

KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL – 18th DECEMBER 2007

REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS

REPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report back to Members the results of a statutory review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations and to approve a schedule of polling arrangements.

2. FINANCIAL, RISK, STAFFING AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council has a statutory obligation to approve a schedule of polling arrangements before 2008. Any remaining areas of uncertainty within the schedule can be addressed at a future meeting.

3. INTRODUCTION

The Electoral Administration Act 2006 requires relevant councils to carry out a review of polling districts and places during 2007. The meeting of the Council in October approved a schedule as a starting point for consultation. Although the response to the consultation process has been limited, it has nevertheless suggested a number of alternative venues. The responses received through the consultation are listed in appendix B.

4. RETURNING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Returning Officer has provided the following comments on issues raised by the consultation:

- The rationalisation of the polling districts for Roundway into a north/south split will allow for sensible consideration to be given to providing a more geographically accessible polling station for the southern half of the parish. That polling station could be within the town centre, but should, if possible, be kept separate from any of the Devizes polling stations. It should be noted that, if approved, the re-ordering of the registers for Roundway will be carried out in draft through the summer of 2008 and will not take effect until December 2008.
- Provision of polling stations in Devizes will always be a matter of balance. Each of the Wards in Devizes is split into two polling districts, and in a perfect world it would be ideal to provide a polling station for each district. Devizes Town Council have proposed a number of possible

additional/alternative venues that it has not yet been possible to fully evaluate. In order to allow proper evaluation and negotiation with owners it is suggested that the polling arrangements for Devizes be reviewed at a future meeting.

- The suggestion that the Crown at Everleigh be used for voters in that parish is one that can be considered immediately. The Returning Officer is content to support the proposal so long as a fall back position (Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall) is authorised, so that should a future landlord at the venue not be willing to co-operate there is a clear alternative.
- Various alternative venues have been suggested for Marlborough, and as with Devizes each ward is split into two polling districts. As with Devizes, it is suggested that further evaluation and negotiation be allowed to take place prior to final decisions on polling arrangements, but that the St Margarets Mead Youth Centre be approved for the time being as better placed for at least part of the East Ward.
- The Seend Lye Recreation Field Committee have argued for the retention of the Irene Usher Hall as polling station for Seend. The previous report to Council suggested the Community Centre. Both venues are suitable for use as a polling station and, given that the venues share parking arrangements, it is suggested that the Irene Usher Hall be retained, but with the Community Centre approved as an alternative should the Irene Usher Hall be unavailable.

5. CONCLUSIONS

The polling arrangements for Devizes, Roundway and Marlborough will require further consideration given the number of alternative venues that have been suggested. The Returning Officer is content to accept the suggestions arising from the consultation for Everleigh and Seend but recommends that fall back arrangements be approved.

6. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

1. The schedule of polling places and polling stations at Appendix A be approved for publication in accordance with the statutory requirements.
2. The rationalisation of the polling districts for Roundway into a geographic north/south split, with the A342 as the boundary between the polling districts, be approved to take effect on 1st December 2008.
3. A further report on the polling arrangements for Devizes, Marlborough and Roundway be submitted to the April meeting of the Council for consideration.

Background Papers: None.

APPENDIX A**SCHEDULE OF RECOMMENDED POLLING ARRANGEMENTS**

Parliamentary Polling District	Polling Place
SA1 – Aldbourne	Aldbourn Methodist Church
SB1 – All Cannings	All Cannings Village Hall
SC1 – Alton	Coronation Hall, Alton Barnes
SD1 – Avebury	Avebury Social Centre, High Street, Avebury
SE1 – Baydon	Baydon Young Peoples Hall
SF1 – Beechingstoke	Parish Rooms, Woodborough
SG1 – Bishops Cannings	Bishops Cannings Village Hall
SG2 – Bishops Cannings (Cannings Hill Ward)	Bishops Cannings Village Hall
SJ1 – Broad Hinton	Broad Hinton Village Hall
SK1 – Bromham	Bromham Social Centre
SL1 – Burbage	All Saints Church Hall, Burbage
SN1 – Cheverell Magna	Great Cheverell Community Hall
SO1 – Cheverell Parva	Great Cheverell Village Hall
TA1 – Chilton Foliat	Chilton Foliat Village Hall
TB1 – Chirton	Chirton Village Hall
TD1 – Chute	Chute Standen Village Hall
TD2 – Chute Forest	Chute Standen Village Hall
TE1 – Collingbourne Ducis	Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall
TF1 – Collingbourne Kingston	Collingbourne Kingston Village Hall
UA1 – Devizes East Ward 1	The Nursteed Centre, Nursteed Road
UB1 – Devizes East Ward 2	The Nursteed Centre, Nursteed Road
UC1 – Devizes North 1	St Peters School, Bath Road, Devizes
UD1 – Devizes North 2	The Cheese Hall, Devizes Town Hall
UE1 – Devizes South 1	The Cheese Hall, Devizes Town Hall
UE2 – Devizes South 2	The Cheese Hall, Devizes Town Hall
VA1 – Easterton	Easterton Village Hall
VB1 – Easton Royal	Easton Royal Village Hall
VC1 – Enford (South)	Enford Village Hall
VC2 – Enford (North)	Enford Village Hall
VD1 – Erlestoke	Erlestoke Village Hall
VE1 – Etchilhampton	Etchilhampton Village Hall
VE2 – Stert	Urchfont Village Hall
VF1 – Everleigh	The Crown Hotel, Everleigh or Collingbourne Ducis Village Hall
VG1 – Fittleton	Phoenix Hall, Netheravon
VH1 – Froxfield	Froxfield Village Hall
VI1 – Grafton (South)	East Grafton Coronation Hall
VI2 – Grafton (North)	East Grafton Coronation Hall
VJ1 – Great Bedwyn	Bedwyn Memorial Hall
WA1 – Ham	Ham Village Hall

WA2 – Buttermere	Ham Village Hall
WH1 – Little Bedwyn	Bedwyn Memorial Hall
WI1 – Ludgershall (North Ward)	Ludgershall Memorial Hall
WI2 – Ludgershall (South Ward)	Ludgershall Memorial Hall
WJ1 – Manningford	Manningford Memorial Hall
WK1 – Marden	Marden Village Hall
WL1 – Market Lavington	Market Lavington Village Hall
WM1 – Marlborough West 1	Marlborough Leisure Centre
WN1 – Marlborough East 1	St Margarets Mead Youth Centre
WN2 – Marlborough East 2	St Margarets Mead Youth Centre
WN3 – Marlborough West 2	Marlborough Leisure Centre
WO1 – Marston	Worton & Marston Village Hall
WP1 – Mildenhall	Mildenhall Village Hall
WQ1 – Milton Lilbourne	Milton Lilbourne Village Hall
XA1 – Netheravon	Phoenix Hall, Netheravon
XB1 – North Newnton	Parish Room, Hilcot
XB2 – Patney	Chirton Village Hall
XC1 – Tidworth East Ward	Tidworth Community Centre
XC2 – Tidworth West Ward	Tidworth Community Centre
XC3 – Tidworth Perham Down Ward	Tidworth Community Centre
XD1 – Ogbourne St Andrew	Ogbourne St George Village Hall
XE1 – Ogbourne St George	Ogbourne St George Village Hall
XF1 – Pewsey (North Ward)	Bouverie Hall, Pewsey
XF2 – Pewsey (South Ward)	Bouverie Hall, Pewsey
XG1 – Potterne	Potterne Village Hall
XH1 – Poulshot	Poulshot Village Hall
XI1 – Preshute	Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge
XJ1 – Ramsbury	Ramsbury Memorial Hall
XK1 – Ramsbury (Axford)	Ramsbury Memorial Hall
XL1 – Roundway 1	Army Cadet Centre, Le Marchant Barracks
XL2 – Roundway 2	Army Cadet Centre. Le Marchant Barracks
XM1 – Rowde	Rowde Village Hall
XN1 – Rushall	Rushall Village Hall
XN2 – Charlton	Rushall Village Hall
YA1 – Savernake	St Margarets Mead Youth Centre
YB1 – Seend	Irene Usher Hall or Seend Community Hall
YC1 – Shalbourne (Oxenwood)	Shalbourne Village Hall
YC2 – Tidcombe & Fosbury	Shalbourne Village Hall
YD1 – Shalbourne	Shalbourne Village Hall
YG1 – Stanton St Bernard	Stanton St Bernard Village Hall
YO1 – Upavon	Upavon Village Hall
YP1 – Urchfont	Urchfont Village Hall
ZC1 – West Lavington	West Lavington Village Hall
ZD1 – West Overton	Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge
ZD2 – East Kennett	Avebury Social Centre

ZD3 – Fyfield	Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge
ZE1 – Wilcot (Oare)	Oare Village Hall
ZE2 – Huish	Oare Village Hall
ZF1 – Wilcot	Oare Village Hall
ZG1 – Wilsford	Rushall Village Hall
ZH1 – Winterbourne Bassett	Broad Hinton Village Hall
ZI1 – Winterbourne Monkton	Avebury Social Centre
ZI2 – Berwick Bassett	Avebury Social Centre
ZJ1 – Woodborough	Woodborough Parish Rooms
ZK1 – Wootton Rivers	Wootton Rivers Village Hall
ZL1 – Worton	Worton & Marston Village Hall