

Polling District and Polling Places Review 2019

Representations received

First Consultation Period

Number	Individual/Public Body making representations	Area	Representation
1	Cllr Steven Morgan	Arlecdon & Ennerdale	<p>As previously discussed, I recommend moving the dozen or so south Rowrah voters to the Arlecdon polling station because of distance and to be with their immediate neighbours. They are currently voting in the Kirkland mission church rather distant and unrelated to Rowrah. Their children go to the Arlecdon School, not the Lamplugh School near Kirkland.</p> <p>I further recommend the remaining Asby voters also move to Arlecdon because the present polling station is a private home without handicapped access. Arlecdon is about one mile from Asby and has substantial capacity and has handicapped access. I have discussed this with the parish councils in Arlecdon-Frizington and Ennerdale. I will be discussing this move with the Lamplugh Parish later this week and will advise if there is any disagreement from them.</p>
2	Cllr Sam Meterer	Beckermet	<p>I refer to the current consultation on Polling Districts and Polling Places and would make the following comments in relation to Beckermet Ward:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Polling District B-1, Haile and Wilton. I would like some consideration to be given to moving the present electors, approximately 58 including postal voters, at Beggargill, Carleton and Oxenriggs into the B-4 polling District as I believe this would be a more convenient location for electors to vote rather than the considerable 'trail' (if not using the postal voting system) they presently have to make to Haile.

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			<p>For most if not all of these electors, casting their vote at Thornhill is within a reasonable walking distance.</p> <p>2) Polling District B-2, Lowside Quarter – Braystones. I would like some consideration to be given to setting up a new Polling Station for these 114 Electors including some postal voters. At Present these electors (if not postal voters) have to travel to Beckermet to cast their vote. I would suggest a possible Polling Station could be in the Tarnside Club area.</p> <p>Further to my comments above, it does seem that perhaps for simplicity rather than accessibility criteria that electors have been just included in a polling district according to the Parish their abode fits in. This can be amply illustrated by electors in Blackbeck where those on one side of the A595 have to go to Haile to vote, and those on the other side go to Beckermet, which is geographically more accessible for both sides of the road.</p> <p>I would like therefore for some consideration to be given for an electors polling district to be more aligned with the accessibility criteria as opposed to the Parish boundary criteria. This is particularly so in the case of Blackbeck residents, Oakland's, Yeorton plus other homes on the periphery of the Parish boundaries.</p> <p>I would be grateful if these comments could be fed into the consultation process.</p>
3	Bootle Parish Council	Black Combe & Scafell	At the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8 July 2019 it was resolved that the two polling stations and polling areas (BCS-1 and 2) remains as is. The lack of a safe pedestrian route between the villages excludes the ability to combine the polling stations.
4	Waberthwaite & Corney Parish Council	Black Combe & Scafell	The Council at its July Meeting expressed wishes to retain the two polling stations within the parish.

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5	Whicham Parish Council	Black Combe & Scafell	At the meeting of Whicham Parish Council held on 3 July 2019, it was resolved that the recommendation to merge the Whicham polling districts BCS-11 and BCS-12 be approved. The Parish Council consider that the polling station should be located at Silecroft Village Hall as this is centrally located for the parish.
6	Cllr Linda Jones-Bulman	Cleator Moor	The area of Mill Hill-Bowthorn Road-John Colligan Drive of Cleator Moor is a large estate, with lots of people, but lacks its own polling station. The nearest polling stations at Crossfield Community Centre and Cleator Moor Civic Hall are very far away and would take a long time to walk. Please can the council consider an appropriate venue for a polling station in this area of North West Cleator Moor?
7	Egremont Town Council	Egremont	Following a Town Council meeting on Tuesday 16th July where the review of polling stations was discussed, Councillors feel that the Masonic Hall and St Mary's Parish Centre should remain as Polling Stations as it is obvious from the numbers stated in the report that both are well attended and also have facilities for disabled access. Councillors feel that their views should be strongly considered going forward to the next stage of the review process.
8	Drigg & Carleton Parish Council	Gosforth & Seascale	At the July meeting of Drigg & Carleton Parish Council, members discussed the Returning Officers Comments and proposals and agreed to fully support the recommendation of no change to the arrangements for Drigg and Carleton.
9	Christine Lindsay	Gosforth & Seascale	Boundary Change but polling card shows polling station 5 miles away when there is one 1 mile away at Nether Wasdale. There are a few properties in the same situation and she states she has previously called up about this.
10	Cllr Fee Wilson	Millom	Many thanks for this very useful information. Just to confirm in "my" patch St James Church and the Pensioners Hall both have excellent disabled facilities.

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11	Jane Donaldson	St Bees	<p>Coulderton, Middleton and Nethertown are almost entirely outside St Bees Parish Council boundary (a couple of the beach bungalows at the north end of Coulderton beach do fall within St Bees Parish as does Coneyside Farm).</p> <p>Our own house is in Lowside Quarter and for many years our polling station has been at the Masonic Hall in Egremont. Personally we don't find that particularly inconvenient as we usually combine it with a shopping trip. There is no public transport to Egremont (or anywhere else!) these days but postal voting perhaps makes that less important. A polling station in Nethertown would obviously be closer for most people but there are really no community buildings in Nethertown these days. The only possibility would be the separate cafe/conference room at Keith Singleton's nursery. However, he no longer opens the cafe and I don't know whether he still rents out the conference room. It might be worth an enquiry.</p> <p>As far as Braystones is concerned, the only building I can think of would be at Tarnside Caravan Park. I am not sure whether they have a separate room apart from the bar area. I know Lowside Quarter PC used to have meetings there. Again, it might just be worth an enquiry.</p>
12	Copeland Disability Forum (CDF)	<p>Arlecdon & Ennerdale</p> <p>Black Combe & Scafell</p> <p>Distington, Lowca & Parton</p> <p>Millom</p> <p>Sneckyeat</p>	<p>CDF have now had chance to go through the proposal document for the review of polling stations and are comments are as follows :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Page 4 of document Arlecdon Ward the proposal is to merge AE-2 and AE3 – as there is no disabled access to AE-2 CDF would suggest that when the two are merged then AE-3 becomes the new single polling station. That will solve the problem of no disabled access. 2. Page 6 - of the document Waberthwaite Ward - again the proposal is to merge BCS-3 and BCS-4, as there is no disabled access to BCS-4 CDF would suggest when the two are merged then BCS-3 becomes the new single polling station. This will solve the problem of no disabled access.

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			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1133 309 2069 443">3. Page 6 - there is a possibility to merge BCS-11 and BCS-12, whilst both the present polling stations do have disabled access there may be a proposal to provide one new polling station in a different location – CDF would like the assurance that the new one would have disabled access. <li data-bbox="1133 488 2069 590">4. Page 6 - BCS-5 and BCS-13 Eskdale, there is a possibility of a merger with these two polling stations, the one chosen or any different location must provide disabled access. <li data-bbox="1133 635 2069 839">5. Page 10 – there is no changed proposed at 52 Pica Cottages, however at the last review this was highlighted as a problem as there was no disabled access. CDF asked for consideration to be given to look at changing this before the next review. We feel now any facility must provide disabled access – as stated by law. The possibility of providing a mobile accessible polling station for Pica must be considered and provided. <li data-bbox="1133 884 2069 1056">6. Page 16 – M-3 and M-4 Newtown Ward – states in the document unknown for disabled access, looking at the nature of both buildings CDF would presume there is disabled access but would want an access survey done of these two buildings to ensure this is correct. CDF will willingly provide this survey. <li data-bbox="1133 1101 2069 1203">7. Page 19 – S-3 Sneckyeat Community Hall – this states no disabled access however CDF believe this has disabled access, again we would provide a survey for the Council. Disabled Access must be provided. <li data-bbox="1133 1248 2069 1350">8. Page 19 – S-4 8 Rutland Ave, this has no disabled access – an alternative must be sought – we presume this is a private house and is not suitable for a polling station. Disabled access must be provided at all polling stations.

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			CDF is willing to work with the Council to help ensure all polling stations are fully accessible as Government requires.
13	Copeland Labour Party	Copeland	Regarding your review of polling stations: We certainly do not wish to see a reduction in the number of polling stations, or a change in their location from the current status quo.

Second Consultation Period

Number	Individual/Public Body making representations	Area	Representation
1	Waberthwaite & Corney Parish Council	Black Combe & Scafell	The parish council would prefer to maintain the two polling stations in the parish (Corney & Waberthwaite BCS 3 & BCS4).
2	Copeland Disability Forum (CDF)	Black Combe & Scafell	CDF visited the polling station today (23.08.19) at Corney parish hall. This building is totally unsuitable for people with disabilities. It was locked when we arrived, however, I couldn't even get through the gate to the front door which had a 6 inch step. The building is on a very narrow road with no parking apart from a field next to the "hut". There is no facilities or adaptations for people with disabilities. There is an outside toilet, not accessible. CDF's opinion is this building should not be used as a polling station. If so the Council would be failing in its duty to provide access for everyone. We did call to see nearby Waberthwaite Hall which we understand is used as a polling station. This is accessible with a ramp, railings and we understand a disabled toilet. Can the two polling stations be amalgamated?

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3	Egremont Town Council	Egremont	<p>At the Egremont Town Council meeting held last night (10.09.19), Copeland's proposals to change the Polling Districts in Egremont from 6 down to 4 were discussed.</p> <p>Furthermore it is proposed that St Mary's Centre is not used in future elections as a Polling Station but electors will be able to vote at the nearby Masonic Hall.</p> <p>I hereby confirm that Egremont Town Council do not have any objections to these proposals.</p>