

Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations 2018

APPENDIX B

List of Submissions

Reference No. PDR-01

Bathavon North

Organisation Name: Bathampton Parish Council

Comment Text: The Methodist Church in Holcombe Lane, Bathampton, has been used before and the Parish Council can see no reason to change it.

Reference No. PDR-02

Bathavon North

Organisation Name: Batheaston Parish Council

Comment Text: The Batheaston Parish Council accepts that the Batheaston Youth Club Hall will continue to be this Village's Polling Station.

Reference No. PDR-03

Bathavon South

Organisation Name: Camerton Parish Council

Comment Text: Camerton Parish Council would just like to respond by stating that we are happy with the existing polling station arrangements and would like to see these continue.

Bathavon South

Organisation Name: Dunkerton & Tunley Parish Council

Comment Text: With reference to the review of polling districts Dunkerton & Tunley Parish Council would like the existing arrangements for elections to continue i.e. Tunley Recreation Centre and Dunkerton Parish Hall being used as polling stations.

Bathavon South

Organisation Name: Englishcombe Parish Council

Comment Text: In response to the polling district review Englishcombe Parish Council would like to see the existing polling arrangement remain, i.e. the Old School to be used as a polling station.

Bathwick

Name: Alex Hansen

Organisation Name: Woodland Grove Community Group

Comment Text: Due to the boundary commission changes the Claverton Down Community Hall is now in Widcombe Ward.

A similar number of voters can be expected as the previous elections. Are there any rules that would stop the Hall being used by Widcombe and Bathwick Wards to vote? If it was deemed necessary the Hall has more than one entrance, and the Hall is very long, if a divided, again if deemed necessary. Many local residents are elderly and can walk to the Hall where as the University with its limited parking is difficult.

Bathwick

Name: Cllr Matt Cochrane

Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Bathwick Ward

Comment Text: I attach some comments and a resident who has looked into the Electoral Commission terms.

There is a feeling from his group (Woodland Grove Group) as well as the Beech Avenue Residents Association that they should continue to use Claverton Down Community Centre. Although this will now be in Widcome Ward rather than Bathwick, would it still be possible to use it for this community? It is right next door to all the houses that are affected?

Your advice would be gratefully received.

“Dear Matt

I copied a couple of comments for you.

(1) “With regard to the polling station. I feel, perhaps rather churlishly, that as our address is Claverton Down I feel I would really like to poll there.”

(2) “Proposals have my support, but I don’t quite understand why we still can’t use Claverton Community Centre; it does not matter to me where I vote!!”

(3) “Proposals are fine with us.”

(4) “Voting; we do not see any need to change our polling station; why travel further than necessary? Accessibility for those of limited mobility is also a possible issue.”

(5) “Just to let you know I am quite happy with the polling station relocating to the Uni (although, like you, find it ludicrous that the Community Centre is no longer deemed to be in Claverton Down).”

(6) “I am beginning to think so. I need to write to our MP in the strongest possible terms!!”

Have you asked the question, is there a law that says two wards cannot share a building? The Community Hall has several entrance doors, it would be possible, if needed, to section the large space into two, with different Wards using two doors. I would appreciate knowing if there is a regulation against such a measure please. I get the feeling that there appears little other alternative to the University if not, but this situation is not of the residents making, many Bathwick Ward residents are elderly, and I am heading that way, why can we not be accommodated?”

Bathwick

Name: Cllr Matt Cochrane

Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Bathwick Ward

Comment Text: Further to my emails about the residents in Bathwick B-BK2 voting at Claverton Down Community Hall at the next election, I have an update that mentions that the University Library is not an easy place to get to for those with mobility issues, no way of parking close and it's a difficult building to reach in a wheelchair. I know that the residents groups are very keen to keep Claverton Down Community Hall available for both sets of voters (Bathwick and Widcome & Lyncombe). I also know they will be asking to submit a formal complaint if it is not make possible.

Could I confirm this Hall will be available to my residents in Claverton Down?

Bathwick

Name: Cllr Peter Turner

Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Abbey Ward

Comment Text: Currently I am the Councillor for Abbey Ward and as yet no decision in which ward I will stand, Kingsmead or Bathwick? Both though I agree.

Bathwick

Name:

[REDACTED]

Comment Text:

Having reviewed the documents showing the new ward boundaries and polling stations I have two comments, as a resident of Claverton Down.

First the detail of the proposed boundary makes little sense; the community of Claverton Down is cut in half so that our community hall is no longer in Claverton Down/Bathwick ward but is in Widcombe & Lyncombe. There is no logical connection or affinity that places our community hall and many residents in the Widcombe and Lyncombe ward.

Second the polling station allocated to the part of Claverton Down in the Bathwick ward is the University library rather than the Claverton Down community hall. The University library location presents real accessibility challenges. Access for the general public requires climbing a significant number of steps and a steep ramp with no free public parking close to the proposed polling station. Our current polling station is of course the Claverton Down community hall which is accessible on foot without steps or steep ramps and with parking available for people of very limited mobility.

I suggest that the Claverton Down community hall be used as a single venue for the Bathwick and Widcombe & Lyncombe wards. If it is possible to redraw the ward boundaries around Claverton Down so that common sense prevails and Claverton Down remains an integrated entity in the polling sense just as it is in the real world. The division of our community in two wards significantly reduces the impact of our voice in either ward and reduces our access to democracy.

PS: the map used to illustrate the new boundaries is rather out of date [REDACTED].

Bathwick

Name:

[REDACTED]

Comment Text:

I would like to confirm that historically those people living in Claverton Down have used the Claverton Down Community Hall as their polling station. It would be my preference to continue to do so, even if it means sharing it with those residents of Widcombe at the

same time. Although I would have thought that Widcombe ward could offer a far more accessible polling station, other than one at the very top of Widcombe Hill.

Reference No. PDR-12

Bathwick

Name:

[REDACTED]

Comment Text:

We'd like to express our concern that the Community Hall at Claverton Down will no longer be used as the polling station for the majority of the residents. We realise that new boundaries are coming into being, but for some of the elderly residents in the neighbourhood, the Community hall is by far the easier option over the University. Please take this into consideration when making the final decision.

Reference No. PDR-13

Bathwick

Name:

[REDACTED]

Comment Text:

I am writing to express my concern that the new boundary changes will mean that I will no longer be able to vote at the Claverton Down Community Hall. I live [REDACTED] and the hall has been my polling station for the last 27 years. It is a central focal point for the local community as well as being easy to access, especially for older residents. The boundary changes mean that it is now part of the Widcombe Ward. We have been advised that our polling station will be based at the university. This is much less convenient and accessible for the local community. I understand that there has been a suggestion that the hall could be designated as a shared polling station. This would seem to be a very sensible solution which would enable people to vote more easily. I hope that you will consider this option.

Bathwick

Name:

[REDACTED]

Comment Text:

The facility at Claverton Down Community Hall is large enough to accommodate both Widcombe ward and Bathwick ward without having an additional polling station at Bath University. The Community Hall is more suitable for local people, particularly those who are less mobile.

Bathwick

Name:

[REDACTED]

Comment Text:

I understand that the Council ward boundaries are changing. Rather bizarrely, it seems that the above streets will remain in the ward of Bathwick, while Claverton Down Road and Copseland will change to Widcombe & Lyncombe ward. It seems that as a consequence of this split, residents in Beech Avenue etc. will lose the facility of voting at the Claverton Down Community Hall and, instead, will have to vote at the University Library. I wish to record my objection to this change for the reasons stated below.

Firstly, the University Library is not nearly as convenient in terms of distance, parking facilities etc. Parking at the Community Hall is free, whereas at the University one would have to pay for the privilege, even assuming one is lucky enough to find a space in which to park. Having recently attempted to park in the University East car park, I note that the majority of bays are for permit holders only, and not available to local residents. The parking that is available for paying customers is over in the far corner of the site adjacent to the external clay tennis courts. This is a considerable distance from the main Parade where the Library is located.

Secondly, the access to the University Library is not at all suitable for elderly or less mobile residents, given the various flights of steps that would have to be negotiated, regardless of the direction of one's approach.

If it is actually legally necessary to separate residents of the two new wards in this way, and the Community Hall is really no longer an option, then an alternative polling station will have to be nominated that is a close level walk from Beech Avenue, Woodland Grove etc.,

and/or with free parking facilities for those who have to travel by car. However the current Community Hall is clearly the preferred option.

Reference No. PDR-16

Bathwick

Name:

[REDACTED]

Comment Text:

I am extremely concerned re the proposal to move our polling station from Claverton Down Community Hall to the Library at the University.

There are a majority of elderly residents in Beech Avenue who will not be able to manage to climb the considerable number of steps between Beech Avenue and the Library. The walk from Beech Avenue to the Community Hall is level and much more manageable. Also residents can drive to the Community Hall but cannot access the University Library by car as there is no road or parking nearby.

Reference No. PDR-17

Bathwick

Name:

[REDACTED]

Comment Text:

I am appalled to see that most residents living in the Claverton Down area, who continue to be part of the Bathwick Ward, will no longer be able to vote in ward elections at their Community Hall here in the centre of this residential area. The alternative being offered, the University Library, is totally unsuitable. It is quite some distance from the residential area of Claverton Down, parking anywhere near it is nearly impossible, and it is in any case up several flights of stairs from the nearest car park. The many elderly and infirm residents who live around here will no longer be able to vote.

The Community Hall should permit voting in both wards, the Widcombe & Lyncombe ward for some and the Bathwick ward for others. It is not our fault that our community here in Claverton Down is being split in two by the peculiar boundary changes being imposed upon us.

Bathwick

Name:



Comment Text:

According to the information provided on your web page my polling station has been moved from Claverton Village Hall to the University. I can see no possible justification for this change simply because the boundaries have been changed. Claverton Village Hall is easily assessable to residents whereas the University has charged parking and is extremely busy and therefore difficult to access for older people. Please use some common sense and maintain Claverton Village Hall as the “local” polling station.

Bathwick

Name:

Chris Beezley

Organisation Name:

Beech Avenue Residents' Association

Comment Text:

I must object strongly to the proposals for revised polling stations in Bathwick Ward.

Noting that the B&NES website on this subject ('Council wants your views on proposed polling stations' – posted 10/10/18) states that the proposed new ward arrangements render it necessary to 'identify polling stations within easy reach of all electors', I strongly object to the proposed arrangements affecting electors in the Claverton Down portion of the revised Bathwick Ward. Electors in Oakley, Woodland Grove, Beech Avenue and The Avenue have traditionally cast their vote in nearby Claverton Down Community Hall – an easy, short level walk or drive away – with easy parking.

Because of the bizarre way in which ward boundaries have been redrawn in this area (see map attached), the Community Hall (circled red), with its generous free parking area, now finds itself located in Widcombe & Lyncombe ward, and is now proposed to serve that ward only at election time.

The Hall has ample space to set up two totally separate voting areas, and even contains a Committee Room with its dedicated access point. Why is it not possible to share this facility between both wards?

I note from the B&NES website that five polling stations have been nominated for the new Bathwick Ward. The only one serving

Claverton Down is the 'University Library'. This would be totally unsuitable for less-mobile residents, not only because of the considerable extra distance involved but also due to the fact that access involves climbing a flight of steep steps to the Parade. Neither would there be easy access even if an elderly or infirm resident was provided with a lift by car.

The Community Hall really is the only sensible venue for residents of Beech Avenue, Woodland Grove, Oakley, The Avenue and the top of North Road & Bathwick Hill. Only if it can be clearly explained why sharing a polling station is not permissible, B&NES should negotiate with the University to provide a polling station no further away from residential area than South Building or the new Milner Centre, i.e. a short level walk from the University's pedestrian access at the junction of Woodland Grove/The Avenue.

In summary, the familiar Community Hall would be very much the preferred and sensible solution.

I am also dubious about the assumed numbers of electors at the University Library (625). I understand that the University polling station would serve over 1,800 registered student voters plus local residents. Similarly, Claverton Down Community Hall has a much larger capacity than to serve the estimated 334 electors from Widcombe & Lyncombe.

Reference No. PDR-20

Bathwick

Name:



Comment Text:

I am responding to your consultation about your proposals for revised polling stations. In the revised Bathwick Ward, you are proposing to split the ward into 5 polling districts. Polling stations should be within easy reach of all electors, and this should take into account aspects such as nearby parking provision, steps into the polling station, access for disabled people etc. I live in the Claverton Down area of Bathwick ward, and electors in Oakley, Woodland Grove, Beech Avenue and The Avenue have traditionally cast their vote in the nearby Claverton Down Community Hall. This location is a short level walk or drive away – with easy parking.

Following the ward boundary review, the Community Hall itself is located in the revised Widcombe & Lyncombe ward, and is proposed to be a polling station for the relatively small number of electors in

that ward who live nearby – ie at the top of Widcombe Hill. Meanwhile electors in the Bathwick ward area of Claverton Down are now expected to go to the university library, which has previously been used as the polling station only for university students living on the campus. This is unsuitable for less-mobile residents, not only because of the considerable extra distance involved but also due to the fact that access involves climbing a flight of steep steps to the university Parade. Neither would there be easy access even if an elderly or infirm resident was provided with a lift by car. In addition, there is no free car parking available on the university campus.

It would be perfectly possible for the Community Hall to accommodate two totally separate polling stations, either both to be in the main hall itself, or to place one polling station in the rear Committee Room with its dedicated access point. Why is it not possible to share this facility between both wards?

I suggest that the Community Hall really is the only sensible venue for electors in the Claverton Down area of Bathwick ward (Oakley, Woodland Grove, Beech Avenue, The Avenue and those living nearly the top of North Road & Bathwick Hill); and to retain the use of the Community Hall for those nearby electors in Widcombe & Lyncombe ward. The University library can continue to be used for the student electors in Bathwick ward who are living on the campus.

Reference No. PDR-21

Bathwick

Name: Alex Hansen

Organisation Name: Woodland Grove Community Group

Comment Text: You will see that I have already made a comment regarding the polling station at Claverton Down Hall. I run Woodland Grove Community Group and had sent a note around the area giving information regarding the consultation and links to make Comments. Not everyone is able to grasp links etc. on computers, exactly the voters that are difficult to contact and a problem for them to express their views.

I received this note today from one of the Woodland Grove Group and as requested I am forwarding the whole text to you. If you are able to send a note that you have received [REDACTED] comments I will ensure [REDACTED] receives it.

“Alex Can you forward this to the correct Dept.

I find the decision to stop me voting at Elections at the Claverton Down Com Hall absolutely ludicrous. I have lived on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for over 40 years and now it seems I am expected at my age to walk to the University to vote. Have you realised, that it costs to park there and the paying car parks are some way away from the main campus. At Claverton Down Com Hall parking is free and just outside the door.”

It is the case that there are several residents with limited mobility, each yard to walk would be an effort.

Reference No. PDR-22

Bathwick

Name:

[REDACTED]

Comment Text:

The proposal to change the Polling Station for residents of Beech Avenue and surrounding area from our Community Hall to the University Library is most unwelcome. Many of the residents living here are elderly and becoming increasingly less mobile, making the difficulty of access to the University Library extremely daunting.

If it is necessary to be so “nasty nice” in the drawing up of ward boundaries, as appears to be the case locally, I cannot understand why it is impracticable to serve more than one ward from a single polling station.

It is requested that this proposal be given serious reconsideration for residents living locally. This would make the likely increase in Postal Votes, with the associated individual inconvenience, unnecessary.

Reference No. PDR-23

Bathwick

Name:

[REDACTED]

Comment Text:

There is a proposal to relocate our polling station from the community building on Oakley in Claverton Down. We understand this is being allocated to Widcombe. Why can't the same building simply be used for both wards, this makes practical sense and, aside from some initial thought to organisation, should save cost in the longer term. If there are no rules against it, please do not make this change of venue.

Chew Valley

Organisation Name: Compton Martin Parish Council

Comment Text: Many thanks for your email. We agree with you that Compton Martin Village Hall is the venue in Compton Martin offering ease of parking and the space for a polling station.

High Littleton

Name: Cllr Les Kew

Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, High Littleton Ward

Comment Text: The proposed use for High Littleton of the Recreational Hall is I feel in the wrong place, the means of access is via Butlass Close a small cul de sac with very limited turning space due to parked cars and also mainly occupied by the elderly or via Timsbury Road and then across the grass area of the playing field. A long distance for people to travel from one end of the village to the other and a very inconvenient access. Can we not use the Methodist Church which is more central and has been used for many years or if not the Church Village Hall adjacent to the village school. I trust that you will consider these alternatives.

Keynsham East

Organisation Name: Keynsham Town Council

Comment Text: The Town Council considered the proposals at its meeting on Tuesday 16th October. Although appreciative of the ward boundary changes, concern was expressed that very few historical polling stations had been selected. In addition the Council was concerned at the level of disruption that would be caused to teachers/children and parents alike by focusing just on the local schools as venues.

The Town Council have asked me to pass on the following comments approved by a resolution:

1. That every effort should be made to find alternative venues to schools
2. That Curo community rooms and Church halls should be investigated as the preferred options and that the Key Centre should definitely continue to be a polling station
3. That the proposed changes in virtually all polling stations will lead to a reduction in turnout
4. That polling cards should be conspicuously marked if a polling station had changed

I hope you will take these comments on board and consider alternative polling stations to those that you have suggested.

Reference No. PDR-27

Keynsham North

Name: Cllr Charles Gerrish
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Keynsham East Ward
Comment Text: With the boundary review for Keynsham North we have a bit of a problem: the old polling station at Queens Road Methodist Church now falls fully within Keynsham South. I am of the opinion that in view of the size of the development we should look to create a polling station within the Somerdale site – this would then leave the Key Centre as a sensible continuation apart from the fact that the distance from the top of Charlton Road is in my opinion too far from a polling station. This would mean we probably will need 3 polling stations – could I suggest you potentially look at the meeting room at St Margaret's Close.

Reference No. PDR-28

Keynsham North

Name: Cllr Brian Simmons
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Keynsham East Ward
Comment Text: I agree with Councillor Gerrish that we need to replace the Queens Road Methodist Church which will be in Keynsham South with a station on Somerdale because there will about 2000 new voters on the site by the next election.

Keynsham North

Name: Cllr Charles Gerrish
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Keynsham East Ward
Comment Text: Thanks – having reviewed this [the proposed polling district scheme] – the main dilemma will be the location of a polling station that can serve N-KN1.

Keynsham South

Name: Cllr Alan Hale and Cllr Lisa O'Brien
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Keynsham South Ward
Comment Text: In view of the revised spread of the ward, Cllr Hale and I suggest that there should be a polling Station at Castle Primary School (at The Brambles – to accommodate Bilbie Green and The Meadows) as well as retaining the station at St Francis Church (Warwick Road) and the Elim Church (off Park Road). We realise this is an increase of one polling station but feel it is appropriate since there are above average older and less advantaged residents in the ward, for whom, getting to the polling station may be more difficult.

Kingsmead

Name: Cllr Andrew Furse
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council
Comment Text: I do not think the new ward boundary warrants 4 polling stations considering the cost, organisation and the numbers of electors. We need to remember that Percy in KM2 today has around 2300 electors and manages well enough. Therefore to get the best fit the polling districts would need to be 're-jigged' a bit from the map you have issued. I think it needs to be considered from this direction, not the fact that polling districts have been drawn already. In my view the new Kingsmead Ward would give the following options:
1. Considering 2 polling stations (my preferred number) could be located at:

1a. TA Centre - serving Lower Weston and Norfolk Crescent/New King Street as far as Charles Street, including Marlborough Bldgs 1b. & RC. This is pretty central to these communities.

St Michael's Church (or Guildhall) serving Bath centre to Circus area.

2. Considering 3 polling stations (has the least change for current electors)

2a. St John's Church (but this has very few electors - today KM1 has less than 1500 electors and will be approx half of this under the new boundary)

2b. Percy Community Centre (serving central Bath)

2c. Assembly Rooms (serving the RC/Marlborough Bldgs/Circus area)

3. A variation on this 3 polling stations is; (not my preferred but seems to fit the best)

3a. TA Centre, (serving Lower Weston & Marlborough Bldgs to Charles Street)

3b. Assembly Rooms (serving north of George Street or Quiet Street or Upper Borough Walls)

3c. Pump Room (serving central area to north boundary George Street or Quiet Street or Upper Borough Walls and west boundary Charles Street)

Option 1 is the least costly and considering many residents now choose to use a postal vote this would be the most efficient. It does however result in the TA Centre and St Michael's Church being new polling stations.

Option 2 brings the least change and both Percy and Assembly Rooms are disability access without any special equipment. They are both easy to find locations in the centre of Bath. St John's however would be a very small polling station. St John's only needs a ramp to make it disable access as it does today. It is well known by the local community. All 3 are polling stations today.

Option 3 appears to be the geographical 'best fit' although the TA centre and St Michael's would be new. St Michael's is disabled accessible, TA centre I am not so sure.

I would welcome the chance to talk these through you before any decision is made.

Kingsmead

Name: Cllr Peter Turner
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council
Comment Text: Currently I am the Councillor for Abbey Ward and as yet no decision in which ward I will stand, Kingsmead or Bathwick? Both though I agree.

Lambridge

Name: Cllr Rob Appleyard
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Lambridge Ward
Comment Text: McCarthy and Stone have a new retired living complex on the Gloucester Rd, opposite Alice Park, would this be a more suitable location than Swainswick Gardens... if available.

Mendip

Organisation Name: Temple Cloud with Cameley Parish Council
Comment Text: I have checked the review of polling stations and Temple Cloud Village Hall is still a suitable location for a polling station. Please note, the area has changed and the parish council name has now changed officially to Temple Cloud with Cameley Parish Council from Cameley Parish Council.

Midsomer Norton Redfield

Name: Cllr Chris Watt
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Midsomer N. Redfield Ward
Comment Text: I know you have asked for places that could be used. Could you please note that in the past we have had complaints from voters who refuse to enter the Masonic lodge in Midsomer Norton Redfield?

Moorlands

Name: Cllr Will Sandry
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Oldfield Ward
Comment Text: My suggestions for the new Moorlands Ward would be it would be worth a conversation with (They have an annex room that could possibly be used). Similarly, it could also be worth asking The Orangery care home on Englishcombe Lane if they could host.

Newbridge

Organisation Name: North Stoke Parish Meeting
Comment Text: I received from Aurora Loi the details of the new ward arrangements that will come into place at the next local government elections in May 2019, and details of the polling stations which the Returning Officer is proposing to use at the district and parish council elections in May 2019.

The proposal is that the electors of North Stoke should continue to use the polling station at Kelston Village Hall which is close and convenient for those of us living in North Stoke village itself. However, there are 14 voters on the North Stoke parish electoral register (of a total of 77) who live in Brockham End (postcode BA1 9BZ) whose only entry and exit to their homes is via Lansdown, and face a 5.2 mile drive to Kelston to vote, down Lansdown Lane through upper Weston and along the A431. This is a 10 mile, half-hour round trip, and surely must be the longest electoral challenge faced in BANES.

It may well be that this accounts for the high number of postal votes designated for North Stoke in the spreadsheet, and that is the consequence that voters accept for living in Brockham End. However I should be grateful for your acknowledgement of this e-mail, and confirmation that BANES recognises this situation, and that allocating these voters to a distant polling station does not in any way contribute to their disenfranchisement.

Reference No. PDR-38

Oldfield Park

Name: Cllr Shaun Stephenson McGall

Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Oldfield Ward

Comment Text: Please find below my response to the Review of Polling District Boundaries for the new Oldfield Park Ward.

I have outlined two options, firstly one which amends the current two district proposal if numbers allow, and a second which creates three Polling Districts (but with only two Polling Stations).

Option 1: Move all of Junction Road and Oldfield Road (properties current in Widcombe Ward) together with Bloomfield Avenue, Maple Road, Maple Grove and the top few properties on Wells Rd (Lyncombe Ward roads) into the 'current' Oldfield Ward Polling District (see picture attached below).

I believe that this will enable easier pedestrian and car access to the current Polling Station on King Edward Road. It is also much closer than the existing Widcombe Ward Polling Station at Hayesfield School on Brougham Hayes.

Polling District A could keep using the current Polling Station on King Edwards Road. The Upper Oldfield Park site of Hayesfield School would be a more accessible and central location for a Polling Station in District B.

Option 2: If the numbers in the two Proposed Polling Districts above do not meet the Government Guidance then I would propose three Polling Districts (see picture attached below).

The current Oldfield Ward Polling District (labelled A) would remain the same bar the moving of a few properties on Oldfield Road into C. The current Lyncombe Ward area would also be joined by Upper Oldfield Park and Hayden Close and Highview.

Polling District A could keep using the current Polling Station on King Edwards Road. Districts B and C could have separate Polling Stations but both located within the Upper Oldfield Park Site of Hayesfield School. The Brougham Hayes site of the School is no longer central to the majority of residents of B and C now.

Reference No. PDR-39

Oldfield Park

Name: Cllr Stephenson-McGall
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Oldfield Ward
Comment Text: Dear colleagues, I'm happy with the proposed polling stations in the new Oldfield Park Ward.

Reference No. PDR-40

Oldfield Park

Name: Ross Purcell
Organisation Name: Hayesfield Girls' School
Comment Text: May I request that Oldfield Park ward's polling station remains at Hayesfield's Brougham Hayes campus (postcode BA2 3QU) once the new ward boundaries are confirmed?

Reference No. PDR-41

Oldfield Park

Name: Ross Purcell
Organisation Name: Hayesfield Girls' School
Comment Text: Thank you for acknowledging the request. The School prefers its Brougham Hayes campus as:

1. The School's operations can be isolated and separated from Polling operations and public access managed satisfactorily during polling;
2. There is ease of access to the current location whether on foot, by vehicle, in daylight or darkness, for both able-bodied or semi-ambulant visitors.

Paulton

Name: Cllr John Bull and Cllr Liz Harman

Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Paulton Ward

Comment Text: Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on Electoral Services' proposals for polling stations. For Paulton you are proposing three polling stations as opposed to the present one (in the Wesley Hall). While we understand that the increase in the electorate in Paulton, due to new housing developments, makes it wise to consider increasing the number of polling stations to reduce pressure at busy times, particularly in General Elections, we believe that three polling stations is one too many. Having multiple polling stations in a tightly-knit community like Paulton is likely to cause confusion. Although traditionally the appropriate polling station is notified on the polling card people do not always refer to these, old habits die hard and there will be cases where adjacent streets and even houses vote at different places. As a result we think that there will be a number of people who turn up at the wrong station and need to be redirected and this could cause as much pressure as the existing situation. Two of the proposed stations, Wesley Hall and the Village Hall are quite close together in the centre of the village. We would suggest using only one of these but adding Paulton Rovers as this would be more convenient for those at the Midsomer Norton end of the village who at present face quite a long journey, at least on foot, of about a kilometre to the village hall. We feel this would get the best value from the additional expenditure at a time of limited resources. Please get in touch if you need further clarification.

Reference No. PDR-43

Peasedown

Name: Cllr Sarah Bevan

Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Peasedown Ward

Comment Text: Thank you for the spreadsheet showing existing and proposed new polling stations for the new electoral zones in Peasedown. I note that of the two new stations, St John's Church Hall (N-PS4) is yet to be confirmed and still awaiting a response from the church – could you let us know if this is confirmed in due course? Also, is the Methodist Church, Bath Road (N-PS3) confirmed as a new polling station? (There's no tick mark in the column).

Reference No. PDR-44

Peasedown

Name: Cllr Karen Walker

Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Peasedown Ward

Comment Text: Thank you for sending the proposed polling stations for Peasedown St John. If St John's Church does not confirm they are happy to have the polling station, could you include St John's Community Hall just off Albert Avenue, it's a Curo-run building. The building is used by many community groups.

Reference No. PDR-45

Peasedown

Organisation Name: Peasedown St John Parish Council

Comment Text: Further to our email chain below, I write to confirm that the Parish Council reviewed the proposals for the changes to the polling stations in Peasedown St John and their response was minuted as follows:

Councillors discussed the proposals from B&NES Council regarding the changes to the polling stations in Peasedown St John and although the advice provided was that it would be cheaper to have smaller polling stations with fewer staff, they were concerned that the locations of the suggested polling stations were not equally spread across the village with three being located in the older parts of the village and one in the newer Orchard Way estate. They were also not convinced that it would be more cost effective as they believed that staff numbers would remain the same to cover the four polling stations but with additional venues there would be extra hire charges. It was therefore resolved not to support the proposals and comment that the two existing polling stations at the Youth Hub and Beacon Hall should remain as they are at present.

I trust you will take our comments into consideration when making your decisions.

Radstock

Organisation Name: Radstock Town Council

Comment Text: Thank you for the information relating to proposed polling stations, which was considered at a meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 15th October. The Town Council is content with the proposals for the polling stations in Radstock.

Saltford

Organisation Name: Corston Parish Council

Comment Text: As requested by the latest council email distribution regarding the B&NES current review of potential polling stations for the 2019 elections of Ward and Parish Councillors, it is proposed that Corston Village Hall is designated as one of the Polling Station in the new Saltford Ward.

Southdown

Name: Cllr Dine Romero

Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Southdown Ward

Comment Text: I note the suggested polling stations but wonder if it you would reconsider the re-inclusion of Southdown Methodist Church, The Hollow? Perhaps sharing with the new Twerton, as this is the polling station previously used by many living in the Whiteway area of the ward previously within Southdown, this may help with confusion over the ward changes. Rather than use Roundhill and Oldfield schools, and so have to close them for the day, have you considered using Ascension Church, Claude Avenue, and also St Barnabas' Church, Mount View? The latter is currently used as the polling station for the current SD2. And again could save confusion.

Southdown

Name: Cllr Paul Crossley

Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Southdown Ward

Comment Text: I would like to put some other thoughts into the mix. I think that we already have the principal of two wards sharing one polling station and this forms the basis of my suggestion.

1. Southdown Methodist to service both the top end of Southdown (Hollow area) and the Whiteway part of Twerton.
2. Sladebrook Evangelical serving Kingsway from Odd Down and the top end of Southdown going down Southdown Road and Sladebrook Avenue.
3. Ascension Church serving that area of Westmorland Ward and the old Westmorland area coming into Southdown and also the lower part of Southdown Road.
4. Twerton Village Hall serving the South Twerton area of new Southdown and the Lower part of the Hollow and the High Street end of Twerton.

I would be happy to come in and draw lines on a map to show you how this would work.

And could consideration be given to calling the new ward Southdown and South Twerton?

Timsbury

Organisation Name: Timsbury Parish Council

Comment Text: The Parish Council notes your plans to add a polling station. This would not be our preferred option, as the Conygre Hall works very well for voters, especially for those who need to drive or access in a wheel chair. As a result the South Road Methodist Church will need parking cones outside.

Walcot

Name: Cllr Richard Samuel
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Walcot Ward
Comment Text: The existing stations at Claremont Methodist and the Gateway Centre are still suitable. For the new part of the ward could I suggest you investigate the following:
St Swithin's Church there is a ground level cafe and meeting room.
Nexus Chapel on London Road
Museum of Bath Architecture on the Paragon.

Each of the above is in the right location for the polling district. I cannot vouch for disabled access in any however.

Walcot

Name: Cllr Patrick Anketell-Jones
Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Lansdown Ward
Comment Text: Please could you ensure that residents in Camden who have been taken out of Lansdown Ward and moved into Walcot Ward will be able to use the Claremont Methodist Church polling station. St Swithin's may appear to be closer but it's at the bottom of a very steep hill and elderly residents would be at a disadvantage.

Westfield

Organisation Name: Westfield Parish Council
Comment Text: The only observation on this review that I have been asked to report back is that the Parish Council queried whether a third polling station at Trinity Methodist Church was necessary given its proximity to the other Polling Station at Westhill Road.

Westmoreland

Name: Cllr June Player

Organisation Name: Bath & North East Somerset Council, Westmoreland Ward

Comment Text: Suggestion for Westmoreland Ward is the Golden Fleece Pub along Lower Bristol Road near Lidl. This will give a station on that side of the Ward.