

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 19 January 2021

**Present: Councillor James Scholes (Chairman)
Councillors Funnell, Dr Hall, Lewis, Rands, Williams and Pope**

Officers in Attendance: Jane Clarke (Head of Policy and Governance), Mathew Jefferys (Democratic Services and Elections Manager) and Caroline Britt (Democratic Services Officer)

Other Members in Attendance: Councillors

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

GP1/20 There were no apologies. Councillor Mrs Thomas was not present.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

GP2/20 There were no disclosable pecuniary or other significant interests declared at the meeting.

NOTIFICATION OF VISITING MEMBERS WISHING TO SPEAK (IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 18):

GP3/20 There were no visiting Members who had registered as wishing to speak.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 10 DECEMBER 2019

GP4/20 Members reviewed the minutes. Councillor Dr Hall gave her apologies for not attending the meeting. No amendments were proposed.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting dated 10 December 2019 be approved as a correct record.

CONSULTATION ON A NEW POLLING STATION IN SHERWOOD WARD (KNIGHTS' WOOD)

GP5/20 Mathew Jefferys, Democratic and Electoral Services Manager presented a report that proposed a consultation on the setting up of a new polling station in the Sherwood Ward.

Discussion and responses to Members questions included the following:

- The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 required that the Council undertake a review of its polling districts and places every 5 years.
- The last full review went to Full Council on 18 December 2019.
- A decision was taken at the meeting to investigate the provision for an additional polling station in the Sherwood Ward to accommodate the increased housing growth in the area.
- No other venues aside from the Kent Skinners' Primary School were formally considered as part of the initial review. Ward Members were consulted but no other venues were put forward.
- Following a site visit on 16 October 2020 the school was deemed

- appropriate as a polling station.
- The Kent Skinners' Primary School had confirmed they were content for the school to be used as a polling station.
 - The residents of Knights Wood would be able to use the new proposed polling station, rather than travel to the TN2 Community Centre which was the only other polling station in the Sherwood North polling district.
 - Approximately 9 streets, 527 properties, 739 electors would benefit from the new polling station.
 - The proposed consultation would be undertaken for a period of 4 weeks. A full report would then be presented at the next General Purposes Committee on 25 February 2021.
 - The consultation, if approved, would start on 20 January 2021 and finish on 16 February 2021.
 - Details of the consultation would be disseminated to Ward Members and the local MP. In addition letters would be sent to residents. Information would also be included on the TWBC website and via social media.
 - It was noted that the number of houses in the area continued to increase and therefore over time, more residents would benefit from the new proposed polling station.

RESOLVED –

1. That a consultation be undertaken on the setting up of a new polling station in the Sherwood Ward.
2. That the list of consultees as set out in Appendix A be agreed; and
3. That the polling station suitability and equalities consideration, as set out in Appendix B be noted.

URGENT BUSINESS

GP6/20 There was no urgent business.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

GP7/20 The next meeting was scheduled to take place on Thursday 25 February 2021 at 6:30pm.

NOTE: The meeting concluded at 6.55 pm.