

### Review of polling places and polling districts 2019– Summary of Responses

Respondent	Areas	The polling district/polling place/polling station the submission makes reference to	Summary of Comments	Summary of Review
St Albans resident	St Peters ward	St Alban and St Stephen Infant School (ABC)	Requests the polling station for electors living in Charrington Place be located at the Trinity United Reformed Church in Beaconsfield Road as this venue is closer than the current polling station at St Alban and St Stephen Infant School.	<p>Trinity United Reformed Church (polling district ABD) is a shorter distance from Charrington Place (0.3 miles) compared to St Albans and St Stephen Infant School (0.5 miles).</p> <p>Trinity United Reformed Church currently serves 2025 electors. The electorate in Charrington Place is 489. The transfer of electors at Charrington Place to the church gives an electorate of 2514. Electoral Commission (EC) guidance states that a polling station should have no more than 2500 electors allocated to it. Therefore the polling district would be split into two polling stations to comply with EC guidance. The church is big enough to accommodate two polling stations.</p> <p>The electorate at St Albans and St Stephen Infant School in polling district ABC would be reduced from 1159 to 670. This polling district would continue to be served by one polling station.</p> <p>It is therefore proposed that electors living in Charrington Place</p>

				should vote at the church in Beaconsfield Road as this is a closer and therefore more convenient location. The polling district boundary of ABD would be altered to facilitate this.
St Albans resident	St Peters ward	St Alban and St Stephen Infant School (ABC)	Requests the polling station for electors living in Charrington Place should be located at the Trinity United Reformed Church in Beaconsfield.	See recommendations above.
St Albans resident	St Peters ward	St Alban and St Stephen Infant School (ABC)	Same request as above.	See recommendations above.
St Albans resident	St Peters ward	St Alban and St Stephen Infant School (ABC)	Same request as above.	See recommendations above.
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St Albans resident	St Peters ward	St Alban and St Stephen Infant School (ABC)	Same request as above.	See recommendations above.
Harpenden resident	Harpenden East	Crabtree School (HBA and HBB)	Requests an alternative polling station be sought for electors currently voting at Crabtree School, or that the polling station be rotated between venues. This is avoid to avoid the closure of the school on polling day.  Alternatives suggested are:	Comments on the suggested alternatives are as follows:  Scout Hut, Granary Lane: The Scout hut on Granary Lane is out of ward and in Harpenden West. Voting in polling stations

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scout hut, Granary Lane.</li> <li>• Scout hut, Waldegrave Park.</li> <li>• Crabtree Church, Crabtree Lane.</li> <li>• High Beeches School.</li> </ul>	<p>outside of wards only occurs in exceptional circumstances, for example, where no suitable building exists within the ward.</p> <p>Scout Hut, Waldegrave Park: The polling station at Crabtree School serves two polling districts, HBA and HBB. The Scout hut on Waldegrave Park is located too far away from polling district HBA.</p> <p>Crabtree Church, Crabtree Lane: The potential use of Crabtree Church as a polling station was investigated in detail in 2017 and found not suitable due to a lack of appropriate and compliant disabled access.</p> <p>High Beeches Primary School: High Beeches Primary School is located further away from polling district HBA and would not be a convenient location for these electors. Alternating between schools as suggested is not a viable option as this would cause confusion among the electorate.</p> <p>As no suitable venue can be located there are no proposed changes to the current arrangements.</p>
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				After consideration of officer comments Cllr Maynard supports the retention of Crabtree school as a polling station.
Cllr Mary Maynard	Harpenden East	Crabtree School (HBA and HBB)	Requests an alternative venue to the school to be used due to the school's decision to shut on polling day. Suggests moving the polling station from the school to the Scout hut, Waldegrave Park.	See comments above.
Harpenden resident	Harpenden East	Crabtree School (HBA and HBB)	Would like an alternative venue to the school to be used due to the school's decision to shut on polling day. This results in the loss of a days' education for pupils and inconvenience for parents.	See comments above.
Cllr Geoff Harrison	Ashley	Camp Junior School (AFB and AFC)	The walk to the room currently used is too far for disabled voters.	<p>At local elections a room within the school is used as the polling station. This is to avoid the need to shut the nursery. Access is via a pathway towards the rear of the school. Additional lighting is provided by the Returning Officer to ensure the access is well lit at all times.</p> <p>At national elections it has been agreed with the Head Teacher that the Retuning Officer may have use of the nursery for the polling station as it provides a larger space which is necessary when turnout is higher.</p> <p>The distance from the pavement at the perimeter of the school to the class room used at local elections is 12.7 meters which is longer than the distance between the pavement and the nursery used at national elections.</p>

				<p>Alternative venues have been explored, including the Organ Museum that is adjacent to the school. However, due to the valuable items kept by the museum the trustees decided they could not agree to the building's use as a polling station.</p> <p>The Head Teacher of Camp School suggested Royston Social Club in Royston Road as an alternative venue to the school. However, the social club is licensed premises which makes it unsuitable as a polling place.</p> <p>As no suitable venue can be located there are no proposed changes to the current arrangements.</p>
Colney Heath resident	Colney Heath, all polling districts.	Community Room (CAA)	<p>Polling station at the Community Room, High Street.</p> <p>Why does the boundary go north of the A414? This should be part of Tyttenhanger or Colney Heath Lane for voting. Polling district CAF should be in this area.</p>	<p>The polling station at the Community Room, High Street serves polling districts CAA and CAF.</p> <p>Colney Heath parish ward comprises of polling districts CAA, CAB and CAF. The boundary of this ward extends to the north of the A414 and it cannot be altered as part of this review. Therefore, electors in polling districts CAA and CAF cannot vote at the polling station at Tyttenhanger, which is located at Charles Morris Hall, as this is within the Highfield parish ward.</p>

				<p>Colney Heath Lane is in the Hill End parish ward.</p> <p>Voting in polling stations outside of wards only occurs in exceptional circumstances, for example, where no suitable building exists within the ward.</p> <p>There are no proposed changes to the current arrangements.</p>
		St Albans Rugby Club (CAB)	This polling district should be separate and named Smallford and Sleapshyde	<p>Polling district CAB is part of the Colney Heath parish ward. It is beyond the scope of this review to change warding arrangements including boundaries and names.</p>
		Trinity Building, Nicholas Breakspear School (CAC)	The western boundary of this polling district should be Hixberry Lane – with Hill End Farm in 'Tyttenhanger'.	<p>Polling CAC comprises the Hill End ward of Colney Heath parish council.</p> <p>Hixberry Lane is in Highfield ward, therefore the polling district boundary cannot be changed due to this ward boundary.</p> <p>Hill End Farm is located in Highfield ward and electors vote at Charles Morris Hall, in Tyttenhanger.</p> <p>There are no proposed changes to the current arrangements.</p>
		Charles Morris Hall (CAD and CAE)	<p>Why are parts of Camp Road and Ashely Road not in Cunningham Ward? – they are in St Albans.</p> <p>Why is the polling station not at Trestle Theatre or Highfield Park Trust Office?</p>	<p>It is beyond the scope of this review to change warding arrangements including boundaries and names.</p> <p>It is not viable for The Trestle Theatre to be used as a polling station as they are not able to cancel regular bookings.</p> <p>Highfield Park Visitor Centre (also known as Highfield Park Trust Office) is located in Highfield ward</p>

				and is more accessible than Charles Morris Hall for electors living on the estate around the roads Starlight Way and Puddingstone Drive, on the former Cell Barnes hospital site (polling district CAE). It is therefore proposed that the Highfield Park Visitor Centre serves as the polling station for electors in the CAE polling district.
		Community Room (CAF)	Why are these dwellings not in CAA?	The nine properties which comprise the CAF polling district are within the Welwyn and Hatfield Parliamentary constituency. Therefore they must be part of a separate and distinct polling district.