

**BASSETLAW DISTRICT COUNCIL
REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES 2019**

SCHEDULE OF COMMENTS/REPRESENTATIONS MADE IN RESPECT OF CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Polling District Code	Polling Place	Electorate June 2019	Individual / Organisation	Comments / Representations made
AA1 Beckingham	The Recreation Room The Green Beckingham	959	Councillor J Sanger MBE Beckingham Ward	No comments. Considers the buildings suitable for voting purposes.
AA2 Saundby	Doncaster DN10 4NL	106		
		Total – 1,065		
AA3 Walkeringham	Walkeringham Village Hall Stockwith Road Walkeringham Doncaster DN10 4JF	854		
BA2 Scrooby	Scrooby Village Hall Low Road Scrooby Doncaster DN10 6AJ	274	Scrooby Parish Council	The premises suit and serve our village very well given our ageing population. No other comments, considers the building suitable for voting purposes.
BA3 Styrrup with Oldcotes (part)	Styrrup Village Hall Serlby Road Styrrup Doncaster DN11 8LT	291	Styrrup with Oldcotes Parish Council	The Parish Council are happy to see both Oldcotes and Styrrup Village Halls are to remain as Polling Stations.

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BA4 Styrrup with Oldcotes (part)	Oldcotes Village Hall Maltby Road Oldcotes Worksop S81 8JN	286		
CA1 Carlton-in-Lindrick	Carlton in Lindrick Civic Centre Long Lane	2,081	Councillor R Carrington-Wilde	<p>They worked well in May. Three of them are well established. The Youth Centre worked well in its first election.</p> <p>Happy with the facilities and the polling stations and considers the buildings suitable for voting purposes.</p>
CA5 Wallingwells	Carlton-in-Lindrick Worksop S81 9AR	26	Carlton Ward	
CA2 Carlton-in-Lindrick	Cleveland Close Community Centre Cleveland Close Carlton in Lindrick Worksop S81 9BG	719		
CA3 Carlton-in-Lindrick	Methodist Church and Centre High Road Carlton-in-Lindrick Worksop S81 9EF	965		
CA4 Carlton-in-Lindrick	Carlton Youth Centre Lawn Road Costhorpe Worksop S81 9RJ	677		
		Total – 2,107		

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DA1 Clarborough	Clarborough Village Hall Main Street Clarborough Retford DN22 9LN	880	Clarborough and Welham Parish Council	No comments. Happy with the facilities and the polling stations and considers the buildings suitable for voting purposes.
DA2 Clayworth	Clayworth Memorial Hall Town Street Clayworth Retford DN22 9AD	271	Clayworth Parish Council	The facilities are the best option that is available.
DA4 Wiseton		76		
		Total – 347		
FA3 East Retford East	Carr Hill Primary School Tiln Lane Retford DN22 6SW	802	John Mann MP	<p>Considering the two fatalities of children outside the school, the additional traffic using this school should be a consideration.</p> <p>On traffic safety and child welfare grounds this polling station should be closed and FA3 and GA1 relocated to St Saviours church hall.</p> <p>There is minimal inconvenience to voters in this proposal and the furthest distance for voters to get to the polling station will in fact be reduced.</p>
GA1 East Retford North		358		
		Total – 1,160		

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FA4 East Retford East	Retford Little Theatre Wharf Road Retford DN22 6EN	761	Bassetlaw Action Centre	Could Bassetlaw Action Centre be considered? It has been used previously for polling.
IA4 East Retford West		672		
		Total – 1,433		
FA5 East Retford East	Bracken Lane Primary School Bracken Lane Retford DN22 7EU	1,086	Bracken Lane Primary Academy	<p>As a primary school it causes us and our parents and children much disruption being a polling station.</p> <p>Does not consider the buildings suitable for voting purposes.</p> <p>Too much disruption to children's learning. Parents and children inconvenienced.</p> <p>This school has to close and the Elms Hotel provides a suitable alternative. This should be the priority if the Elms Hotel is deemed unsuitable for two polling districts. The approach of the council should be to reduce costs where possible as this also ensures higher quality control over polling stations by closing a few of the smallest, where a suitable alternative is available.</p>

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			John Mann MP	<p>A higher priority must be to attempt to eliminate school use where a school has to close and/or where there are highways safety concerns.</p> <p>It is possible to close Carr Hill and Bracken Lane accordingly and it may be possible to close Thrumpton as polling stations with little real impact on voters.</p>
HA1 East Retford South	Westhill Community Centre Cheyne Wak Ordsall Retford DN22 7GA	1,172	Councillor Carolyn Troop East Retford South Ward	<p>Do you have any comments on the Consultation Document? - Appendix, page 7, HA2 East Retford South 3 Welbeck Road, Ordsall. Shop being used as a barber shop.</p> <p>Do you have any comments on the facilities at the polling stations in the area you represent? – Only 3 Welbeck Road Ordsall – change of use occurring.</p> <p>Do you consider the buildings suitable for voting purposes? – Yes except 3 Welbeck Road</p> <p>Do you think there is a more suitable building within the same polling district? – Ordsall Bridon Cricket Club Pavilion could be considered to replace 3 Welbeck Road. Pavilion located on Edgbaston Drive</p>

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				owned by the cricket club on BDC Land. Car park available. Access for people with disabilities via a permanent ramp to the pavilion.
IA1 East Retford West	The Butter Market Retford Town Hall Retford DN22 6DB	223	John Mann MP	223 voters from IA1 use this polling station. It has no inconvenience to co-locate it with FA1 at Albert Hall, saving the council money in terms of staffing costs.
IA3 East Retford West	Thrumpton Primary School Off Whinney Moor Lane Retford DN22 7AF	814	Thrumpton Primary Academy John Mann MP	Suggestions for alternative locations rather than the school: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sun Inn, Thrumpton Lane • The Elms Hotel, London Road This school has to close and the Elms Hotel provides a suitable alternative
JA2 Gringley-on-the-Hill	Gringley-on-the-Hill Community Centre High Street Gringley-on-the-Hill Doncaster DN10 4RT	677	Councillor M Watson Everton Ward Gringley-on-the-Hill Parish Council Clerk	The Community Centre has its own car park. Considers the buildings suitable for voting purposes. I wish to point out that in the Review it states that Gringley Community Centre only has on-street parking. This is incorrect as there is a car park at the rear of the premises, accessed from Baker Avenue.

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JA3 Misson	Misson Community Centre Vicar Lane Misson Doncaster DN10 6EG	571	Misson Parish Council	No comments. Considers the buildings suitable for voting purposes.
KA1 Harworth & Bircotes KA2 Harworth & Bircotes KA5 Harworth & Bircotes	Devonshire Road Community Centre 2 Devonshire Road Harworth Doncaster DN11 8JF	1,336 1,308 377 Total – 3,021	Councillor J Evans Harworth Ward	I agree with the comments relating to Harworth and Bircotes; I believe that they are relevant and meet the needs of the current population.
KA3 Harworth & Bircotes	Harworth Village Institute Main Street Harworth Doncaster DN11 8LB	915		
KA4 Harworth & Bircotes	Harworth & Bircotes Town Hall The Information Centre Scrooby Road Bircotes Doncaster DN11 8JP	608		

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KA6 Harworth & Bircotes	Harworth Methodist Church Hall 6 Waterslack Road Bircotes Doncaster DN11 8DW	1,085		
KA7 Harworth & Bircotes	Community Room Westmorland House Cumberland Close Milne Road Bircotes Doncaster DN11 8BY	563		
MA2 West Stockwith	Gertrude Morris Hall Main Street West Stockwith Doncaster DN10 4HA	265	West Stockwith Parish Council	No comments to make. Considers the facilities satisfactory and the building suitable for voting purposes.
NA1 Cottam	Treswell Village Hall Main Street Treswell	74	Treswell with Cottam Parish Council	No comments. Considers the buildings suitable for voting purposes.
NA8 Treswell	Retford DN22 0EG	193		
		Total - 267		
NA4 Rampton	Rampton Village Hall Manor Grounds Rampton	497	Local resident	Rampton Village Hall is clean and has very good facilities. It is ideal for local people.
NA7 Stokeham	Retford DN22 0JU	37		Woodbeck Community Centre is ok but a bit tired looking.

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		Total - 534		
NA5 Woodbeck	Woodbeck Community Centre Woodbeck Retford DN22 0JS	203		<p>Do you consider the buildings suitable for voting purposes? – Rampton yes, Woodbeck ??</p> <p>If no, please say why and suggest what you would do to improve – Woodbeck sometimes has no handwash or paper towels in the loos, just a dirty old communal hand towel. Access is ok if the door with the ramp is open.</p> <p>Woodbeck Community Centre has tack 'love shack' signs, wicks broom sticks and 'beer 'o clock' wall clocks.</p> <p>If the former children's nursery at Rampton Hospital could be used this is much more modern and better accessible building.</p>
NA6 South Leverton	South Leverton Memorial Institute Town Street South Leverton Retford Notts DN22 0BT	417	South Leverton Parish Council	No comments. Considers the buildings suitable for voting purposes.

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RA1 Darlton RA2 Dunham-on-Trent RA4 Fledborough RA8 Ragnall	Dunham & District Millenium Centre Low Street Dunham-on-Trent Newark NG22 0UD	96 328 39 69 Total - 532	Dunham on Trent with Ragnall, Fledborough and Darlton Parish Council	Considers the buildings suitable for voting purposes. If the issue with the postcode for the building could be resolved, this would be of benefit to all electors.
RA3 East Drayton	East Drayton Village Hall Top Street East Drayton Retford DN22 0LG	208	East Drayton Parish Council	No comments on the consultation document and considers the buildings suitable for voting purposes. Do you have any comments on the facilities at the polling stations in the area you represent? – In the previous review we asked that “disabled access” be added. Please add this now.
TA4 Worksop East	Scofton Village Hall Scofton Worksop S81 0UE	57	John Mann MP	It is of minor inconvenience to relocate this polling station to Ranby village hall for 57 voters again saving the council money.
YA2 Worksop South-East YA4 Worksop South-East	MantonSports Retford Road Worksop S80 2PU	1,476 580 Total – 2,056	Councillor J Shephard Worksop South East Ward	The recent election resulted in many people from Furnival Street (and that area) being turned away from the polling station they used to have – St Pauls Church Hall and Manton Community Centre – and instead directed to a new polling station, Manton Sports Club, that was further away

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			<p>Councillor J Potts Worksop South East Ward</p> <p>John Mann MP</p>	<p>so many didn't bother to vote. Please ensure that streets vote at the nearest polling station and be wary of changes.</p> <p>There were issues at the last election - some streets that were allocated to Manton Sports Club were closer to St Pauls Church, Centre Place or Centre for Sport and Learning.</p> <p>Look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving Lincoln View, Clinton Street and some of Lincoln Street to The Centre Place. • Moving Radford Street, some of Lincoln St and Yeoman Close to the Centre for Sport and Learning. • Moving south Avenue to Kingston Close Community Centre. <p>This polling station should be retained, but streets adjoining Shrewsbury Road reallocated to the Centre for Sport and Learning.</p>

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YA7 Worksop South-East	Centre for Sport and Learning - Manton Community Way Off Shrewsbury Road Worksop S80 2TX	547	John Mann MP Local resident	Some voters have to walk past Manton Parish Hall on their way to vote. Voter allocation to polling stations needs rationalising to avoid this. Put voting back to St Pauls Church for people who live nearby instead of having to go elsewhere.

General Comments

Local resident:

Can someone please explain to me the reasoning behind Rampton, an outlying village of Retford, being put under Newark & Sherwood Ward? Absolutely NOTHING comes from the ward, not even the Bloomin MP!?! ALL our services, shops, Drs, dentists, chemists etc are in Retford & when I contact my alleged MP's office, they don't even know we exist?
Can we please come back under the umbrella of Bassetlaw?

Local resident:

I note that you, Bassetlaw Council, are still listing schools as polling stations. This is not acceptable any longer. There is disruption to children's education. The closure of schools causes problems for working parents who have to find alternative child care or take time off work, lose wages and as a consequence causes problems for their employers.

I also noted that you have used a shipping container as a polling station in Tesco's car park at the Elections for the European Parliament. When I asked why you are still closing schools for the day when a Portokabin could be used as an alternative the response was:

"Temporary polling stations are not ideal from an access point of view, are open to vandalism and do not provide polling staff with great facilities."

I find this response laughable. A bit of thought could easily overcome these issues which are very minor compared to the disruption caused by closing schools. Do you know how many children attend these schools? Are you aware of the inconvenience to parents that you are causing?

I note that currently you list at least seven schools that are listed as potential polling stations. You should be making every effort to get this figure down to zero.

It is only by chance having raised a freedom of information request that I became aware that there is a compulsory review of polling stations which must be carried out within each local authority area within 16 months of 1st October 2018.

Can I ask, "What have you done to bring this review to the attention of the general public so that they can have their input?" A response would be appreciated. It is not a rhetorical question.

Lets have a bit of lateral thinking, blue sky thinking, or even out of the box thinking but do some thinking and come up with some alternatives to using schools. If you have to, resort to using portakabins or shipping containers, but don't muck teachers, parents and children around anymore.

I would also like to request a revised list of the Polling Stations following the review.

I have copied in John Mann my MP and hope he takes up this issue with the education ministers and I've also included the Daily Mail letters page as I feel this is an issue that needs the oxygen of publicity to focus the minds.

Local resident:

In the last few years we seem to have had a steady stream of political decisions to make.

It has seemed to me and others that today's political polling system is unduly labour, time and resource intensive and therefore increasingly expensive. It is a system years out of date and fails to take advantage of new technology. It is well overdue for a complete overhaul and I hope you will pass on that view to authorities in Westminster.

My second point concerns the number of polling stations - far too many. We are now a much more mobile population, no more corner shops, no post office nearby and fewer banks. We have to move about for all our services or access them online. I am 73 but I can comfortably walk to

6 different polling stations from my home. We simply don't need them. All homes will probably access a supermarket. I'm sure the stores would all allow a mobile polling unit to take a corner of their car parks.

My third point concerns the use of schools for polling. Powers which bring about whole school closures should be revoked. The hardship caused to families is huge. Loosing a day of education is far too high a cost of casting a vote and sometimes just for the benefit of a very few people. It's an easy answer for the authorities to choose schools to hit. Alternatives should be found.

Clearly some sort of complete online/postal system would be a vast improvement. Registration to vote is done that way now with passwords and code numbers. Casting a vote could surely be a simple addition to the process.

A prime polling station is Retford Town Hall. A central position which everybody knows, served by good public transport and car parks. A public building with good flat access and spacious accommodation with all facilities on hand. Used currently but only for a minuscule number of possible voters. It could easily deal with thousands.

Returning to my point about schools, two particular schools (Thrumpton and Bracken Lane) which are very close together could be saved any disruption by the use of the function room behind the Elms Hotel on London Rd. This is well known venue in the area with good public transport and a massive car park. The room has separate flat access and provides enough space for a major joint polling station.

Local resident:

Voting should be digital, more people would vote with an app.

Local resident:

I agree with the app its ok having a postal vote option but not everyone can get out to post it in the first place.