

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

**POLLING PLACES AND POLLING
DISTRICTS CONSULTATION
IN THE WYRE FOREST DISTRICT**

**Responses received for the consultation
period Tuesday 6 September 2016 to
Thursday 27 October 2016**

***(Personal data in the responses has
been removed where it is connected to
an individual)***

From: Fran Oborski
Sent: 06 September 2016 10:40
To: Wyre Forest Electoral
Cc: Shazu Miah
Subject: Polling Places Review OFC 1 (part) and OFC3 (part)

I wish to make the following comments as both a Ward Cllr and on behalf of Wyre Forest Liberal Democrats:

In OFC1 all residents in Queen Elizabeth Rd need to be able to vote at St Chad's so those properties currently placed in OFC3 need to be moved into OFC1

Similarly those properties in Byron Close, currently misplaced into OFC1 need to be moved into OFC3 and be able to vote at the Offmore Polling Station

Fran Oborski

Sent with Good (www.good.com)
Cllr.Fran Oborski MBE
Wyre Forest DC Member for Offmore Comberton
Worcestershire CC Member for St. Chads
01562 823911

www.focuskeepintouch.uk



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From: Shazu Miah
Sent: 06 September 2016 22:42
To: Fran Oborski; Wyre Forest Electoral
Subject: RE: Polling Places Review OFC 1 (part) and OFC3 (part)

I agree with Cllr Oborski. The addresses have been placed in to the wrong polling stations.

Regards
Shazu Miah

Cllr. Shazu Miah LLB (Hons)
Wyre Forest DC Member for Offimore Comberton
Office: 01562 227080

From: Fran Oborski
Sent: 06 September 2016 10:39:33
To: Wyre Forest Electoral
Cc: Shazu Miah
Subject: Polling Places Review OFC 1 (part) and OFC3 (part)

I wish to make the following comments as both a Ward Cllr and on behalf of Wyre Forest Liberal Democrats:

In OFC1 all residents in Queen Elizabeth Rd need to be able to vote at St Chad's so those properties currently placed in OFC3 need to be moved into OFC1

Similarly those properties in Byron Close, currently misplaced into OFC1 need to be moved into OFC3 and be able to vote at the Offimore Polling Station

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**FROM THE (ACTING) RETURNING OFFICER, WYRE FOREST PARLIAMENTARY
CONSTITUENCY**

Ian Miller
(Acting) Returning Officer
Wyre Forest Parliamentary Constituency
tel: 01562 732700
fax: 01562 732790
email: ian.miller@wyreforestdc.gov.uk
my ref: IRM/AB

20 October 2016

Dear Alison

**CONSULTATION ON POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES – DISTRICT OF
WYRE FOREST**

Thank you for consulting me about this review. I am replying in my role as (Acting) Returning Officer for the Parliamentary constituency of Wyre Forest.

I agree with the proposals made in this review which involve changes to two polling places (Offmore Community Centre and Stourport High School Sixth Form Centre) due to these buildings ceasing to be available in the short to medium term as a result of redevelopment plans. These polling places are located in the Offmore & Comberton and Mitton Wards respectively.

I also agree with the proposed polling district change to a limited number of properties in Queen Elizabeth Road and Bryon Close in the Offmore & Comberton Ward. The changes will align the properties with the old OF-A (Queen Elizabeth Road) and OF-B (Bryon Close) polling districts, which are now OFC-1 and OFC-3 respectively.

My views on the proposed polling places and polling districts are identified as follows:

Proposed Polling Places

Proposed polling place	Comment
Offmore Evangelical Church, Gray Close, Offmore, Kidderminster, DY10 3YE Offmore & Comberton Ward	I support the designation of Offmore Evangelical Church to replace Offmore Community Centre, which is due to be redeveloped. Its facilities are considered to be ideal to accommodate a double polling station for an electorate of approximately 3,993 and serving the polling districts of OFC-3 and OFC-4. There is a purpose built disabled ramp entrance and the building is located less than 100 yards from the current polling place, which will minimise disruption and confusion for voters in this area. At present it is not known whether the car park which adjoins the Evangelical Church will be redeveloped as part of the plans for Offmore Community Centre. However, there is plenty of nearby on street parking if the current car park became unavailable for use.

Proposed polling place	Comment
<p>Stourport High School and Sixth Form College, Minister Road, Stourport-on-Severn, DY13 8AX</p> <p>Mitton Ward</p>	<p>I also support the designation of Stourport High School and Sixth Form College to replace Stourport High School Sixth Form Centre, which is being redeveloped over the coming months. By designating the whole school complex rather than a specific building (as is the current case with the Sixth Form Centre) it provides greater flexibility for the Returning Officer to use the most appropriate facilities at the school. It also better supports the school when at various times of the academic year (e.g. public examinations) certain buildings or rooms would be unavailable.</p>

Proposed Polling Districts

Proposed district	Comment
<p>OFC-1 (previously OF-A)</p> <p>Offmore & Comberton Ward</p>	<p>I support the proposal to add the following ten properties in Queen Elizabeth Road, Kidderminster (No's 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62 & 64) to the OFC-1 polling district to enable the electors to go to the most conveniently located polling place. This will mean that the electors living at these properties will go back to voting at St Chads Church Hall on the Comberton estate, which from a geographic perspective is more convenient. It will mean that all electors who were previously in the OF-A polling District will be together in OFC-1.</p>
<p>OFC-3 (previously OF-B)</p> <p>Offmore & Comberton Ward</p>	<p>I also support the proposal to add the following 4 properties in Byron Close, Kidderminster (No's 14, 16, 18 & 20) to the OFC-3 polling district to enable the electors to go to the most conveniently located polling place. Electors living at these properties will return to voting at the Offmore polling station which, subject to one of the other proposals being agreed, will be Offmore Evangelical Church. The proposed polling place will be 7 metres closer for these electors than the distance they travel to St Chads Church Hall which is their current polling station.</p>

As required by the legislation, I set out information in the appendix about the location and numbers of polling stations that I would propose if the polling places set out in the consultation paper and reflected in my comments above were confirmed. I look forward to being notified of the Council's decisions about this review in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Ian Miller
(Acting) Returning Officer, Wyre Forest Parliamentary Constituency

Appendix

Polling Districts	Polling Place (As set out in the Council's Consultation Document)	Proposed Location and Number of Polling Stations
Offmore & Comberton		
OFC-3 OFC-4	Offmore Evangelical Church, Gray Close, Offmore, Kidderminster, DY10 3YE	Suitable room in the polling place. Two polling stations.
Mitton		
MI-SN2	Stourport High School and Sixth Form College, Minster Road, Stourport-on-Severn, DY13 8AX	Suitable room in the polling place. One polling station.

Resident of Offmore & Comberton Ward

Received – 20 October 2016

I am particularly interested in the area around Gray's Close as that is where I live (Offmore & Comberton ward). I would like to make comments as below regarding the proposals by Wyre Forest District Council to redevelop on this site.

- Is it really appropriate to use a church for voting purposes? Is this a 'fait accompli' by the Wyre Forest District Council in favour of this redevelopment but disregarding any objections which may have been raised by the Offmore Evangelical Church?
- In the tabulated review document it is stated that there is no guarantee that there will be sufficient parking on the existing car park at the Community Centre/Offmore Evangelical Church in Gray's Close and that on-road parking would be adequate. This raises safety issues especially if it is a polling day.
- The choice of Offmore Primary School may be a better choice for relocation of the Polling Station. It is a bigger, more appropriate building and it has a larger car park. (note: Many schools are used for this purpose instead of churches, but if they are the church halls may be used.)
- Executive Summary - surely the decision to redevelop the community centre in Gray's Close and relocate the polling station has not been made purely on the fact that a few residents now belong in a different polling district!

It should be noted that comments made specifically about the redevelopment of the Offmore Community Centre site which are not related to this review, have not been included above. The site belongs to the Community Housing Group and not Wyre Forest District Council.