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LICENSING, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Thursday, 10 November 2011

Present:

Councillor WJ Davies (Chair)

Councillors	T Anderson	S Taylor
	P Glasman	R Wilkins
	C Jones	K Wood
	I Lewis	I Williams
	S Niblock	

16 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to consider whether they had any personal or prejudicial interests in connection with any item on the agenda and if so, to declare and state what they were.

Councillor S Niblock declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 3, Review of Wirral Polling Districts, Places and Stations 2011, Bromborough Ward, by virtue of being Chair of the New Ferry Village Hall Joint Management Committee.

Councillor I Williams declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 3, Review of Wirral Polling Districts, Places and Stations 2011, Bromborough Ward, by virtue of being a Member of the New Ferry Village Hall Joint Management Committee.

Councillor B Wilkins declared a personal interest in Item 3, Review of Wirral Polling Districts, Places and Stations 2011, Pensby and Thingwall ward, by virtue of being a resident of the Ward.

Councillor P Glasman declared a personal interest in Item 3, Review of Wirral Polling Districts, Places and Stations 2011, Liscard Polling Station, by virtue of being a Ward Councillor for New Brighton due to the polling station being currently situated in New Brighton.

Councillor S Taylor declared a personal interest in Item 3, Review of Wirral Polling Districts, Places and Stations 2011, Liscard Polling Station, by virtue of being a Ward Councillor for New Brighton due to the polling station being currently situated in New Brighton.

Councillor I Lewis declared a personal interest in Item 3, Review of Wirral Polling Districts, Places and Stations 2011, Leasowe and Moreton East ward, by virtue of being a Ward Councillor.

17 **MINUTES**

Resolved - That the minutes of the meetings held on 21 September and 6 October, 2011, be approved.

18 **REVIEW OF WIRRAL POLLING DISTRICTS, PLACES AND STATIONS 2011**

Councillors S Niblock and I Williams left the meeting and took no part in the decision relating to Bromborough Ward - HA (see minute 16 above).

Councillor B Wilkins declared a personal interest in respect of Pensby and Thingwall Ward (see minute 16 above).

Councillor P Glasman declared a personal interest in respect of Liscard Ward (see minute 16 above).

Councillor S Taylor declared a personal interest in respect of Liscard Ward (see minute 16 above).

Councillor I Lewis declared a personal interest in respect of Leasowe and Moreton East ward (see minute 16 above).

The Head of Legal and Member Services (on behalf of the Director of Law, HR and Asset Management) provided details of the review undertaken in relation to the current polling districts, places and stations within the Borough and sought approval of suitable alternatives and changes as set out within the report.

The Electoral Administration Act 2006 introduced a duty on all local authorities to review polling districts, place and stations within their boundaries every four years.

The purpose of the review was to principally ensure that:

- all electors in the constituency have such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances;
- so far as reasonable and practicable, the polling districts places and stations are accessible to all electors, including those who are disabled, and when considering the designation of a polling place to have regard to the accessibility needs of disabled persons; and
- where there is no fully accessible building conveniently located for the Electors in an area, where it is necessary to use a place where the access is not ideal then every reasonable adjustment must be undertaken to provide access for all Electors.

Members considered and made a decision in relation to each proposal separately.

1. Birkenhead and Tranmere ward

Districts BA and BB

The Head of Legal and Member Services circulated a map proposing that the boundary between BA and BB be adjusted in accordance with the proposals outlined within the report and that the polling place for district BB be designated as Birkenhead Town Hall, Hamilton Square.

It was moved by Councillor P Glasman, seconded by Councillor C Jones and

Resolved -

- (1) **That the boundary between Polling Districts BA and BB be adjusted in accordance with the proposals outlined within the report.**
- (2) **That the polling place for Polling District BB be designated as Birkenhead Town Hall, Hamilton Square.**

2. Cloughton Ward

Districts CB and CC

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the proposals outlined within the report be agreed.

It was moved by Councillor P Glasman, seconded by Councillor S Niblock and

Resolved -

- (1) **That Noctorum Community Centre on Ridgeway High School campus continue to be used as the polling place for Polling District CB.**
- (2) **That an alternative room (namely, the second hall which was acquired as a result of two schools merging) within Bidston Avenue Primary School be used as the polling station for Polling District CC.**

District CD

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the proposals outlined within the report be agreed.

It was moved by Councillor P Glasman, seconded by Councillor S Niblock and

Resolved - That the Meeting Hall of the Quaker Meeting House, Park Road South be used as the polling station for Polling District CD.

District CE

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the proposals outlined within the report be agreed.

It was moved by Councillor P Glasman, seconded by Councillor S Niblock and

Resolved - That the Sea Scout hut in Park Road East be used as the polling place and polling station for Polling District CE.

3. Bromborough Ward

District HA

The Head of Legal and Member Services circulated an amended recommendation which proposed the following:-

“That the proposal be agreed and the polling place and station for Polling District HA be moved to New Ferry Village Hall.”

It was moved by Councillor P Glasman and seconded by Councillor C Jones -

“That the amended proposals, be agreed.”

Resolved - That the polling place and station for Polling District HA be the New Ferry Village Hall, Longfellow Drive.

4. Heswall Ward

District RD

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the polling station for Polling District RD be moved to St Peters Centre, as outlined within the report.

It was moved by Councillor S Taylor and seconded by Councillor K Wood and

Resolved - That the polling place and station for Polling District RD be St Peters Centre, Village Road.

5. Leasowe and Moreton East Ward

Districts TA and TB

The Head of Legal and Member Services circulated a map and recommended that the proposals outlined within the report be agreed.

It was moved by Councillor P Glasman, seconded by Councillor S Niblock and

Resolved -

- (1) That the boundary between Polling Districts TA and TB be changed so that all of Castleway North falls within Polling District TB.**
- (2) That a larger mobile unit be used (if possible) as a polling station at New Brighton Rugby Club.**

District TC

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the proposals outlined within the report not be agreed and that the status quo should continue.

Councillor I Lewis suggested that the Yew Tree Online Centre be re-considered.

It was moved by Councillor S Taylor, seconded by Councillor P Glasman and

Resolved -

- (1) **That the Sacred Heart RC Primary School, Danger Lane, continue to be used as the polling place for Polling District TC.**
- (2) **That further enquiries be made regarding the viability of the Yew Tree Online Centre and the outcome of those enquiries be reported to a future meeting of this Committee.**

District TD

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the proposals outlined within the report not be agreed and that the status quo should continue.

It was moved by Councillor P Glasman, seconded by Councillor C Jones and

Resolved - That Sacred Heart Parish Centre, Hoylake Road, continue to be used as the polling place for Polling District TD.

District TE

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the proposals outlined within the report not be agreed and that the status quo should continue.

It was moved by Councillor S Taylor, seconded by Councillor P Glasman and

Resolved - That Sandbrook Primary School, Stavordale Road, continue to be used as the polling place for Polling District TE.

6. Liscard Ward

District WE

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the polling place for Polling District WE be changed to Liscard Primary School as outlined within the report.

Councillor C Jones suggested that this be re-examined and a further report be brought back to a future meeting of this Committee.

It was moved by Councillor C Jones and seconded by Councillor S Taylor -

- “(1) That the polling place for Polling District WE be changed to Liscard Primary School.
- (2) That an alternative polling place and polling station for Polling District WE be considered and the outcome be reported back to a future meeting of this Committee.”

Resolved -

- (1) That the polling place and polling station for Polling District WE be changed to Liscard Primary School.**
- (2) That an alternative polling place and polling station for Polling District WE be considered and the outcome be reported back to a future meeting of this Committee.**

Districts WA and WB

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the status quo outlined within the report should continue.

It was moved by Councillor S Taylor, seconded by Councillor K Wood and

Resolved - That Marlowe Road United Reform Church Hall continue to be used as the polling place for Polling Districts WA and WB.

7. Moreton West and Saughall Massie Ward

District YC

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the status quo outlined within the report should continue.

It was moved by Councillor P Glasman, seconded by Councillor I Lewis and

Resolved - That Foxfields School, Douglas Drive, continue to be used as the polling place for Polling District YC.

District YD

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the Little Angels Day Nursery be used as the polling place/station for Polling District YD subject to an agreement being reached with the Nursery. In the event that no such agreement being reached, a larger mobile unit be used (if possible).that would provide a sheltered space for tellers

Councillor C Blakeley addressed the meeting and raised his concerns regarding the use of the Little Angels Day Nursery.

Members of the Committee discussed the options available.

It was moved by Councillor S Taylor and seconded by Councillor C Jones -

“That a larger mobile unit be used (if possible) as the polling place and polling station for Polling District YD.”

Resolved - That a larger mobile unit be used (if possible) as the polling place and polling station for Polling District YD.”

8. Prenton Ward

Districts LA and LB

The Head of Legal and Member Services circulated an amended item and maps outlining the proposed boundary changes. He recommended that the boundary between Polling Districts LA and LB be adjusted in accordance with the proposals outlined within the report. He proposed that the polling place for Polling District LA be designated as St Stephens Church Hall, Prenton Lane and that the polling place for Polling District LB remain as Prenton Primary School.

It was moved by Councillor P Glasman and seconded by Councillor C Jones -

“That the proposals outlined by the Head of Legal and Member Services be agreed subject to the adjusted boundary line encompassing the houses situated in Edinburgh Drive, providing the electorate figure does not exceed 2,500.”

Resolved –

- (1) That the proposals outlined by the Head of Legal and Member Services be agreed subject to the adjusted boundary line encompassing all the houses situated in Edinburgh Drive, providing the electorate figure does not exceed 2,500.**
- (2) That the polling place for Polling District LA be St Stephens Church Hall, Prenton Lane**
- (3) That the polling place for Polling District LB be Prenton Primary School**

9. Seacombe Ward

District SD

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the polling station for Polling District SD be relocated to the community room of the new Park Primary School (situated on the corner of Love Lane/Woodstock Road).

It was moved by Councillor T Anderson, seconded by Councillor S Taylor and

Resolved - That the polling place for Polling District SD be the new Park Primary School (situated on the corner of Love Lane, Woodstock Road) and

the Polling Station for the Polling District SD be the community room located within the school.

10. Wallasey Ward

Districts VB

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the polling place for Polling District VB be changed to the Mount Primary School due to the closure of the current polling place, All Saints Church Hall.

It was moved by Councillor K Wood, seconded by Councillor P Glasman and

Resolved - That the polling place for Polling District VB be the Mount Primary School and the polling station for Polling District VB be the hall located within the school.

District VF

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the status quo outlined within the report should continue.

It was moved by Councillor K Wood, seconded by Councillor P Glasman and

Resolved - That St Georges Primary School, St Georges Road continue to be used as the polling place for Polling District VF.

11. Pensby and Thingwall Ward

Districts FC and FE

The Head of Legal and Member Services recommended that the status quo outlined within the report should continue.

It was moved by Councillor S Taylor, seconded by Councillor P Glasman and

Resolved -

- (1) That Pensby Primary School continue to be used as the polling place for Polling District FC.**
- (2) That Christ Church Hall, Barnston Road, continue to be used as the polling place for Polling District FE.**

19 **PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER TRAINING**

The Director of Law, HR and Asset Management sought a decision from Members in respect of individuals currently licensed as Private Hire or Hackney Carriage Drivers who had not yet complied with the requirement to undertake training by 1 November 2011.

Mr G Gregory attended the meeting. He advised Members regarding issues of funding and expected timescales for training. Mr Gregory responded to questions from Members of the Committee.

It was moved by Councillor S Taylor and seconded by Councillor S Niblock that -

“(1) Members delegate authority to officers to suspend the Private Hire or Hackney Carriage Driver Licence of any licensed driver who has not enrolled to undertake the required training by 29 November 2011.

(2) Members delegate authority to officers to suspend the Private Hire or Hackney Carriage Driver Licence of any licensed driver who has not completed the required training by 28 March 2012.”

Resolved (10:0) -

(1) That Members delegate authority to officers to suspend the Private Hire or Hackney Carriage Driver Licence of any licensed driver who has not enrolled to undertake the required training by 29 November 2011.

(2) That Members delegate authority to officers to suspend the Private Hire or Hackney Carriage Driver Licence of any licensed driver who do not completed the required training by 28 March 2012.

20 PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR LICENCE CONDITIONS

The Director of Law, HR and Asset Management sought Members' approval of revised Private Hire Operator Licence Conditions.

Resolved - That Members approve the revised conditions for Private Hire Operators set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

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