

## POLLING PLACE OPTIONS FOR POLLING DISTRICTS FB AND ND

### 1. Pensby and Thingwall Ward

Polling District FB:-

The current polling place is Thingwall Methodist Church Hall [Seven Acres Road]. Electoral Services received communication from the Manager that the church hall was closed and would be sold off in the future for redevelopment.

Investigations for an alternative venue have been carried out by Electoral Services and two options have been identified. The two options are:

#### Option 1:

Thingwall Recreation Centre [off Sparks Lane]. The proposed alternative venue would offer reasonable facilities for voting and would be accessible to all electors.

However, the entrance to the car park is via a driveway measuring approximately 100yds and is only wide enough for one way traffic. The manager has advised this does not cause problems and users are aware of the rights of way. There is also a traffic calming hump at the end of the driveway that would need to be made more visible for any pedestrians. There is also pedestrian access to the venue via Barnsdale Avenue.

There would be a hire charge of £200.

#### Option 2:

Thingwall Primary School [Pensby Road]. This is the current polling place for polling district FA and is situated just outside the polling district boundary between polling districts FA and FB.

It is already determined to offer reasonable facilities for voting and is accessible to all electors, however, to accommodate another polling station within the existing one may cause confusion to some electors and may delay the voting process.

There is no charge for using school premises other than for heating and lighting.

#### **Recommendation:**

That Option 1 be agreed as the designated polling place for polling district FB.

### 2. Hoylake and Meols Ward

Polling District ND:-

The current polling place is Westbourne Community Centre [Westbourne Road]. Electoral Services has recently received communication from the Manager that the Centre would not be available for use at the forthcoming elections in May 2015 due to a block booking opportunity.

Investigations for an alternative venue have been carried out by Electoral Services and a proposal has been identified.

The proposed alternative venue is West Kirby Methodist Church Hall [Westbourne Road]. It would offer reasonable facilities for voting and would be accessible to all electors.

The vicar of West Kirby Methodist Church has indicated that the church hall could be used as a polling place subject to availability.

There would be a hire cost for using West Kirby Methodist Church Hall [Westbourne Road] as a polling place in 2015 but is yet to be determined.

**Recommendation:**

That West Kirby Methodist Church Hall [Westbourne Road] is agreed as the designated polling place, subject to availability, for polling district ND for the forthcoming elections in May 2015 and that Westbourne Community Centre be re-designated as the polling place for polling district ND in the future.