

**Proposals in respect of responses received**

a) ***Responses 2 and 17 – Normanton-on-the-Wolds parish***

**Response content**

Both of these two responses requested that electors within Normanton-on-the-Wolds parishes continued to vote at Burnside Memorial Hall Plumtree and that two polling stations be set up in the polling place, one to serve electors in Plumtree parish and one for the electors in Normanton-on-the-Wolds parish given that they are in two different electoral wards and given the distance electors would be required to travel if they voted at Cotgrave Methodist Church as proposed. Concern was also expressed that electors would not be able to access the polling place at Cotgrave without transport due to there not being a footpath and no bus service.

**Consideration Factors**

Currently electors in Normanton-on-the-Wolds parish vote at Burnside Memorial Hall Plumtree for all elections except Nottinghamshire County Council Elections. This is because Plumtree is in a different county division to Normanton-on-the-Wolds and electors vote at Tollerton Methodist Church at county council elections.

One of the requirements of the review is that no polling place should be shared by two wards, this is the reason the above arrangements are in place and also why it is not possible to meet the respondent's requests.

There are the following options available for Normanton-on-the Wolds parish electorate

1. Vote at Cotgrave Methodist Church for all polls
2. Vote at Cotgrave Methodist Church for Borough, parish, and County Council elections and at Burnside Memorial Hall, Plumtree for all other polls
3. Vote at Cotgrave Methodist Church for Borough and parish council elections and at Tollerton Methodist Church for all other polls
4. Vote at Cotgrave Methodist Church for Borough and parish council elections, Tollerton Methodist Church for County Council Elections and Burnside Memorial Hall, Plumtree for all other polls
5. Explore the availability of Plumtree Cricket Club Pavilion as a possible polling place for the electors of Normanton on the Wolds parish for either all elections or for Borough, Parish and County elections only and vote at Burnside Memorial Hall for all other polls.

While pedestrian access from Normanton-on-the-Wolds to Cotgrave is not ideal due to two long stretches without a footpath, it is also not the best to Plumtree as electors have to cross the busy A606 which does have traffic lights on the junction but there is not a pedestrian crossing or pedestrian lights for crossing the road and therefore isn't the safest crossing. Additionally, there is an area without a footpath as you enter Plumtree village.

Having analysed the number of electors voting since 2015 we have the following information:

<b>Election</b>	<b>Number voted</b>
Parliamentary 2015	106
Parliamentary 2017	94
Borough 2019	46
European 2019	54
Parliamentary 2019	99
PCC & County 2021	46
Polling Place	Burnside Memorial Hall, Plumtree for all except 2021 which was Tollerton Methodist Church

As expected, turnout at parliamentary elections is significantly higher than other polls but it is interesting to see that the same number of electors travelled to Tollerton to vote last year as did vote at Burnside Memorial Hall in 2019 at the most recent borough council elections.

There is a balance to be struck between a location convenient for electors and weighed up with the possible confusion of voting at multiple polling places for different sets of election types.

### ***Proposal***

**It is proposed to either approve the Acting Returning Officer's recommendations for Cotgrave Ward as it is felt that it is preferred to allocate the same polling place for all polls where possible and given there is no suitable polling place in the parish it is preferred to then use a polling place in the ward. Allocating Cotgrave Methodist Church as the polling place for Clipston and Normanton-on-the-Wolds parishes ensures that the same polling place is then used for all future polls. Alternatively, Plumtree Cricket Club Pavilion could be explored as a possible polling place for Normanton on the Wolds parish given it is closer than Cotgrave Methodist Church. It could then be used for all polls to achieve**

consistency for the electorate or be used for Borough, Parish and County Council elections only.

b) ***Response 6 – Barton-in-Fabis parish***

**Response Content**

This response related to the new housing development at Fairham in Barton-in-Fabis parish and requested the appropriate location of a polling place for this area once new houses were built.

**Consideration Factors**

It is not anticipated that residents will start to move into this development until April 2023 at the earliest and therefore it is unlikely there will be any or very few residents in the estate before the time the next review needs to take place.

**Proposal**

**To revisit this area and its requirements when the next review is undertaken.**

c) ***Response 10 – Abbey Ward***

**Response Content**

For Abbey ward there were 3 options provided for the boundaries of the polling districts in the ward and preferences were sought as part of the consultation. The response received supported option C as they felt this better reflected the geography of the area.

**Consideration Factors**

This was the only response we received on this set of options we asked for views on. The 3 options related to a new ABB4 polling district and its size and boundaries. All options are viable, and a preference was requested as part of the review by the Acting Returning Officer.

***Proposal***

***It is recommended to draw polling district boundaries for Abbey Ward based on Option C and it is that proposal that is submitted for approval.***

d) ***Responses 15 and 16 – Bingham North and South***

**Response Content - 1**

These responses provided two different proposals for the polling places in the two new wards created for Bingham North and Bingham South.

The first response suggested the following polling places for Bingham parish within Bingham North Ward:

Polling District BNWE (Bingham North West Parish Ward) – Bingham Methodist Centre

Polling District BNEA (Bingham North East Parish Ward) – Bingham Arena (as proposed)

The following polling places were also suggested for Bingham South Ward:

Polling District BSWE (Bingham South West Parish Ward) – Town Pavilion  
Polling District BSEA (Bingham South East Parish Ward) – Old Church House, East Street, Bingham

### **Response Content - 2**

The second response agreed with the Acting Returning Officer's Proposals for the Bingham parish polling places proposed for the Bingham North Ward. Additionally, it was suggested that Scarrington Church should be considered as a polling place for Scarrington parish.

In respect of the South ward the respondent agreed with the proposal to allocate Bingham Methodist Centre as a polling place for Polling District BSWE (Bingham South West Parish Ward) and suggested that the Old Church House should be allocated as a polling place for Polling District BSEA.

### **Consideration Factors**

One of the requirements of the review and the allocation of polling places is that where possible, the polling place should be in its own polling district. This is achieved by allocating Bingham Town Pavilion as a polling place for Bingham North West Parish Ward (BNWE) and Bingham Arena as a polling place for Bingham North East Parish Ward (BNEA) as per the Acting Returning Officers proposal as supported by response 16.

Scarrington parish currently vote at Aslockton Village Hall but due to its change of ward from May 2023 this will not be possible and therefore the Acting Returning Officer proposed the polling place should be Car Colston & Screveton Village Hall which is within the new ward of Bingham North. The reason for this is that the distance for the electorate from Scarrington is very similar to travel. On average the number of electors that have voted in person at a polling station for Scarrington parish at elections held between 2019 – 2021 was 30.

In respect of Bingham South Ward, both responses suggested the use of Old Church House as a polling place for the South East Parish Ward. The Old Church House has been assessed as to its suitability as a polling place and is a fully accessible building and would meet the criteria. There is no parking available for the building or any adjacent car park however and vehicles would have to park roadside where available when voting. However, the polling place is situated in the polling district which wasn't the case for the polling place recommended as part of the Acting Returning Officer's proposals.

In respect of Bingham South West parish ward that are not any buildings that could be used as a polling place and therefore it has been necessary to look at buildings in the surrounding Area. Bingham Methodist Centre has been used successfully as a polling place for the Bingham East Ward and the Acting Returning Officer's proposals recommended using this polling place for this area given the lack of any other building

available. This proposal was supported by response 16. Response 15 however suggested that the polling place for this area should be the Town Pavilion, but this would mean it would not be available for use by Bingham North Ward.

### **Proposals**

**In respect of Bingham North Ward, it is proposed to keep the Acting Returning Officers recommendations as previously published given that the polling places in Bingham Parish proposed are within the polling districts and are suitable premises to use. This also applies in respect of Scarrington as it is felt that the electorate will have very little impact in being asked to vote at Car Colston compared to previously voting at Aslockton.**

**With regard to Bingham South Ward the suggestion to use Old Church House as a polling place for Bingham South East Parish Ward (BSEA) seems preferable to the whole ward voting at Bingham Methodist Church and given it is in the polling district it is proposed to trial the use of this building as a polling place in 2023 and then evaluate its success as a long-term polling place for this polling district given its lack of car parking provision. If a further change is necessary following feedback, then a further report should be brought back to council to enable a change to be made for any election taking place from 2024 onwards.**