

## Polling District and Polling Places Review 2023

### Summary of Consultation Responses

WARD	POLLING DISTRICT	POLLING PLACE	Response
<b>BYFLEET AND WEST BYFLEET</b>	A1	St Johns Cornerstone Centre, Camphill Road, West Byfleet, KT14 6EH	Four responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	A2	Byfleet Village Hall, 54 High Road, West Byfleet, KT14 7QL	Five responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
<b>CANALSIDE</b>	B1 B2	Welcome Church, 1-5 Church Street West, Woking, GU21 6DJ	<p>Fourteen responses were received, three were in support of the current polling arrangements and eleven did not agree.</p> <p>The following representations were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When the light box was used as a polling station it was possible to walk. Now the polling station is a car ride away and this is not a step towards carbon neutrality. Also, the council should be using its own real estate to avoid paying rent for a room.</li> <li>• I am surprised about your comment that no feedback was received after the May 2023 elections as I know that the change from Trinity Methodist Church to Welcome Church was challenged by a number of residents living in The Grove and Ferndale who have difficulty walking or driving and found it difficult to get to Welcome Church.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I previously complained about the change in polling station relocation on 28 March, 2023, prior to the last local elections. The Welcome Church is not accessible for some residents in Town Centre North B2, of which I am in Ferndale Road. For our B2 location the change is actually a move away from being accessible to making it a more difficult process. A better location would be the Trinity Methodist Church, which is actually in Canalside, not Horsell ward</li><li>• We used to vote at the Lightbox which was straightforward to reach from our ward. We have quite a number of elderly residents and people with young families who have found it difficult to get across town to the new location. I have health issues which meant it was too far to walk, so I didn't vote. Trinity Methodist Church could be used as an alternative to the Lightbox.</li><li>• It is not a convenient site for the section of 'Canalside' which is actually part of historic Horsell. Voters have to pass two suitable polling stations to get to the Welcome Church. Objections were made before the May 2023 election.</li><li>• Since we have been moved into Canalside Ward from Horsell East Ward the polling station has recently been changed from the Lightbox to the Welcome Church. When we first came to The Grove in 1976 it was at Trinity Church for many years. I am now in my 80's and it's not so easy for me to vote in the Welcome Church. Either Trinity Church or The Lightbox is much easier for me vote at.</li><li>• Since we have been moved into Canalside Ward from Horsell East Ward the polling station has recently been changed from the Lightbox to the Welcome Church. When we first came to The Grove in 1976 it was at Trinity Church for many years. I am now in my 80's and it's not so easy for me to vote in the Welcome Church. Either Trinity Church or The Lightbox is much easier for me vote at.</li><li>• The Lightbox was much more convenient for the roads north of the Canal.</li></ul>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I wish to comment on the location of our present polling station which is the Welcome Church. Up until last year our polling station was The Lightbox which was very convenient for us all. The Welcome Church is much further away and I know of quite a number of people who did not cast their vote last year because it was not easy to get to the Polling station. This was especially true of elderly residents. I would ask that Trinity Methodist Church be considered as an alternative to the Welcome Church. Trinity is already used as a polling station and would appear to have capacity for another ward and it is on our doorstep so much more convenient for us all.</li> <li>I have been a Horsell resident for almost 48 years and until the last election in may 2023 could walk to Trinity methodist Church or The Lightbox to cast my vote. The Welcome Church is not practical for me as I don't drive and it is becoming too far for me to walk. I am strongly against such a small number or properties north of the canal being included in Town Centre North instead of Horsell. I appreciate I could register for postal voting but I feel it would be a waste of paper most of the time.</li> </ul>
	B3 B5	The Maybury Centre, 27 Board School Road, Woking, GU21 5HD	Five responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	B4	Parkview Centre for the Community, Blackmore Crescent, Sheerwater, Woking, GU21 5NZ	Four responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	B6	Woodham Parish Hall, 564 Woodham Lane, Woking, GU21 5SH	<p>Six responses were received, four were in support of the current polling arrangements and one did not agree.</p> <p>The following representation was made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The grouping of polling districts within this broader Canalside ward is challenging given the differing needs of the community. It would be better for Woodham side to be put back with Horsell as it used to be as the needs are more similar and local Councillors can focus more specifically on each wards needs rather than having such a diverse grouping.</li> </ul>

<b>GOLDSWORTH PARK</b>	C1	T S Dianthus, Wishbone Way, Woking, GU21 3RT	Eight responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	C2	The Generation Centre, Denton Way, Woking, GU21 3LG	Seven responses were received, six were in support of the current polling arrangements and one did not agree.
	C4		No representations were made.
	C3	Salvation Army Community Church, Sythwood, Woking, GU21 3BE	Seven responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
<b>HEATHLANDS</b>	D1	Brookwood Memorial Hall, Connaught Road, Brookwood, Woking, GU24 0AL	Five responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	D2 D 3	Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Woking, GU22 0NN	Four responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	D4	Woking Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club, Pine Road, Woking, GU22 0DX	Four responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	D5	The Lighthouse Barnsbury, 30 Ash Road, Woking, GU22 0BH	Nine responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
			<p>The following representations were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping the polling station where it is is encouraging people to vote in this area and would strongly recommend to leave there.</li> <li>• Whilst moving the polling venue to the Sport Box may sound a good idea I am concerned the distance from the estate for a lot of elderly voters and in particular crossing Egley Road although there is a crossing for the school there is no crossing isle by Almond Avenue. Yes, they could postal vote but surely the same applies to those that need a ramp to enter/exit the</li> </ul>

			<p>Lighthouse venue. A bright idea no doubt thought up by a younger person with a car.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I don't think Sportbox will work for Barnsbury voters, it is notably further away and less accessible. Either Ash Road or Barnsbury Buddies' building on Almond Avenue would be better.</li> <li>The Sports Box (SB) is geographically inconvenient from Barnsbury Estate (BE). SB is a 20 minute or more walk from the current Polling Station. The distance from BE to SB may discourage voters in inclement weather. A change to SB would call for a concerted Postal Vote for BE in particular. Please note that there is only one mailbox on BE. Being mindful of the age distribution of BE residents, there is a significant walk from the nearest drop off point to the main SB entrance.</li> </ul>
	D6	Sutton Green Village Hall, New Lane, Sutton Green, GU4 7QF	Four responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
<b>HOE VALLEY</b>	E1	Moorcroft Centre, Old School Place, Westfield, Woking, GU22 9LY	Nine responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	E2 E3	The Meadows Sports Pavilion, Loop Road, Woking, GU22 9BQ	Six responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	E4 E5	St Peters Church, Church Street, Old Woking, Woking, GU22 9JF	Eight responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
<b>HORSELL</b>	F1	Horsell Evangelical Church, High Street, Horsell, Woking, GU21 3SZ	Eleven responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	F2 F3	Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Brewery Road, Woking, GU21 4LH	Fourteen responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.

<b>KNAPHILL</b>	G1 G2	The Vyne, The Broadway, Knaphill, Woking, GU21 2SP	Eight responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	G3 G4	Knaphill Scouts Headquarters, Waterers Rise, Knaphill, Woking, GU21 2HU	Nine responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
<b>MOUNT HERMON</b>	H1	St Mary of Bethany Church Hall, York Road, Woking, GU22 7UH	Five responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	H2	St Dunstan's Church, Shaftesbury Road, Woking, GU22 7DT	Eight responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.  The following representation was made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I strongly disagree with Voter ID being required in order to vote. This is voter suppression and is deliberately designed to discourage and disenfranchise voters. This is totally unacceptable in a functioning democracy. It is a solution in search of a non-existent problem.</li> </ul>
	H3 H4	Woking United Reformed Church, White Rose Lane, Woking, GU22 7HA	Eight responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
<b>PYRFORD</b>	J1 J2	Alpha Road Community Hall, Alpha Road, Woking, GU22 8HE	Three responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	J3	Pyrford Village War Memorial Hall, Coldharbour Road, Pyrford, Woking, GU22 8SP	Five responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
	J4	St Johns Cornerstone Centre, Camphill Road, West Byfleet, KT14 6EH	Two responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
<b>ST JOHN'S</b>	K1	Sutton Avenue Common Room, 1-25 Sutton	Seven responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.

	Avenue, St John's, Woking, GU21 8UL	<p>The following representations were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sutton Avenue Common Room is a more central location for all residents in the ward. The memorial hall would, for most residents, require driving/transport to access to vote. By moving the location this limits access for voters, the pedestrian bridge between hermitage and St Johns Lye for example is not accessible. Sutton Avenue Common Room is owned by WBC, therefore minimal costs, is this the same for the memorial hall? Sutton Avenue have residents that have accessibility requirements already, shouldn't the common room be accessible to them at all times?</li> <li>I can't say I'm totally happy with the change of polling station for K1. It adds a considerable distance for many living on the Hermitage, although I do recognise there is a footbridge across the Canal from there. That said, the proposal shows ingenuity. Of course, if there is no other suitable location , then it must proceed and I would certainly not want to go back to the school as it disrupts their working. Also I do understand inadequacy of the Sutton Avenue premises.</li> </ul>
K2	St Johns Memorial Hall, St Johns Lye, St John's, Woking, GU21 7SQ	Five responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.
K3	Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking, GU21 6ND	Five responses were received in support of the current polling arrangements.