to instead vote at North Ascot Community Centre (NACC). This suggestion involves 49 properties and a total of 88 electors, of whom 24 have postal votes.

The suggestion would necessitate the creation of another polling district for the affected properties and the designation of a polling place (NACC) outside the area of the new polling district. Additionally, the journey distance by road from Bodens Ride to NACC is also 7.6 miles.

No further representations were received relating to this Polling Place.

Returning Officer's Proposal for WY: No change

Binfield with Warfield

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| BA | 4,303 | 716 | 3,636 (2 stations) | Binfield Memorial Hall, Terrace Road South, Binfield, Bracknell RG42 4DJ | Yes |
| BB | 1,612 | 221 | 1,391 | Farley Wood Centre, Turnpike Road, Binfield, Bracknell RG42 1FW | Yes |
| WM | 650 | 115 | 535 | Brownlow Memorial Hall, Newell Green, Warfield, Bracknell RG42 6AB | Yes |

The PER in 2002 led to the creation of this ward in 2003. Both BA and BB are polling districts which cover the unwarded Binfield Parish. The BB polling district was formed some years ago to accommodate the Farley Wood development and to ensure that voters in that area had accessible voting facilities particularly as the Memorial Hall was at capacity.

The WM polling district is the area of the St Michael's ward of Warfield Parish Council.

The three polling stations in the ward are located within their respective polling districts in venues well known to the community and afford good disabled access, parking and facilities for staff.

However as the present boundary for the parliamentary constituency, borough ward and parish council is the middle of Peacock Lane, the residents in the Wykery Copse development, as well as the occupants of the two residential units at Peacock Farm Public House and the three further properties on that road plus two properties on Waterloo Road, are in the BB polling district (Binfield with Warfield Borough Ward and the Windsor Constituency), with their polling station being at Farley Wood, involving a 6 mile round trip.

In accordance with the decision taken at a previous review, electors in this part of the BB polling district have been offered postal vote facilities.

The options for consideration are set out below:

1. Status quo - Voting at Farley Wood Centre – Wykery Copse voters will remain in Binfield parish, Binfield with Warfield Borough Ward and Windsor Constituency.
2. Voting at the polling place for BQ Jennett's Park, but remain in the above electoral areas – This would necessitate the creation of a new polling district (BC) for the Wykery Copse and associated properties (136 in total at present) and although their polling place would be outside the polling district, the proximity and convenience of the Jennett's Park polling place is felt to outweigh this consideration. Because BC voters would be voting for different councillors/MPs etc, there would need to be good segregation but the accommodation at the new Community Centre is understood to be able to facilitate this.
3. Either 1 or 2 above and also undertake a Community Governance Review with a view to adjusting the boundaries of Binfield Parish Council and the Great Hollands Ward of Bracknell Town Council to place Wykery Copse residents etc in the Great Hollands Town Ward.

As requested by the 21 June meeting, the views of the Head of Community Engagement and Equalities was sought regarding the future electoral arrangements for the residents of Wykery Copse and these are set out below:

“I still believe that the A329 is a strong natural boundary and that therefore Wykery Copse residents should be able to use the Jennett's Park community centre to vote. I also believe that the Wykery Copse area would identify more with Jennett's Park which is why the Community Cohesion and Engagement Working Group recommended a Community Governance Review when they last considered the issue. However, there should be further consultation with residents to test that thinking”.

Brownlow Memorial Hall offers excellent facilities for all groups of electors and staff, although the egress onto the busy Warfield Road and the junction with Forest Road must be navigated with care.

No representations were received regarding these polling places.

Returning Officer’s Proposals for BA, BB and WM:

- a) no change to Polling Districts and Polling Places for BA and WM;
- b) that a new polling district be created (BC) to cover those properties in the Wykery Copse development, Peacock Lane and Waterloo Road which are currently located in the BB polling district;
- c) that the new Jennett’s Park Community Centre, Tawny Owl Square, Bracknell be designated as the polling place for the new BC polling district ;
- d) that the voters in the revised BB polling district continue to vote at Farley Wood Community Centre.

Bullbrook

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| BE | 4,407 | 667 | 3,781 (2 stations) | Bullbrook Community Centre, Bullbrook Row, Bay Road, Bracknell RG12 2NL | Yes |

The Bullbrook Community Centre is a well known local community building which has recently undergone some refurbishment work. It offers good facilities for all voters and staff in a central location.

Although the A329 London Road dissects the ward/polling district, the creation of a new polling district to the south of the road would not be justified by the numbers and cost. The 2002 PER took this into account and made no changes to the long standing polling arrangements.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer’s Proposal for BE: No change

Central Sandhurst

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| SP | 3,926 | 608 | 3,318 (2 stations) | Sandhurst Town Council Offices, Memorial Park, Yorktown Road, Sandhurst GU47 9BJ | Yes |

The current polling station has been in use since 1999 and is located in the modern town council offices, affording plentiful car parking, access for all voters and good facilities for staff. However, it is situated to the south of the polling district and is separated from the remainder of the polling district by the A321 Yorktown Road. This constitutes a barrier in accordance with the guidelines, albeit one that was taken into account in the 2002 PER when no changes were recommended. The only other option identified is Sandhurst Library on the other side of Yorktown Road, although the facilities here are not as good and it would involve disruption to library customers.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer's Proposal for SP: No change

College Town

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| SO | 4,718 | 717 | 4,001 (2 stations) | College Town Infants School, Branksome Hill Rd, College Town, Sandhurst GU47 0QF | Yes |

In order to avoid disruption for pupils and those with parental responsibilities, the borough's schools are used as polling stations only in exceptional cases. This school is the only known, suitable public building in the polling district, is well located and well-known locally.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer's Proposal for SO: No change

Crown Wood

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| BF | 3,012 | 352 | 2,660 (2 stations) | Crown Wood Community Centre, Opladen Way, Bracknell RG12 0PE | Yes |
| WW | 2,933 | 330 | 2,603 (2 stations) | Forest Park Community Centre, Horndean Road, Forest Park, Bracknell RG12 0XQ | Yes |

The present Crown Wood ward of the Borough Council was created following the PER and comprises the Crown Wood ward of Bracknell Town Council (polling district BF) and the Forest Park ward of Winkfield Parish Council (polling district WW)

Both polling places are well known, located in central positions and offer good facilities for all voters and staff. One representation has been received supporting the continuation of Forest Park CC as the polling place for WW voters.

Returning Officer's proposal for BF and WW: No change

Crowthorne

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| CN | 3,935 | 686 | 3,249 (2 stations) | Crowthorne Parish Hall, Heath Hill Road South, Crowthorne RG45 7BN | Yes |

This is a well known and well located venue which has undergone refurbishment and offers improved facilities for all voters.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer's proposal for CN: No change

Great Hollands North

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| BH | 3,059 | 362 | 2,697 (2 stations) | Great Hollands Community Centre, The Square, Wordsworth, Bracknell RG12 8UX | Yes |
| BQ | 1,065 | 144 | 921 | Jennett's Park Temporary Community Centre, Peacock Lane, Bracknell RG12 8SS | Yes |

The polling place for BH polling district is located in the centre of the polling district, is well known, in a good location and serves all of the local electorate well.

The BQ polling district was created after the 2007 review to accommodate the new development at Jennett's Park. The current polling place for BQ is the temporary Community Centre located next to the Peacock Farm Public House. A representation has been received regarding this polling place.

In September 2011 the new Community Centre for Jennett's Park, located at Tawny Owl Square, next to the new school, became available. It is understood that the temporary community centre will then be demolished. It is therefore proposed that the new Community Centre be designated as the polling place for the BQ polling district.

A representation has been received regarding the creation of Jennett's Park as a separate Borough Ward. This could not be achieved through a Community Governance Review and would need to be part of either a Periodic Electoral Review or as a result of a request to the Boundary Commission for an intermediate review of the Borough boundaries.

Returning Officer's proposals for BH and BQ:

- a) **No change to the arrangements for the existing BH polling district;**
- b) **that the new Jennett's Park Community Centre, Tawny Owl Square, Bracknell be designated as the polling place for the BQ polling district.**

Great Hollands South

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| BJ | 3,869 | 574 | 3,295 (2 stations) | Woodenhill Primary School, Staplehurst, Bracknell RG12 RG12 8DB | Yes |

Woodenhill Primary School has been the designated polling place for Great Hollands South Ward for a number of years and has been regularly reviewed to see if an alternative venue could be found. It accommodates two polling stations.

The headteacher of Woodenhill School has responded to the current consultation asking for the school not to be used as a polling station because of the disruption to children and parents, particularly at short notice such as for by-elections or a snap general election. The Great Hollands Bowling Club on South Road was suggested as an alternative. This venue has been considered previously but discounted for access reasons.

A further response to the consultation asked that either all the voters from this polling district or those from the Ringwood, Ullswater, Underwood and Holbeck etc vicinity should vote at either the Community Centre in Great Hollands Square (currently also the polling place for Great Hollands North voters) or at the Talk Shop, also in Great Hollands Square. A mobile facility was also suggested.

Staff have visited the two venues mentioned. The Talk Shop could reasonably only accommodate one polling station. There is also uncertainty regarding the future of this unit from 2013.

The Community Centre could also accommodate one further polling station in a room to the rear of the building; no other room was available for viewing.

However, both these options would still require one polling station to be located at the school.

If the preferred option was to accommodate the residents in the Holbeck – Ullswater area of Great Hollands South at the Community Centre, a new polling district would need to be created. Maps and electorate details for a possible new polling district will be available at the meeting.

The provision of a mobile polling station with its significant costs, security, access and other issues is not regarded as being beneficial to the local voters.

One representation in support of the continued use of the school as a polling station was received.

As by-elections and snap general elections are an infrequent occurrence and the school can plan ahead for scheduled elections,

Returning Officer's proposal for BJ: No change

Hanworth

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| BD | 3,013 | 401 | 2,612 (2 stations) | Birch Hill Community Centre, Leppington, Bracknell RG12 7WW | Yes |
| BK | 3,203 | 519 | 2,684 (2 stations) | The Pines Community Centre, Hanworth Road, Bracknell RG12 7WX | Yes |

Birch Hill (polling district BD) and Hanworth (polling district BK) form two Bracknell Town Council wards.

Whilst both polling stations are located on the western edge of the polling district, both are polling places of long standing and are at well-known venues, which offer good, all-round facilities.

Two responses in support of the Pines Community Centre facilities have been received.

The Returning Officer's proposal for BD and BK: No change

Harmans Water

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| BL | 4,495 | 582 | 3,913 (2 stations) | St Paul's Church, The Square, Harmans Water, Bracknell RG12 9LP | Yes, albeit via a ramp the Council provides at every election |
| WV | 1,482 | 204 | 1,272 | Martins Heron & The Warren Community Centre, Whitton Road, Martins Heron, Bracknell RG12 9TZ | Yes |

The BL polling district is the Harmans Water ward of Bracknell Town Council and WV is the Martins Heron and Warren ward of Winkfield Parish Council.

The electorate in the polling district was 3,844 at the last review – the increase is mainly down to the number of voters at the new development called “The Parks” which is the former RAF Staff College site and further development continues on this site.

The present polling place at St Paul's Shared Church is used for two polling stations and the numbers mean that with further occupation on The Parks there is likely to be a need for a third polling station.

Other options include Harmans Water School, which is a former polling place but would necessitate the closure of the school.

A new Community Centre and Sports Pavilion is expected to be built on the Parks as the development progresses, although no firm timescale is yet known. It is possible that this could be considered as a future polling place for the residents of The Parks.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer's proposal for BL: No change, but to be kept under review.

Harmans Water (Cont'd)

Martins Heron and the Warren Community Centre is a modern building, well located and offering good access and facilities for all.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer's proposal for WV: No change

Little Sandhurst and Wellington

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| SQ | 3,321 | 571 | 2,750 (2 stations) | Methodist Church Hall, Scotland Hill, Sandhurst GU47 8JR | Yes |
| CS | 929 | 113 | 816 | Crowthorne Parish Hall, Heath Hill Road South, Crowthorne RG45 7BN | Yes |

The SQ polling district is the Little Sandhurst ward of Sandhurst Town Council and the CS polling district is the Crowthorne South ward of Crowthorne Parish Council.

The Methodist Church Hall in Scotland Hill is a long established polling place, well-known to the local electorate. Refurbished a number of years ago, improvements were made to the parking area and facilities which are now acceptable. There is no obvious alternative venue.

One representation has been received requesting the use of New Scotland Hill Junior School as either a second polling place for SQ voters or in place of the current venue whose location the respondent considers disadvantages voters from the Sandy Lane area of the ward.

The Council endeavours to use alternative venues to a school for polling purposes. However, when the school was used some years ago, the access and egress also proved difficult at this location.

Returning Officer's proposal for SQ: No change

At the last review alternative venues for a polling place in the CS polling district were considered including the aerobics studio at Wellington Sports Centre, The Methodist Church Hall and the community area of Copenhagen Walk. However it was decided to remain at the Parish Hall, which although outside the polling district, is a well known location which is accessible to all. No problems have been reported relating to the electorate from different polling districts voting in the same room.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer's proposal for CS: No change

Old Bracknell

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| BM | 1,585 | 193 | 1,392 | Easthampstead & Wildridings Community Centre, Rectory Lane, Bracknell RG12 7BH | Yes |
| BN | 2,579 | 365 | 2,214 | Easthampstead Baptist Church Hall, South Hill Road, Bracknell RG12 7NS | Yes |

Old Bracknell is a large ward with over 4000 electors. Prior to the PER it had been divided into two polling districts and the review did not change that arrangement, as the two polling places within the polling districts were convenient and accessible to all.

The size of the electorate requires a minimum of two polling stations and depending on the combination of elections it could be that a third polling station is required (as at BN for the 2011 elections).

If a single polling district for the ward was created then only Easthampstead and Wildridings Community Centre could accommodate two or at most three polling stations. This would entail relocating the current polling station from the ground floor to the lower room, access to which for disabled voters would have to be by means of a lift.

Easthampstead Baptist Church Hall is in a central location for the electors in the BN polling district and offers good and convenient voting facilities.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer's Proposal for BM and BN: No change.

Owlsmoor

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| SJ | 3,950 | 568 | 3,382 (2 stations) | Owlsmoor Community Centre, Yeovil Road, Owlsmoor, Sandhurst GU47 0TF | Yes |

The needs of the electors are well served by this relatively modern building that is well-known locally and offers good access and facilities.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer's Proposal for SJ: No change

Priestwood and Garth

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| BG | 2,915 | 396 | 2,519 (2 stations) | Bracknell Methodist Church Hall, Shepherds Lane, Bracknell RG42 2DD | Yes |
| BP | 2,830 | 366 | 2,464 (2 stations) | Priestwood Community Centre, Priestwood Court Road, Bracknell RG12 1TU | Yes |

Garth (polling district BG) and Priestwood (polling district BP) are both town council wards.

Alternative venues that have been used/considered in the past are Meadowvale Junior School and Braybrooke Community Centre.

Both current polling places are of long standing and are centrally located in the residential parts of the polling districts. The buildings offer acceptable facilities for both electors and staff. There would appear to be no tangible benefit to the electorate to change the polling places at this time.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer's Proposal for BG and BP: No change

Warfield Harvest Ride

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| WG | 4,290 | 701 | 3,589 (2 stations) | Whitegrove Youth & Community Centre, County Lane, Warfield, Bracknell RG42 3JP | Yes |
| WQ | 1,623 | 336 | 1,287 | Whitegrove Youth & Community Centre, County Lane, Warfield, Bracknell RG42 3JP | Yes |

These are separate polling districts as they are both parish wards (WG being Whitegrove and WQ Quelm). The polling place is not within the WQ polling district.

Whitegrove Youth & Community Centre is a modern facility, with two rooms that can be deployed as separate polling stations.

It is a very well located building being part of the main shopping area for the Warfield Parish, between the library and medical centre, with ample free car parking and has easy access and egress to all voters.

Brownlow Hall was considered at the last review as an alternative for the WQ polling district although it too is also outside the polling district. There were concerns about access and egress issues for an increased electorate at that venue as well as the need to ensure that two rooms could be used. No change was made at that time and there has been no subsequent change in relation to those issues since then. No other alternative location has been identified.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer's Proposals for WG and WQ: No change.

Wildridings and Central

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|----------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| BT | 935 | 165 | 770 | Easthampstead House, Town Square, Bracknell RG12 1AQ | Yes |
| BW | 2,584 | 351 | 2,233 (2 stations) | Wildridings Primary School, Netherton, Bracknell RG12 7DX | Yes |

The two polling districts relate to two parish wards on the town council – BT being the Town Centre ward and BW covering the Wildridings ward.

Emmanuel Church in Netherton has previously been identified as a possible alternative venue to the school but the Church advised that the building is not available for hire.

The school is a well known venue and provides good access and egress to all voters.

No representations have been received relating to this polling place.

Returning Officer's Proposal for BW: No change.

Following the PER and the creation of the new Wildridings and Central Ward in 2002, Easthampstead House was designated as the polling place for the BT ward. As the Town Centre regeneration proposals included the demolition of Easthampstead House and the construction of a number of new residential properties, this has been under annual review ever since.

Under the current review, a representation has been received from the Kerith Centre in Tytherton offering the use of their buildings as a polling station for BT.

The premises offer good facilities for all and are well located for the current electorate for the Town Centre ward, many of whom live in nearby Jubilee Court (124 properties), Mount Lane (308 properties)/Mount Pleasant, Marchmont Place, The Ridgeway etc.

Whilst the K2 building would accommodate the majority of the elections, if an election was held during school holidays, the polling station would need to relocate to the main Kerith building, as the Centre is contracted to providing respite care.

Kerith Centre would offer a longer term solution to the polling place for BT ward and the views of the Steering Group are requested.

Returning Officer's Proposal for BT: the Kerith Centre Buildings be designated as the polling station for BT.

Winkfield and Cranbourne

| Existing Arrangements | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Polling District | Electors | Postal voters | Polling station electorate | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| WN | 307 | 63 | 244 | The Carnation Hall, Chavey Down Road, Winkfield Row, Bracknell RG42 7PA | Yes |
| WP | 799 | 160 | 639 | Warfield Park Community Hall, The Plateau, Warfield Park, Bracknell RG42 3RH | Yes |
| WS | 1,706 | 244 | 1,462 | The Carnation Hall, Chavey Down Road, Winkfield Row, Bracknell RG42 7PA | Yes |
| WZ | 1,148 | 177 | 971 | The Royal British Legion Hall, Hatchet Lane, Winkfield SL4 2EE | Yes |

This Borough ward was created following the PER. It joined the Warfield Park parish ward (made up of the WN and WP polling districts) of Warfield Parish Council ward, with the Winkfield and Cranbourne parish ward (comprising the WS and WZ polling districts) of Winkfield Parish Council.

The last Polling Districts and Polling Places review in 2007 split the WN and WP polling districts into two following the construction of the Community Centre on Warfield Park and in 2010, Carnation Hall was designated as the Polling Place for WN voters. This has worked successfully for the last two elections.

Both the Royal British Legion and Carnation Hall are well-known and well located buildings offering good access and facilities and serve their electorate well.

A representation has been received requesting that electors in the Squirrels mobile home park should have a polling place close to their location. This has been considered in the past but there is no suitable alternative accommodation available. The cost and inconvenience of a mobile facility is considered to outweigh any benefits to voters.

Returning Officer's Proposals for WN, WP, WS and WZ: - No change

Parliamentary Polling arrangements for that part of the Bracknell Parliamentary constituency which is in Wokingham Borough Council area

| Arrangements in 2010 | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Polling District and Parish ward | Electors in 2010 | Number of polling stations | Polling Place | Disabled Access |
| FAB (Finchampstead North Parish Ward) | 4353 | 2 | California Ratepayers Hall, Finchampstead Road, Wokingham RG40 3RL | Yes |
| FBB1 (Finchampstead South Parish Ward) | 3246 | 2 | Finchampstead Baptist Church Centre, Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead RG40 4ES | Yes |
| FBB2 (Finchampstead South Parish Ward) | 1269 | 1 | Finchampstead Memorial Hall, (The Committee Room), The Village, Finchampstead RG40 4JU | Yes |
| XWB (Wokingham Without Parish Ward) | 5377 | 3 | Oaklands Junior School, Butler Road, Crowthorne, Wokingham RG45 6QZ | Yes |
| FCB (Lower Wokingham Parish Ward) | 841 | 1 | Oaklands Junior School, Butler Road, Crowthorne, Wokingham RG45 6QZ | Yes |

The above were all reviewed in 2010 by Wokingham Borough Council as part of a borough wide review they undertook following the General Election.

The review highlighted an issue at Finchampstead Memorial Hall where a wheelchair user could not be accommodated due to limited space. However, the Pavilion behind the Memorial Hall was found to offer improved facilities.

It was agreed that the polling place for polling district FBB2 be changed to Finchampstead Sports Pavilion, The Village, Finchampstead Wokingham RG40 4JU and that the other polling districts and polling places be unchanged.

The Acting Returning Officer's Proposal for the Wokingham Polling Places that fall in the Bracknell constituency: No change.

LIST OF RESPONSES RECEIVED TO THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION

| Number | Date | Person | Comment | Source |
|--------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|--------|
| 1 | 27 May 2011 | Cllr Tony Virgo | <p>He would like consideration given to the voters from the Bodens Ride and Coronation Road area of the Ascot Priory polling district being able to vote at North Ascot Community Centre, Fernbank Road, Ascot rather than St Martin's Church Hall, Church Road, Chavey Down.</p> <p>He advised that the electors have to drive along London Road to reach St Martin's Church Hall and in so doing they pass the Fernbank Road junction which they could take to travel to North Ascot Community Centre.</p> <p>He appreciated that several of the voters in the area concerned did have a postal vote but he considered that the change of venue would be more convenient to the other voters in that area.</p> | Phone |
| 2 | 6 June 2011 | Cllr Michael Gbadebo | We had a very low turn-out during the last local elections at Jennett's Park. My belief is that one of the contributing factors was the location of the polling station which was the temporary community centre across the road from the main development. For future elections, I would like to propose that the polling station for JP be moved to the new school at the heart of the community (hopefully it will be operational by then). | Email |
| 3 | 9 June 2011 | Madeline Diver | Forest Park community Centre is first class - Access; Parking and even bus are all AI | email |
| 4 | 9 June 2011 | Dr Farooq Awan | My local polling station is Woodenhill Primary School. It meets my requirements perfectly and would not want it to be changed. | email |
| 5 | 9 June 2011 | Anne Gibbons | As a family we are happy that the Pines Community Centre is a good and convenient place for the residents of Hanworth to register their votes. | email |
| 6 | 9 June 2011 | Beryl Kingsnorth | I am happy with my polling place at The Pines School | email |
| 7 | 17 June 2011 | Cllr Mrs Mary Temperton | <p>The residents of Jennett's Park feel no affiliation with Great Hollands at all. If the boundary for the Parish and Borough and Parliamentary elections is to be altered to be the A329 rather than Peacock lane, I propose that this become a ward on its own- The Jennett's Park ward, Returning its own councilors.</p> <p>Could there be a polling station near the Squirrels, Cranbourne, for the mobile park residents?</p> <p>Could a temporary building be used for the Great Hollands South voters, located on the carpark of the ex-East Lodge site, to avoid the need to close the school? Could the TALK SHOP at Great Hollands</p> | |

| | | | | |
|---|--------------|---|--|--|
| | | | square, be used? Many residents resent the need to shut the school but access there prevents any alternative if the School is used as the polling station. | |
| 8 | 20 June 2011 | Cllr Mrs Mary Temperton | <p>Note of conversation with Cllr Ms Mary Temperton.</p> <p>She was concerned that the steep hill on Wooden Hill discouraged electors from Ringwood, Ullswater and the other roads round to Holbeck from voting and increases their view that “my thoughts don’t count”.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Temperton appreciated that a postal vote was an option but considered that most people still wanted to vote in person and actively participate in the democratic process.</p> <p>She suggested that the voters from the roads in Great Hollands South not at the top of Wooden Hill could be provided with a polling station nearer to their properties.</p> <p>The roads concerned would include Ringwood, Ullswater, Underwood, Beedon Drive, Halewood, Highfield and Holbeck</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Temperton suggested two options: a) a temporary portable polling station could be placed on the site of the former East Lodge premises. This had been demolished some time ago and was now a vacant gravelled plot opposite Hollands Pine and near a bus stop. b) the Talk Shop building, 2 Great Hollands Square, Bracknell</p> <p>Mrs Temperton acknowledged that both locations were just outside the polling district of BJ but also referred to similar situations which existed elsewhere in the borough.</p> <p>She stated she would further support her case at the Steering Group meeting.</p> | |
| 9 | 20 June 2011 | Joanna Quinn, Headteacher at Wooden Hill Primary School | <p>Note of conversation with Joanna Quinn, Headteacher at Wooden Hill Primary School</p> <p>I advised that we had a meeting of the Review Steering Group tomorrow and wished to sound out her thoughts. She stated that would be responding formally but wanted her views reported.</p> <p>She would prefer an alternative venue to the school to be designated to avoid the need to close the school and the resultant disruption to the education of the children and inconvenience to their families.</p> <p>She stated that where an election is a scheduled one that the school can arrange a teacher training day and give parents considerable notice of the closure. However she was concerned that in the event of a by-election or snap general election that the period of notice could be 30 days.</p> | |

| | | | | |
|----|-------------|--|--|--|
| | | | <p>Her suggestion was Great Hollands Pavilion on South Road. She stated that there were good footpaths from Wooden Hill, Trevelyan and Tawfield that led to the Pavilion.</p> | |
| 10 | 4 July 2011 | Ray Earwicker Bracknell Liberal Democrats | <p>Reference is drawn to your email of 26 May 2011 to interested parties regarding the review of polling districts and polling stations currently being carried out by a Review Group in accordance with S18 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended).</p> <p>Bracknell Liberal Democrats welcome the review and still strongly believe that the existing polling arrangements in Little Sandhurst fail to meet the needs of most of the electors in this ward. The currently designated polling station in Scotland Hill deters many voters from making the arduous journey from the Sandy Lane area, where the majority of electors live. New Scotland Hill Junior School would provide a much more convenient polling station for these electors.</p> <p>It is our belief that an examination of the marked register for May 2011 will show a disproportionate number of voters who live close to the existing polling station. While this may not be especially uncommon we believe the scale of the discrepancy in this case will be exceptional and unlikely to be reduced by the increased use of postal voting.</p> <p>Ideally two polling stations would seem to offer the best solution although this could no doubt lead to some increase in overall costs. In the interests of greater fairness and better support for the democratic process however improved access must be a prime concern and proper examination needs to be given to improving the arrangements that currently exist in this ward.</p> <p>We hope the Review Group will give due consideration to this proposal.</p> | |
| 11 | 5 July 2011 | Andrew Jackson Kerith Community Church | <p>We understand that you are currently reviewing polling districts and places and inviting representations from local organisations.</p> <p>Kerith Community Church is located within the Wildridings and Central Ward and the local polling station for residents in the area of the church would be Easthampstead House.</p> <p>We understand that voter turnout at Easthampstead House is very low and we wonder whether it would be higher if voting took place either in a more central location in the town or in a place where there are more people passing or in a building closer to where the majority of voters live.</p> | |
| 12 | 5 July 2011 | Ed Glasson, Chairman, Bracknell Forest Federation of | <p>I'd hoped that we might be able to have a proper discussion about the current review of polling arrangements at our latest Federation general meeting on 30th June. Unfortunately, with an unusually lengthy agenda, that wasn't possible. However, since this is a matter of importance to</p> | |

| | | | |
|--|--|------------------|---|
| | | Community Groups | <p>all the community associations around Bracknell Forest, which the Fed. aims to represent, I thought I should write to you to restate the view we formed when the hire of community centres for use as polling stations became a pretty lively issue 3 or 4 months ago. To summarize, the Fed. feels that:</p> <p>a) A key obligation of every CA is to provide a polling place at its community centre for the community it serves.</p> <p>b) In the interests of high turnout, and to make voting as straightforward as possible for residents, it is best to use the same polling place year in year out.</p> <p>c) As in this year's elections, community centres should, normally, be let for polling at the local CA's community hire rate, except where the CA suffers a significant loss of revenue, and has to inconvenience other regular users, because the whole building is to be used.</p> <p>The Fed. has close to 200 community activists in various groups on its mailing list drawn from 50 groups serving many tens of thousands of residents across Bracknell Forest. These groups include some 20 community associations most of whom run local community centres which are regularly used as polling stations.</p> <p>I hope, given all that, that BFC will give due weight to our views. As you and I both know, most of the local volunteers on whom our community centres depend were outraged to be told this year, for the first time, that their community centres were to be requisitioned at a peppercorn rent for polling. I'm sure, if we are able to stick to the arrangement that we arrived at this year, after that furore, that most of our CA's will be able to live with it.</p> <p>Obviously, we will be keenly interested in learning the outcome of the review in due course.</p> |
|--|--|------------------|---|