

Notes from internal meeting 22 November 2018 regarding the consultation for Waveney District Council's review of all Parliamentary polling districts and polling places

Present: Cllrs Neil Coleby, Peter Collecott, Amanda Frost, Ian Graham, Graham Parker and Alice Taylor

LTC Officers Shona Bendix and Lauren Elliott

The schedule of current Polling Districts and Polling Places for 2018 was available at the meeting. Each of the Polling Places was discussed in turn.

20 – Carlton East and West (Uplands Community Centre) – The current location offers good facilities and disabled access and it was agreed the Uplands Community Centre should remain as the Polling Place for Carlton East and West.

27 – Gunton (Gunton St Benedicts Church Hall) – The current location serves well as a Polling Place and it was agreed that Gunton St Benedicts Church Hall should remain as the Polling Place for Gunton.

28 – Harbour Centre (Beresford Road Evangelical Church) – Limited parking available but Councillors expressed concern regarding disabled access due to the lip of the doorframe at the entrance to the Church.

29 – Harbour North (Dance Studio, Water Lane Leisure Centre) – Councillors expressed concern that this site is on the edge of the Polling District and not the middle, but appreciated that alternative options are limited.

30 – Harbour South (Stella Maris Hall) – Councillors were in agreement that the Polling Place for Harbour South should be relocated from Stella Maris Hall to St Andrews Church Hall, Roman Road, Lowestoft, as it has a more central location in the Harbour South Polling District (St Andrews Church Hall is the current Polling Place for Normanston South).

33 – Kirkley North (Salvation Army Church and Community Centre) – Councillors were in agreement that the Polling Place for Kirkley North should be relocated from the Salvation Army Church and Community Centre to the Kirkley Centre, 154 London Road South, Lowestoft, as it has a more central location in the Kirkley North Polling District.

34 – Kirkley South (St Peters Church Hall) – Councillors expressed concern that St Peters Church Hall can be difficult to locate and it can be difficult to park nearby. Some alternative locations were suggested but each had other potential issues attached. It was agreed that the Polling Place for Kirkley South should remain as St Peters Church Hall.

39 – Normanston North (Scout Hall, Rotterdam Road) – The current location serves well as a Polling Place and it was agreed that the Scout Hall should remain as the Polling Place for Normanston North.

40 – Normanston South (St Andrews Church Hall) – This is the site Councillors agreed should become the new Polling Place for the Harbour South Polling District. It was agreed that this should remain the Polling Place for Normanston South.

42 – St Margarets West (Oulton Community Centre) – This site is outside of the St Margarets West Polling District but provides easy accessibility in comparison to other potential sites. It was agreed that Oulton Community Centre should remain as the Polling Place for St Margarets West.

46 – Pakefield East (Scout Hall, Kendal Road) – The current site has no private parking but there does not seem to be any other suitable alternative sites nearby.

47 – Pakefield North (Walmer Road Recreational Building) – There seemed to be no issues with this site as a Polling Place and it was therefore agreed that it should remain so.

48 – Pakefield South (Seventh Day Adventist Church) - There seemed to be no issues with this site as a Polling Place and it was therefore agreed that it should remain so.

Tom Crisp (St Lukes Church Centre) – This is also the Polling Place for Whitton Centre and South and this was a concern to Councillors and this location did not seem the easiest to reach for the majority of residents in the Tom Crisp Polling District. Alternative locations were suggested and Councillors would like due consideration to be given to the Fire Station on Stradbroke Road due to the unique circumstances of the area.

49 – St Margarets Centre (Benjamin Britten Academy) – It was agreed there were no issues with the current site and it should remain as the Polling Place for St Margarets Centre.

50 – St Margarets East (Gunton Residents Meeting Hall) - It was agreed there were no issues with the current site and it should remain as the Polling Place for St Margarets East.

63 and 64 – Whitton Centre and South (St Lukes Church Centre) - It was agreed there were no issues with the current site and it should remain as the Polling Place for Whitton Centre and South.

65 – Whitton East (Whitton Community Hall) - It was agreed there were no issues with the current site and it should remain as the Polling Place for Whitton East.

This response will be considered by Full Council at the meeting on 27 November.