

POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES COMMENTS LOG

DATE	INDIVIDUAL / ORGANISATION	COMMENTS SUBMITTED	ACTIONS TAKEN / ERO COMMENTS / REPLY
02/10/2023	Councillor Adam Brook	<p>As you may already know, my Charity (Grangetown Generations) is based at Grangetown Library in half the building, however, we are due to take a lease on the full building from April,</p> <p>And we are also in the process of taking on a full lease for Birkdale Community Centre in Eston</p> <p>Both buildings are currently polling stations, and I am happy for them to remain so, however I would appreciate if any new agreement / conditions are agreed with Grangetown Generations for these sites, to ensure no future issues arise</p>	<p><u>ERO Comment</u> Happy to continue using the venues mentions.</p> <p><u>ERO reply</u> Thank you for your comments provided as part of the Polling District and Polling Places Consultation 2023 relating to the use of Grangetown Library and Birkdale Community Centre as polling venues.</p> <p>I am pleased that you are happy for both venues to continue to be used as polling stations and can confirm our records have been updated to reflect the booking arrangements with Grangetown Generations.</p>
02/10/2023	Rowan McLaughlin	<p>The polling districts in Saltburn are ok at present. Although ideally there would be a polling office nearer the Wilton bank Larkfields end of town rather than two in the cricket club, but not sure what location would be suitable.</p>	<p><u>ERO Comment</u> As no suitable alternative venue has been identified, the current polling venue will continue to be used for these residents.</p> <p><u>ERO reply</u> Thank you for the comments you have submitted as part of the Polling District and Polling Places Consultation 2023 relating to polling stations in the Saltburn Ward.</p> <p>We have taken on board your comments regarding the Wilton Bank and Larkfields development area of the town, however at this time are unable to locate a venue suitable for use as a polling place in that</p>

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			<p>area. These electors will continue to attend the polling venue they are familiar with.</p>
02/10/2023	Paul Baker	<p>Methodist church is for sale, maybe the community theatre might be an option</p>	<p><u>ERO Comment</u> Conversations have taken place with the responsible parties who have confirmed that the venue will still be available for use as a polling place going forwards.</p> <p><u>ERO reply</u> Thank you for your comments relating to the position surrounding Milton Street Methodist Church, Saltburn, which you submitted as part of the Polling District and Polling Places Review Consultation.</p> <p>I can confirm that we have had conversations with relevant parties surrounding the sale of the church. The conclusion of these conversations are that the venue will still be available for use as a polling place.</p> <p>I can also confirm that a visit to the theatre has been undertaken to see whether that venue would be suitable for use. The outcome is that the theatre would be suitable for use as a polling venue, should the need arise, however as it is situated outside of the polling district, at this time it will not be designated as a replacement.</p>
05/10/2023	Councillor Stuart Smith	<p>In relation to the polling station my only concern is the Methodist Church, Milton Street with it been sold recently. Fine if the new owner will allow use of the lobby area that we usually use at elections, but if it was going to move to the nonchurch side, access will really have to come in</p>	<p><u>ERO Comment</u> Conversations have taken place with the responsible parties, who have confirmed that the venue will still be available for use as a polling place going forwards.</p>

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		<p>from the Emerald Street side entrance with appropriate signage on Milton Street directing voters to that side</p>	<p><u>ERO reply</u> Thank you for your comments relating to Milton Street Methodist Church, Saltburn which were submitted as part of the Polling District and Polling Places Consultation.</p> <p>I can confirm that we have had conversations with relevant parties surrounding the sale of the church. The conclusion of these conversations are that the venue will still be available for use as a polling place.</p>
05/10/2023	Councillor Kendra Evans	<p>With reference to the requested feedback regarding the above: St. Germain's Ward has two polling stations. One of them - Marske Centre - is fully accessible to people with mobility issues. However, the other location at the Methodist Church is not. It offers a wheelchair accessible entrance; however, it is narrow and does not facilitate flat access despite the offer of ramps. The location itself is ideal but requires some minor adjustments to ensure it is fully compliant</p>	<p><u>ERO Comment</u> Conversations have taken place with contacts at the Methodist Church. An alternative entrance into the venue, which is more accessible has been identified and will be trialed at the next elections.</p> <p><u>ERO reply</u> Thank you for your comments relating to polling venues in the St Germain's Ward which were submitted as part of the Polling District and Polling Places Consultation.</p> <p>I am pleased to hear that Marske Leisure Centre is fully accessible and can confirm that we will continue to use that venue.</p> <p>In relation to the Methodist Church, we have had discussions with the booking officer/key holder to see what arrangements can be made to ensure accessibility for all. As part of this, we have identified an alternative entrance point which is wider and would allow for better access, this venue will be</p>

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			retained for use with the alternative entrance trialed at the next elections.
16/10/2023	Councillor Carrie Richardson	I do not agree that the Westmorland should be used as a polling station. It is let by a candidate who will stand again in the next election and would not be a neutral place to vote. Please can this be removed from the list?	<p><u>ERO comments</u> We cannot preempt candidacy for any future elections. The venue is run by a not-for-profit Community Association. Other venues used as polling places have links to current or previous elected members/canvassers. This venue will be designated for use as a polling place.</p> <p><u>ERO reply</u> Thank you for your comments relating to the use of Westmorland Community Centre as a polling venue, which were submitted as part of the Polling District and Polling Places Consultation.</p> <p>Whilst you mention that 'a candidate' lets the venue, this in itself would not prevent us from using this as a polling venue. We are unable to preempt candidacy for future elections, however we do have other polling venues across the borough for which the lease holder, booking agent, key holder or caretaker is either a serving elected member or a previous candidate or elected member.</p> <p>This venue has previously been used successfully as a polling venue, therefore the Electoral Registration Officer has decided that this venue is a suitable location and it has been designated for future use.</p>

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18/10/2023	Skelton and Brotton Parish Council	Just to let you know that Skelton and Brotton Parish Council discussed the review at the Parish Council meeting on Monday 16 October 2023, and are happy with the stations in the Skelton and Brotton area.	<p><u>ERO reply</u> Thank you for the comments you submitted as part of the Polling District and Polling Places Consultation.</p> <p>I am pleased to hear that you are happy with the station arrangements in the Skelton and Brotton area and I can confirm that these stations have been retained.</p>
19/10/2023	Guisborough Town Council	Members noted your correspondence at the full Town Council meeting held on Thursday 19th October 2023.	<p><u>ERO reply</u> Thank you for your response to the recent review of Polling Districts and Polling Places. The process is drawing to an end and the outcome of the consultation will be published later this week.</p>
20/10/2023	Alison Atkinson (Loftus Resident)	<p>I have viewed the list of proposed polling stations, and am responding regarding BTNCM; BTNDM; LFSAM; LFSBM; LFSCM; and LFSDM as I am familiar with all the buildings Carlin How Jubilee Hall; Skinningrove Village Hall; Luke Senior Hall; Loftus Town Hall; Liverton Mines Village Hall and Easington Village Hall.</p> <p>I consider all these buildings to be suitable for continued use as Polling Stations, and that each has adequate access for wheelchairs etc into and through the building. I would however point out that none of them has accessible parking nearby, and this may cause issues with less mobile members of the community. Should any of the venues become unavailable, it would be worth considering the Family Hub at Duncan Place Loftus once the work on it and Coronation Park is complete (car parking nearby and level access, though this would depend on availability of rooms) and St Helen's Church community space (again, car parking nearby and level access).</p>	<p><u>ERO reply</u> Thank you for the comments you submitted in relation to the Polling District and Polling Places Review 2023.</p> <p>I am pleased to hear that you consider all of the proposed buildings as suitable for use as polling stations. We have taken on board the comments you have raised regarding accessible parking and can confirm that consideration of this has formed part of our assessment when considering suitability of Polling Venues. A decision has been made to retain the stations proposed on the basis that these are stations the electorate are familiar with.</p> <p>Thank you for your suggested alternative locations should one of the polling venues become unavailable or unsuitable for use.</p>