

RECEIVED  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
06 JAN 2011

Words

1st Jan 2011

Dear Sirs

We have had news that you are closing the Polling Station on the Walshees and that we have to go to Arley Kings to vote.

We think the Polling Station on the Walshees should be retained.

Many people who live there are elderly and would not be able to get to vote.

Other people would just not bother to go as it is out of their way.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted signature]

**Penelope Williams - Re: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in Wyre Forest**

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**From:** John Thomas  
**To:** Penelope Williams  
**Date:** 1/4/2011 11:32  
**Subject:** Re: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in Wyre Forest

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Penny

Ref Response-Polling Station Arrangements Areley Kings

I note the proposals for one combined polling station in Areley Kings in the Village Hall. However I do feel that should the Walshes Community Centre or if this is closed, alternative arrangement for this area are not made( ie a portable unit ) then due to the demographics of the area we shall see a reduced turnout of voters from this part of the Areley Kings ward which would be bad for local democracy.  
I would urge the returning officer to look again at these proposals and reconsider using the Community Centre or a suitable alternative along with the Village Hall. Otherwise I have no problems with the new proposals.

Regards  
Clr John Thomas  
Areley Kings

>>> Penelope Williams 11/08/10 5:55 PM >>>  
Dear All

Please find attached the consultation document on the review of polling districts and polling places in Wyre Forest. Comments on the documents are sought by 5pm on Wednesday **5th January** and a copy of this document will be available on the website tomorrow. Should you have any comments or questions regarding the attached please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Penny

Penny Williams  
Democratic Services Manager  
Wyre Forest District Council  
New Street Kidderminster  
DY13 8UJ

Direct Line: 01562 732728  
Fax 01299 879688

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Democratic Services Manager  
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DY13 8UJ

Direct Line: 01562 732728  
Fax 01299 879688

Penny Williams  
Democratic Services Manager  
Penny Williams  
Democratic Services Manager  
Wyre Forest District Council  
New Street Kidderminster  
DY13 8UJ


## Penelope Williams - Fwd: RE: Polling Station Review

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**From:** Stella Fleming  
**To:** Penelope Williams  
**Date:** 1/4/2011 08:59  
**Subject:** Fwd: RE: Polling Station Review

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Stella Fleming  
Electoral Services Officer  
Wyre Forest District Council  
01562 732739  
[stella.fleming@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:stella.fleming@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)

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>>> Dixon Sheppard <dixonsheppard@hotmail.com> 20 December 2010 16:08 >>>  
Hi Stella

### Transformation Board -Proposed Changes to Polling Stations

Many thanks for your email. As a Stourport Councillor, I will restrict my comments to Lickhill, Mitton and Areley Kings Wards.

#### Lickhill

LI A-Scout Headquarters- Lickhill Road North- I am totally against this Polling Station being closed. This is well used and adequate parking is available in the road opposite. Many voters however walk to this site. The alternative Lickhill Community Centre would be a good 20 minutes walk each way and is **0.7 miles** away and not 0.1 Miles as stated in the document.

#### Mitton

MI/B-Old Rose and Crown- The porta cabin should be retained. If you have voting taking place in the pub itself, it would probably mean the closure of it for the day, resulting in the loss of a public amenity for the day and compensation to the Landlord.

MI/D- Stourport Primary School-Tan Lane- This is a well used Polling Station with voters coming from the far end of Lickhill Lodge, with 450 houses. I am totally against this Polling Station being closed, as the alternative, St Wulstans is not suitable. Many voters attending on foot would have to cross 3 lanes of traffic in busy Vale Rd which is already a pedestrian hazard, with no proper pedestrian crossings. Car access to St Wulstans Hall is also far from ideal and is likely to cause further problems to traffic in Vale Rd. I appreciate that the current school in Tan Lane is due to close and is to be replaced by the new school on the former Middle School Site. This should be the new Polling Station from late 2011, early 2012.

One further comment- The other nonsense for Mitton voters living on Lickhill Lodge is that there is the Polling Station at Lickhill Community Centre which is less than 100 metres from many homes, but this is used by Lickhill voters and **not Mitton voters!!!**

#### Areley Kings

AK/B- Walshes Community Centre- I understand that this Community Centre is now unlikely to close in the near future and it is unreasonable to ask Walshes voters to walk up to 3/4 mile to Areley Kings Village Hall.

This Polling Station should remain open for the time being and if it were to close a Portakabin used for polling.

I hope that my comments will be found to be constructive.

Kindest regards

**Dixon**

Clr Dixon Sheppard  
Lickhill Ward

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Date: Mon, 20 Dec 2010 12:14:31 +0000  
From: Stella.Fleming@wyreforestdc.gov.uk  
Subject: Polling Station Review  
To: dixonshppard@hotmail.com

as requested

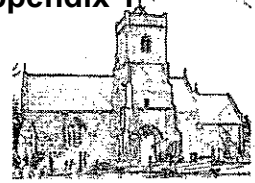
Stella

Stella Fleming  
Electoral Services Officer  
Wyre Forest District Council  
01562 732739  
[stella.fleming@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:stella.fleming@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)



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Revd. Mark Turner B.Th. (Hons)  
Rector of St. Bartholomew's Church (Church of England)  
Areley Kings  
Stourport-on-Severn



St. Bart's Rectory  
14 Dunley Road  
Areley Kings  
Stourport-on-Severn  
Worcestershire  
DY13 0AX  
Tel: 01299 829557  
Fax: 01299 829557  
E-Mail [revmturner@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:revmturner@tiscali.co.uk)  
Thursday, January 13, 2011

To Wyre Forest District Council,

I am writing both as Rector of the parish of Areley Kings and Chair of the Walshes Community Partnership.

I note that there is a proposal to change the polling stations in Areley Kings Ward, from the three present to one at the Village Hall. In my view this will lead to a significant section of our community finding it difficult to vote, or may indeed lead to them not bothering to vote. I speak of course of those who presently use the Walshes Community Centre. Although you would argue that they will continue to have the right to vote at the village hall, to many I am sure it will feel like disenfranchisement. The strength of local councils surely should be the way they can relate to local people and issues with understanding of community dynamics and the needs of certain sections of the community like the elderly and infirm. By taking away this facility it could well be interpreted as a lack of understanding of the local community and its particular dynamic as being a distinct part of the wider community of Areley Kings.

I have no party political axe to grind here; I speak as the Parish Priest who has to have equal concern for all the different people of the widely mixed and dynamic community. Also the Walshes Community Partnership is working towards a plan for the retention of the Walshes Community Centre or at least some Community facility within any proposed redevelopment of the site (we would prefer to retain the Centre). Therefore to pre-empt the decision to close the Centre by taking away the polling station facility for the Walshes is wrong, and will indeed weaken the argument for retaining the Centre.

I therefore ask that you review this decision and instead of taking away an important facility for the people of the Walshes Estate you affirm the people of this community by retaining both a polling station on the Walshes and dare I ask by supporting the Walshes Community Partnership in it's campaign to retain the Community Centre.

Yours sincerely,

Rev. Mark Turner


H/A/A1, A2

**Penelope Williams - Fwd: Review of Polling Places**

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**From:** Wyre Forest Electoral  
**To:** Penelope Williams; Stella Fleming  
**Date:** 1/4/2011 09:32  
**Subject:** Fwd: Review of Polling Places

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>> 

I would like to suggest that an alternative polling station to St Johns Primary School may be the changing rooms on Habberley playing fields (in front of the Baxter College site). Access and parking would be considerably improved, and there would be no need for a school closure.

Regards,




BUB/34C


**Penelope Williams - Fwd: Proposed closure of Polling Stations at Broome and Churchill**

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**From:** Wyre Forest Electoral  
**To:** Penelope Williams; Stella Fleming  
**Date:** 12/13/2010 10:19  
**Subject:** Fwd: Proposed closure of Polling Stations at Broome and Churchill

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I feel that should you decide to go ahead with the above closures it could result in more people not making the effort to vote. Not all parishioners have access to a car but could still manage the walk to their current Polling Stations. Walking to Blakedown however, would be out of the question for the elderly or parents with very young children. Public transport does not address this problem, in particular in the parish of Broome.

I'm sure you would want to point out the availability of the Postal Vote, but this too is open to question. Particularly in view of the problems which came to light during the last General Election.


Yours Sincerely  




## Penelope Williams - Fwd: Polling Station Review

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**From:** Wyre Forest Electoral  
**To:** Penelope Williams; Stella Fleming  
**Date:** 1/4/2011 09:31  
**Subject:** Fwd: Polling Station Review

---

 Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

>>>   
Further to the proposals concerning polling stations I am an elector in Areley Kings Ward. Whilst the Village Hall is an ideal polling venue it is neither accessible or convenient to residents of the Walshes Estate, and in my view will further reduce the numbers of votes cast - an ongoing problem.  





## Penelope Williams - Fwd: New Voting Arrangements Proposal

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**From:** Wyre Forest Electoral  
**To:** Penelope Williams; Stella Fleming  
**Date:** 1/4/2011 09:31  
**Subject:** Fwd: New Voting Arrangements Proposal

---

 Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

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Dear Sirs,

I have been made aware of the proposal to close the various polling stations in Areley Kings and the Walshes Estate.

While I have no objection to closing the various sites in Areley Kings in favour of using one site at Areley Kings Village Hall I totally disagree with closing the polling station on the Walshes Estate. This hall covers the entire estate and I feel that if it were closed the number of people casting their vote would be greatly reduced as they would not be prepared to travel that little bit further to exercise their right to vote.


Surely the turnouts are poor enough at this moment in time and we should be encouraging people to vote and not to discourage them. There has been a good deal of speculation regarding the closure of the Tennants Hall in recent times and if this does happen perhaps the council should think about putting a temporary polling station on an alternative site for the Walshes Estate residents.


I would ask you to give this matter some serious consideration before making your final decision.

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**Penelope Williams - Fwd: Polling stations**

**From:** Wyre Forest Electoral  
**To:** Penelope Williams; Stella Fleming  
**Date:** 1/4/2011 09:27  
**Subject:** Fwd: Polling stations

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>>> 

Good afternoon  
We live in Harvington and at the time we moved to the area we used to vote at The Oaks Community Hall, the last few times we've had to vote we have been sent to Chaddesley Corbett village hall. Although this isn't very far away it is not on either of our routes to work and isn't really on the way to anywhere after work so necessitates a special journey which isn't particular practical or sustainable Why was the polling station moved?  
Regards

Environmental Services  
Worcestershire County Council  
County Hall  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester WR5 2NP


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## Penelope Williams - Fwd: Trimpley Polling Station

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**From:** Wyre Forest Electoral  
**To:** Penelope Williams; Stella Fleming  
**Date:** 11/25/2010 12:26  
**Subject:** Fwd: Trimpley Polling Station

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 19 November 2010 09:23 >>>

Dear Sirs

If the polling station at Trimpley closes, this will be yet another facility lost to our community. The facilities at Trimpley Village Hall are very good, new toilet facilities it's school, post office and the church is in danger of closing. The Village Hall is the only community building available to the residents of Trimpley and as a result is regularly used and popular amongst the residents.

Trimpley Village Hall is very convenient to us and we do not wish to see the polling station moved because it is unlikely we would drive to Wribbenhall therefore we would change to a postal vote.



LSR/C 9 WR/D

From: [REDACTED]  
To: <penelope.williams@wyreforestdc.gov.uk>  
Date: 12/6/2010 9:47 pm  
Subject: Trimpley Polling Station (Kidderminster Foreign)

Dear Mrs Williams

I have lived in Trimpley all my life. i was born here and now at the age of 34 own my own house here in this time we have lost just about everything we had as a village.

1. Before i went to school we lost the Trimpley post office
2. Once at school we lost the Trimpley school, closing down and we all moved to Arley
3. We then lost the traveling shop
4. we then lost the traveling library
5. We then lost the public phone box
6. We lost our only pub
- 7 We are trying very hard to hold on to our village hall (this is also the polling station)
- 8 we pay for but don't get any street lighting
9. We pay for but dont get any parks
10. we get our bin collected twice a month
11. At present some parishioners walk or cycle to the polling station - they will not be likely to do this if they have to go to Wribbenhall. They will go by car, therefore using fuel and increasing CO2 emissions.
12. The extra distance [2.5 miles] will also use extra fuel and increase emissions, as parishioners will all have to travel the further distance to place their vote.
13. Many voters currently do so on their way to or from work. They are unlikely to do this if having to travel to Wribbenhall because of getting caught up in the traffic around that area, at those times of day. Once they have driven either to work or home, these people are unlikely to want to make a special journey out and will, therefore, not vote. What will be the effect of this on 'democracy' ?

I pay £251 per month for police, fire and my bin to be collected twice a month and now they want to take the polling station away too

i think you can see what i am getting at we over pay enough in Trimpley to cover the cost of a polling station


yours sincerely  
[REDACTED]

**Penelope Williams - Fwd: Review of Polling Stations**

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**From:** Wyre Forest Electoral  
**To:** Penelope Williams; Stella Fleming  
**Date:** 1/4/2011 09:28  
**Subject:** Fwd: Review of Polling Stations

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 Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

>>> [REDACTED] > 22 December 2010 19:34 >>>  
"Review of the Polling Districts and Polling Places in the District of Wyre Forest"

Having read the above document, we wish to inform you that we are strongly against the proposal to close the polling station at Trimpley Village Hall. There are several reasons for this and we list them below:

1. At present some parishioners [including ourselves] walk or cycle to the polling station - they will not be likely to do this if they have to go to Wribbenhall. They will have to go by car, therefore using fuel and increasing CO2 emissions, which is something we are all being encouraged to avoid.
2. Many voters currently call in to the Trimpley polling station on their way to or from work. They are unlikely to do this, if having to travel to Wribbenhall, because of getting caught up in the traffic around that area, at those times of day. Once they have driven either to work or home, these people are unlikely to make a special journey out and will, therefore, not vote. What will be the effect of this on 'democracy' ?
3. If Trimpley polling station is closed, all parishioners will have to travel the further distance to place their vote. The extra distance [2.5 miles] will use extra fuel and increase CO2 emissions.
4. The extra distance for our parishioners to travel is further than proposed for other areas.
5. Our parish has lost many services over the past years eg our rural post office, primary school, local pub, phone box, travelling shop. Is this yet another service under threat of being lost to the residents of this parish?
6. The Village Hall at Trimpley can ill afford to lose bookings, even if the use as our polling station is only every few years. Drawing residents of the parish to vote at the Village Hall is a way of advertising the facilities available at the Village Hall. If the polling station closes, the Village Hall will lose this important show-case opportunity.

[REDACTED]  
Greystones, Trimpley Green

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## STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN TOWN COUNCIL Appendix 1

DENNIS ROOK  
TOWN CLERK

TELEPHONE  
01299 877214  
email: townclerk@stourport-tc.gov.uk



Civic Centre,  
Stourport-on-Severn,  
Worcs.  
DY13 8UJ

21<sup>st</sup> December, 2010

YOUR REF.

OUR REF.

DR/LBC/TC.47SF

Mrs Stella A Fleming  
Electoral Services Officer  
Wyre Forest District Council  
Civic Centre  
Stourport-on-Severn  
Worcs. DY13 8UJ

Dear Mrs Fleming,

**Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places**

Thank you for your email on the 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2010, by way of Consultation with the Town Council on the above Review. Your Consultation was considered by the Town Council at its last Meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> November, and its comments as follows.

Members believed that the Review proposals concerning particularly the Areley Kings Wards would lead to a reduced turn-out at Elections, and so on that basis not conducive to the democratic process. It was further believed that the Walshes Community Centre (Tenants' Hall) should continue to be used as a Polling Station for so long as it remained and, after that time, that a temporary Polling Station should be located as possible to the site of the Centre/Hall at Linden Avenue.

Finally, Members would be interested to be informed of the strategy being used in the Review to select certain Polling Stations for closure, and the sort of savings financially which the District Council hopes might be achieved? Are you able to comment by way of response to this particular question from Town Council Members?

Thank you for consulting with the Town Council.

Yours sincerely,

pp Town Clerk

**Penelope Williams - Fwd: REVIEW OF POLLING STATIONS IN WYRE FOREST**

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**From:** Wyre Forest Electoral  
**To:** Penelope Williams  
**Date:** 12/8/2010 12:16  
**Subject:** Fwd: REVIEW OF POLLING STATIONS IN WYRE FOREST

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>>> "yvonne scriven" <yvonne.scriven@btinternet.com> 07 December 2010 16:31 >>>

Yvonne Scriven  
Clerk to Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council  
Telephone: 01299 851654

Dear Sirs

The Parish Council have considered your comments on proposed changes to polling stations, and agree with the suggestion that Rushock and Stone Parishes could use Chaddesley Corbett Village Hall as their Polling Station. Although less mobile people may find this inconvenient they could perhaps be encouraged to use a postal vote.

Yours faithfully

Yvonne Scriven

**Penelope Williams - Fwd: Review of Polling District and Polling Places In Wyre Forest**

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**From:** Wyre Forest Electoral  
**To:** Penelope Williams; Stella Fleming  
**Date:** 1/4/2011 09:28  
**Subject:** Fwd: Review of Polling District and Polling Places In Wyre Forest

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>>> "Bev Drew" <Bevw100@tiscali.co.uk> 29 December 2010 13:17 >>>  
Wolverley & Cookley Parish Council are happy with the proposal to move Cookley Polling Station to the new village hall and to retain Wolverley at the Memorial Hall.

Regards

Bev Drew  
Clerk to Wolverley & Cookley Parish Council  
01562 850435 / 07702 521072





**UPPER ARLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk: Mrs L J Johnson  
Fosters Cottage, Arley Lane  
Upper Arley  
Bewdley DY12 1XQ

Phone: 01299 861672  
Mobile: 07966 148222  
E-mail: arleyclerk@gmail.com  
www.Worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish

29<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Wyre Forest District Council  
Electoral Services Officer  
Civic Centre  
Stourport on Severn  
Worcestershire  
DY13 8UJ

Dear Sir/ Madam,

**Ref: Review of polling stations in Wyre Forest**

Following your recent letter relating to the above, and your proposal to discontinue the use of Arley Memorial Hall/ Sports and Social Club as a polling station, I wish to express the concerns voiced at the Parish Council meeting in Upper Arley on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

It would appear from your report that the main reason for ceasing to use the hall is because it only serves a small number of electors and is therefore considered not to be cost effective. The Parish Council would like to point out that there are quite a number of residents who will find it difficult to get to Shatterford and the bus service is limited. There are a considerable number of electors who can walk to Arley Memorial Hall and therefore reduce the risk of causing a nuisance and obstruction with parking whereas Shatterford Village Hall is more remote.

It has been remarked that Shatterford Village Hall has good access and parking, however, the parking is likely to become an issue if the number of electors increases should the memorial hall cease to be used, likewise, the same would apply if Arley Memorial Hall was to accommodate all the electors and it would therefore seem sensible to continue the use of both venues. It is also worth noting that disabled access to Arley Memorial Hall is possible via the Sports & Social Club entrance.

I look forward to your comments in due course.

Yours faithfully,

Lucy Johnson  
Clerk to Upper Arley Parish Council.

BL/G

**Penelope Williams - Fwd: Review of Polling Stations in Wyre Forest**

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**From:** Stella Fleming  
**To:** Penelope Williams  
**Date:** 12/6/2010 15:09  
**Subject:** Fwd: Review of Polling Stations in Wyre Forest  
**Attachments:** Polling Station consultation. Notice to residents 29.11.10..doc

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Stella Fleming  
Electoral Services Officer  
Wyre Forest District Council  
01562 732739  
[stella.fleming@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:stella.fleming@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)



Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

>>> Pauline Trimble <[rushclerk@btinternet.com](mailto:rushclerk@btinternet.com)> 01 December 2010 18:10 >>>  
Dear Stella

In response to the proposals on Polling Stations we received from you, we considered it at the meeting of Rushock Parish Council on 23rd November. The Parish Council agreed that we should make the financial savings you propose and that we would be prepared to see the polling station at Rushock closed and for people to cast their votes in Chaddesley Corbett Village Hall.

We are also making the proposal known to residents in Rushock via the attached notice which is going into the Parish Magazine, on to our notice board and Parish Council web page.

Best wishes

Pauline

# RUSHOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs. Pauline Trimble, Ridge House, Rushock, Droitwich, WR9 0NR  
Tel: 01562 777678

Chairman: Mr. Laurence McCurrich, New Farm, Rushock, Droitwich, WR9 0NR  
Tel: 01299 851400 Fax: 01299 851581

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29<sup>th</sup> November 2010

## The future of Rushock as a Polling Station

We have been notified by Wyre Forest District Council that they are reviewing the location of election Polling Stations. They are looking at where financial savings can be made and have analysed the cost of using Rushock Village Hall for election polling.

At the May 2010 elections we had 113 people entitled to vote but the turnout was just 67. This is about 60%. The cost to Council Tax payers of using the Polling Station in Rushock worked out at £7.22 per vote cast. This compares with the cost of the votes in Chaddesley Corbett Village Hall at £0.92 per vote cast.

WFDC therefore propose that Rushock Village Hall 'ceases to be used as a polling place, and that the polling place for this district should be Chaddesley Corbett a distance of 2.3 miles'. The proposal for relocation to a neighbouring larger centre is not just being suggested for Rushock but also to a number of other small Parishes in the District.

A consultation period on this ends on the 5th January 2011. At the Rushock Parish Council meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> November it was unanimously agreed by the Councillors that it was sensible to agree with the proposal to move our polling to Chaddesley, particularly at this time of financial stringency. We have informed WFDC of this.

If it is difficult for anyone to get to Chaddesley it might be possible to go with someone else or it should be easy to obtain a postal vote.

Any elector is free to contribute to the consultation. Comments should be sent by 5pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2011 to:  
Electoral Registration Office,  
Wyre Forest District Council,  
Civic Centre,  
Stourport-on-Severn,  
Worcs DY13 8UJ.

Or by e-mail to [electoral@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:electoral@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)

This note is being distributed in the Parish Magazine and on the Parish Council web site and notice board.

L.H.McC/P.T./29.11.10.

TOLA & BEC  
DRIA 19/12/10

# Bewdley Town Council

Town Clerk's Office,  
The Guildhall  
Load Street,  
Bewdley,  
Worcestershire,  
DY12 2AH



Town  
Clerk

Tel/Fax: 01299 400157  
Email: townclerk@bewdley.org.uk  
secretarytc@bewdley.org.uk

Mrs Stella Fleming  
Electoral Services Officer  
Wyre Forest District Council  
Civic Centre  
Stourport-on-Severn  
Worcs DY13 8UJ

21<sup>st</sup> December 2010

Dear Mrs Fleming

### Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in the District of Wyre Forest

I refer to your email as to this consultation which is currently being carried out by the District Council and accompanying review paper which I duly placed before the Town Council for consideration at its last meeting.

The Council accepted the need for such a review having regard to some of the apparent anomalies as to the numbers of electors per polling place and the costs attributable to such places and for each elector.

However in relation to the geographic area covered by the Town Council, three polling places operate namely those at:

- St George's Community Centre, Load Street,
- St Anne's CE Primary School, Wyre Hill
- Wribbenhall Parish Rooms, Kidderminster Road

In respect of all three polling places your review had not identified the need for nay change. The Town Council were pleased at such outcome and therefore support the review.

As an aside, Councillors thought you should be made aware or reminded that in the event of the redevelopment of St George's Hall and for which a planning application has recently been submitted which would include partial demolition, there would be a need for an alternative polling station either on site or close by if the construction works were to coincide with any particular election as they could well do.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Inman  
Town Clerk



Marcus J Hart  
Clerk to Broome Parish Council  
3 Mallow Crescent  
Kidderminster  
Worcestershire  
DY10 1NL

Ian Miller  
Chief Executive  
tel: 01562 732700  
fax: 01562 732790  
email: [ian.miller@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:ian.miller@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)  
my ref:IRM/RLC.PR8  
date: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2010

*Dear Marcus,*

**Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in the District of Wyre Forest**

Thank you for your letter of 10 December conveying the response of Broome Parish Council on the proposal set out in the review. As requested, I am writing to acknowledge safe receipt and to thank the Parish Council for setting out its views so clearly.

*Yours sincerely,*  
*Ian Miller*  
**Chief Executive**

**Chief Executive**  
Civic Centre  
New Street  
Stourport-on-Severn  
Worcs, DY13 8UJ

BL/B

Marcus J. Hart  
Clerk to Broome Parish Council  
3 Mallow Crescent  
Kidderminster  
Worcestershire  
DY10 1NL  
01562 851145

RECEIVED  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
14 DEC 2010

10th December, 2010

Mr I. Miller  
Returning Officer  
Electoral Registration Office  
Wyre Forest District Council  
Civic Centre  
Stourport on Severn  
DY13 8UJ

Dear Mr Miller

**Re: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in the District of the Wyre Forest**

I write formally on behalf of Broome Parish Council who discussed the above consultation document at their last parish council meeting on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2010.

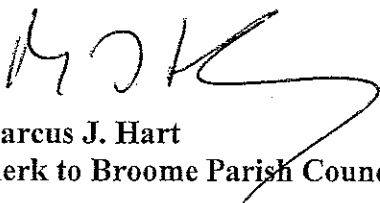
There was a full discussion on the subject, in particular, regarding the proposal to cease using Broome Village Hall as a polling station and request that electors in BL/B vote at the Blakedown polling station.

Parish Councillors were appreciative of being consulted. While they felt it was a shame that electors living in Broome Village itself would have to travel further to vote they understood the rationale for the closure as Broome has only a small number of electors in its polling district, currently 257 and the cost per vote and elector is comparatively high.

It was therefore unanimously resolved to support the proposal contained within the consultation document.

Could I trouble you to acknowledge safe receipt of this letter.

Yours sincerely



Marcus J. Hart  
Clerk to Broome Parish Council

RECEIVED

29 DEC 2010

LEGAL & CORPORATE  
SERVICES WFDC

**CHURCHILL AND BLAKEDOWN PARISH COUNCIL**

[www.churchillandblakedown.co.uk](http://www.churchillandblakedown.co.uk)

Clerk: Roger Gurney, 56 Malvern Road, Powick, WORCESTER WR2 4RT

Telephone: 01905 830756      Mobile: 0782 444 7555      email: rogerdgurney@btinternet.com

16<sup>th</sup> December 2010

For the attention of the Electoral Services Officer

Dear Sir,

**Review of Polling Stations in Wyre Forest**

I refer to your recent email regarding the above. This matter was discussed at the parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2010.

The Parish Council raises objection to the suggested cessation of Churchill Village Hall as a polling station.

First, Churchill is a separate ward, which serves a wide rural area beyond the immediate settlement of Churchill. The Parish Council considers that these facts, together with the existing number of electors, should justify Churchill retaining its polling station.

Second, the quoted distance of 1.4 miles to the Blakedown Parish Rooms is the distance between polling stations, not the distance from the more remote settlements in the Parish. Furthermore, the lack of adequate and regular public transport between Churchill and Blakedown mitigates against this being a justifiable proposal.

The Parish Council would be pleased to know the outcome of the review.

Yours faithfully



Roger Gurney

Clerk to Churchill and Blakedown Parish Council

Electoral Services Officer  
Wyre Forest DC  
Civic Centre  
STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN  
Worcs DY13 8UJ

**ARELEY KINGS LABOUR PARTY.**

c/o 43,Cheshire Ave,  
Areley Kings,  
Stourport-on-Severn,  
Worcestershire.  
DY13 0EA.

4<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

Wyre Forest District Council,  
Duke House,  
Duke Place,  
Kidderminster,  
Worcestershire.

**Re :- Areley Kings Polling Station review**

Dear Caroline Newlands,

As the secretary, I am writing on behalf of Areley Kings Labour Group.

At our last Areley Kings Labour Group meeting, held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010, a decision was taken and voted unanimously to oppose the closure of the polling station of the Walshes Community Centre.

Doing this would ultimately deter a large section of the community, particularly the elderly and disabled population of the Walshes estate from the ability to vote or not willing to try, unless the polling station remains close at hand. Wyre Forest District Council, surely, in the interest of its constituents, should be encouraging the residents to vote not making it more difficult. In this time of freedom and political correctness, to do this would be very unwise.

We look forward to a consistent decision with regard to the future of the population of Areley Kings voters.

Yours faithfully,

A.W.Higgs,  
Secretary,  
Areley Kings Labour Group.

Chairman.  
Reg Knott,  
95, Redstone Lane,  
Areley Kings,  
Stourport-on-Severn,  
Worcestershire,  
DY13 0JJ. Tel :- 826352  
Email :- [regjen.knott@virgin.net](mailto:regjen.knott@virgin.net)

Secretary.  
Andy Higgs,  
43, Cheshire Ave,  
Areley Kings,  
Stourport-on-Severn,  
Worcestershire,  
DY13 0EA. Tel :- 826550  
Email :- [a.higgs@homecall.co.uk](mailto:a.higgs@homecall.co.uk)

Treasurer.  
Pete Cook,  
4, Hermitage Way,  
Areley Kings,  
Stourport-on-Severn,  
Worcestershire,  
DY13 0DA. Tel :- 823066  
Email :- [buggvlanc@googlemail.com](mailto:buggvlanc@googlemail.com)




**Penelope Williams - Fwd: Review of polling stations**

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**From:** Wyre Forest Electoral  
**To:** Penelope Williams  
**Date:** 1/10/2011 09:45  
**Subject:** Fwd: Review of polling stations

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 Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

>>> "Mallinson, Simon (CS, Legal & Dem Servs)" <SMallinson@worcestershire.gov.uk> 06 January 2011 11:47  
>>>

Thank you for your consultation document on these proposals.

I note that all WFDC members have been circulated with it, and by extension therefore all WCC WF members, so I have not re-circulated it to local members who would presumably make any comments locally. I alerted all Group Leaders to the proposals and received no objections by last night. We probably have insufficient knowledge at County level of the local polling stations to make any intelligent comment on the detail – the only comment I received was that the proposed rationalisation appeared reasonable, and so the Council has no objection to more efficient and acceptable ways of organising your polling stations.

Regards

Simon Mallinson

Head of Legal and Democratic services

\*\*\*\*\*

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Ian Miller

Chief Executive

tel: 01562 732700

fax: 01562 732790

email: [ian.miller@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:ian.miller@wyreforestdc.gov.uk)

my ref:IRM/GMH/PR/8

your ref:

date:5<sup>th</sup> January, 2011

Electoral Services Officer  
Wyre Forest District Council

*Dear Stella,*

## REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES IN THE DISTRICT OF WYRE FOREST

Thank you for consulting me about this review. I am replying in my role as acting returning officer for the Parliamentary constituency of Wyre Forest.

My visits to all the polling stations in Wyre Forest on the day of the general election demonstrated to me the need for such a review. Some locations were not suitable for use as polling stations because they do not provide access for disabled people. Other locations had low numbers of registered electors which, compounded by the availability of postal votes on demand, means that the cost of providing polling stations is much higher than the average. While a balance always has to be struck between convenience for the voter and cost effectiveness, in my view the pattern of provision – which has no doubt grown up over a period - has not taken into account key factors such as the availability of postal votes for all, access for disabled people and, in some areas, the availability of more modern facilities.

**I do not wish to raise any formal objections to the proposals myself.** However, if the council receives representations objecting to the proposal to cease to use the Y Centre, Dowles Road, Kidderminster as a polling place (OL/A1), these will deserve careful consideration. It is probable, in my view, that low voter turnout is related to the deprived nature of the community, and relocation of the polling place, even a relatively short distance away, could exacerbate the position.

Chief Executive

Civic Centre

New Street

Stourport-on-Severn

Worcs, DY13 8UJ

I would wish to comment specifically on the following proposals:

- I concur that the following locations are unsuitable for use as polling places because of their lack of access for disabled people: Methodist Church, Areley Common (AK/A) and the Church Hall, Baptist Church, Minster Road, Stourport-on-Severn (LI/C);
- I concur that the modern facilities at the village hall in Areley Kings (which could accommodate polling stations for the whole of the polling district AK) and the new community hall in Cookley should be used;
- I concur with the proposal to cease to designate a mobile polling station in Cairndhu Drive, Kidderminster as a polling place (GR/A1 and GR/A2). Apart from the excessive cost, mobile polling stations can present operational difficulties and, while providing reasonable access for disabled people, do not provide adequate circulation space when turnout is high. I would not intend to use any mobile polling stations at future elections.

As required by the legislation, I set out information in the appendix about the location and numbers of polling stations that I would propose if the polling places set out in the consultation paper were confirmed. I look forward to being notified of the Council's decisions about polling districts and polling places in due course.

*Yours sincerely,*  
*Ian Miller*

**Ian Miller**  
**Acting Returning Officer, Wyre Forest Parliamentary Constituency**

Appendix

Polling District	Polling Place (As proposed in the Council's Consultation document)	Proposed Location and Number of Polling Stations
AG/A	Kidderminster Harriers Social Club, Stadium Close, Kidderminster	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
AG/B	Spennells Youth Centre, Warbler Place, Off Heronswood Road, Kidderminster.	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
AK/A	Village Hall, Areley Kings	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
AK/B		
AK/C		
BE/A	St. Georges Community Centre, Load Street, Bewdley	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
BE/C		
BE/B	St. Anne's CE Primary School, Wyre Hill, Bewdley	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
BE/E	Pound Green and Button Oak Community Hall, Pound Green	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
BE/D	Village Hall, Shatterford	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations
BE/F		
BL/A	Blakedown Parish Room. Belbroughton Road, Blakedown	Suitable room in the polling place. Three polling stations.
BL/B		
BL/C		
BL/D	Chaddesley Corbett Village Hall, Bromsgrove Road, Chaddesley Corbett	Suitable room in the polling place. Three polling stations.
BL/E		
BL/F		
BL/G		
BL/H		
BR/A	St. Mary's CE (VA) Primary School, Stoney Lane, Kidderminster	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
BR/B	Broadwaters Community Centre, Upton Road, Kidderminster	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
BR/C	St. Oswald's Church Centre, Broadwaters Drive, Kidderminster	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.

Polling District	Polling Place (As proposed in the Council's Consultation document)	Proposed Location and Number of Polling Stations
BR/D	Sure Start Centre, Radford Avenue, Kidderminster	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
CO/A	Community Hall, Lea Lane, Cookley	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
FR/A	Community Church, Chestnut Grove, Franche.	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
FR/B	St. Barnabas Community Hall, Wolverley Road, Kidderminster	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
FR/C	Kidderminster Carolians Rugby Football Club, Marlpool Lane, Kidderminster	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
GR/A1 GR/A2	Kidderminster TA Centre, The Shrubbery, Birmingham Road, Kidderminster	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
GR/B GR/C1 GR/C2	Fred Bennett Community Centre, George Street, Kidderminster	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
GR/D1 GR/D2	Milton Hall Baptist Church, Lorne Street, Kidderminster.	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
GR/E	Kidderminster Harriers Social Club, Stadium Close, Kidderminster.	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
HA/A1 HA/A2 HA/C	St. John's CE Primary School. Blakebrook, Kidderminster.	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
HA/B1 HA/B2	Haberley Church Hall, Canterbury Road, Kidderminster.	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
LI/A LI/B	Stourport Community Centre, Lickhill Road, Stourport.	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
LI/C LI/D	Stourport Youth Centre, Windermere Way, Stourport.	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
MI/A MI/D	St. Wulstan's Community Centre, Vale Road, Stourport.	Suitable room in the polling place. Three polling stations.
MI/B	Old Rose and Crown, Worcester Road, Stourport.	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
MI/C	Wilden Lane Village Hall, Wilden Lane, Stourport.	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.

Polling District	Polling Place (As proposed in the Council's Consultation document)	Proposed Location and Number of Polling Stations
OF/A	St. Chad's Church Hall, Comberton, Kidderminster.	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
OF/C		
OF/B	Offmore Community Centre, Grays Close, Kidderminster.	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
OL/A1	Holy Innocents, Community Centre, Sutton Park Road, Kidderminster.	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
OL/A2		
OL/B	St. Peter's Church Hall, Birchen Coppice, Kidderminster.	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
RO/A	Rock Village Hall, Porchbrook Road, Rock.	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
RO/C		
RO/B	Far Forest Village Hall, Cleobury Road, Far Forest	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
SP/A1	Red Cross House, Park Street, Kidderminster.	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
SP/A2		
SP/B1	Sutton Park Primary School, Greatfield Road, Kidderminster	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
SP/B2		
SP/C1	Holy Innocents Community Centre, Kidderminster	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
SP/C2		
WO/A	Wolverley Memorial Hall, Wolverley	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.
WR/A	Wribbenhall Parish Rooms, Kidderminster Road, Bewdley.	Suitable room in the polling place. Three polling stations.
WR/B		
WR/C		
WR/D		