

NORTH SHROPSHIRE PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY

RYTON AND BASCHURCH DIVISION

Polling District		Existing Polling Place	Proposed Polling Place	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
NKA	Baschurch (Baschurch Ward)	Millington Close Community Room	Baschurch Village Hall	1774	1

Submissions:

Baschurch Parish Council: In support of the change of venue.

Councillor Bardsley (Unitary Member for Ruyton and Baschurch): In support of the change of venue.

Sight Loss Shropshire: No issues reported about specific polling district or polling place.

Financial Impact:

There would be no additional staff costs incurred and a reduction in venue hire charges of £70.50 based on 2021 charges.

Returning Officer's Proposal:

The existing polling place is considered to be unsuitable for future elections due to concerns over the health and wellbeing of vulnerable residents on site following the Covid-19 pandemic. It is considered necessary to identify and relocate to a more appropriate venue within the locality going forward.

The proposed venue is deemed suitable for all electors to access and considered appropriate for use as a polling place/polling station going forward.

The Returning Officer is in support of the proposals to designate Baschurch Village Hall as the polling place for NKA Baschurch (Baschurch Ward).

Recommendation:

Baschurch Village Hall replace Millington Close Community Rooms as the polling place for NKA Baschurch (Baschurch Ward).

SHREWSBURY AND ATCHAM PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY

BAGLEY DIVISION

Polling District		Existing Polling Place	Proposed Polling Place	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
SBB	Shrewsbury (Bagley Ward) (part of)	Riversway Elim Church	Emmanuel Church	1272	1

Submissions:

Councillor Burchett (Unitary Member for Bagley): Fully support the proposed changes for the Bagley and Harlescott divisions.

Shrewsbury Town Council: In support of the change of venue.

Sight Loss Shropshire: No issues reported about specific polling district or polling place.

Financial Impact:

No additional financial impact.

Returning Officer's Proposal:

The existing polling place is suitable for all electors to access, however, due to the location within the polling district it is considered more appropriate to allocate the existing polling place to Shrewsbury (Harlescott Ward) (part of).

The proposed polling place is suitable for all electors to access, however, due to the location within the polling district it is considered more appropriate to allocate the proposed polling place to Shrewsbury (Bagley Ward) (part of).

The Returning Officer is in support of the proposals to designate Emmanuel Church as the polling place for SBB - Shrewsbury (Bagley Ward) (part of).

Recommendation:

Emmanuel Church replace Riversway Elim Church as the polling place for SBB Shrewsbury (Bagley Ward) (part of).

HARLESCOTT DIVISION

Polling District		Existing Polling Place	Proposed Polling Place	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
SJA	Shrewsbury (Harlescott Ward) (part of)	Emmanuel Church	Riversway Elim Church	2406	2

Submissions:

Councillor Burchett (Unitary Member for Bagley): Fully support the proposed changes for the Bagley and Harlescott divisions.

Shrewsbury Town Council: In support of change of venue.

Sight Loss Shropshire: No issues reported about specific polling district or polling place.

Financial Impact:

No additional financial impact.

Returning Officer's Proposal:

The existing polling place is suitable for all electors to access, however, due to the location within the polling district, it is considered more appropriate to allocate the existing polling place to Shrewsbury (Bagley Ward) (part of).

The proposed polling place is suitable for all electors to access, however, due to the location within the polling district it is considered more appropriate to allocate the proposed polling place to Shrewsbury (Harlescott Ward) (part of).

The Returning Officer is in support of the proposals to designate Riversway Elim Church as the polling place for SJA - Shrewsbury (Harlescott Ward) (part of).

Recommendation:

Riversway Elim Church replace Emmanuel Church as the polling place for SJA Shrewsbury (Harlescott Ward) (part of).

COPTHORNE DIVISION

Polling District		Existing Polling Place	Proposed Polling Place	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
SIA	Shrewsbury (Copthorne Ward) (part of)	Woodfield Infants School	Army Reserve Centre	968	2

Submissions:

Shrewsbury Town Council: In support of change of venue.

Councillor Wilson (Unitary Member for Copthorne): In support of change of venue as this would remove any negative impact on the children and parents who attend Woodfield School.

Councillor Dean (Unitary Member for Porthill): Welcome the change of venue as this would be less disruptive to the school and provides a more suitable venue for people who have to use a vehicle to attend a polling station.

Sight Loss Shropshire: No issues reported about specific polling district or polling place.

Financial Impact:

There would be an increase of £807 for venue hire and additional staffing to monitor the car parking area due to site security requirements. This cost would be split between Copthorne and Porthill Wards.

Returning Officer's Proposal:

The existing polling place is considered suitable as a venue, however, as the school is required to close when being used as a polling place, this causing significant issues for the school, parents and children, and a review of alternative venues was considered necessary.

The proposed polling place is accessible to all electors and considered an appropriate venue for future elections.

The Returning Officer is in support of the proposals to designate the Army Reserve Centre as the polling place for SIA - Shrewsbury (Copthorne Ward) (part of).

Recommendation:

Army Reserve Centre replace Woodfield Infants School as the polling place for SIA Shrewsbury (Copthorne Ward) (part of).

PORTHILL DIVISION

Polling District		Existing Polling Place	Proposed Polling Place	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
SPB	Shrewsbury (Porthill Ward) (part of)	Woodfield Infants School	Army Reserve Centre	1725	2

Submissions:

Shrewsbury Town Council: In support of change of venue.

Councillor Wilson (Unitary Member for Copthorne): In support of change of venue as this would remove any negative impact on the children and parents who attend Woodfield School.

Councillor Dean (Unitary Member for Porthill): Welcome the change of venue as this would be less disruptive to the school and provides a more suitable venue for people who have to use a vehicle to attend a polling station.

Sight Loss Shropshire: No issues reported about specific polling district or polling place.

Financial Impact:

There would be increase costs of £807 for venue hire and additional staffing to monitor the car parking area due to site security requirements. This cost would be split between Copthorne and Porthill Wards.

Returning Officer's Proposal:

The existing polling place is considered suitable as a venue, however, as the school is required to close when being used as a polling place, this causing significant issues for the school, parents and children, and a review of alternative venues was considered necessary.

The proposed polling place is accessible to all electors and considered an appropriate venue for future elections.

The Returning Officer is in support of the proposals to designate the Army Reserve Centre as the polling place for SPB - Shrewsbury (Porthill Ward) (part of).

Recommendation:

Army Reserve Centre replace Woodfield Infants School as the polling place for SPB Shrewsbury (Porthill Ward) (part of).

LUDLOW PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY

CHURCH STRETTON AND CRAVEN ARMS DIVISION

Polling District		Existing Polling Place	Proposed Polling Place	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
LHA	Church Stretton (All Stretton Ward)	Silvester Home Institute	All Stretton Village Hall	399	2

Submissions:

Councillor Luff and Councillor Evans (Unitary Members for Church Stretton & Craven Arms): We don't feel a polling station in All Stretton is needed. All Stretton Village Society do not have a budget for elections, and we should not be creating extra expense to the Councils when money is tight. There are also issues with identifying experienced staff at polling stations across Shropshire, and in particular in more rural areas. The present system works well as it is and therefore, we are not in support of the proposed change.

Local Resident (Caroline Crump): I am writing in support of All Stretton Village Society's application to have its own polling station. This would be of huge benefit to the elderly and less mobile residents of the village.

Sight Loss Shropshire: No issues reported about specific polling district or polling place.

Church Stretton Town Council: In response to the Returning Officers proposals, the Town Council have resolved to support All Stretton Village Hall being used as a polling place for Church Stretton (All Stretton Ward) electors.

Councillor Munro, Mayor, Church Stretton Town Council: In response to the Returning Officers proposals, the Mayor supports the option to move polling district LHA - Church Stretton (All Stretton Ward) to All Stretton Village Hall.

Financial Impact:

There would be a minimum increase in costs of £559 for venue hire and additional staffing.

Returning Officer's Proposal:

The existing polling place is considered suitable and will continue to be used as a venue for remaining polling districts within the Church Stretton Area. Although the venue is outside the polling district boundary, the affected area is a relatively short distance from the existing polling place and has a regular bus service.

The proposed venue is considered suitable to use as a polling place for future elections. The addition of this provision would see increased election costs to the Unitary and Town Council, and it may impact on limited staff availability within rural areas.

The Returning Officer's proposal originally supported no change to the polling provision for Church Stretton (All Stretton Ward).

Following further submissions received in response to the Returning Officer's proposals, it is considered that greater weight should be given to the 'protected characteristics' of the age demographic in the area and formal support of the proposals from Church Stretton Town Council, and Councillor Munro, Mayor of Church Stretton Town Council.

On balance the Returning Officer is in support of the proposals to designate All Stretton Village Hall as the polling place for LHA – Church Stretton (All Stretton Ward).

Recommendation:

All Stretton Village Hall replace Silvester Horne Institute as the polling place for LHA Church Stretton (All Stretton Ward).