

15 November 2011
Recommendations of the STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
to the Council of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell

PRESENT-

Councillor Neil Dallen (Chairman); Councillor Clive Woodbridge (Vice Chairman); Councillors Ben Cahill-Sawford, Darren Dale, Judith Glover, Alison Kelly, Christine Long (as nominated substitute for Councillor Eber Kington), Dan Stevens, Mike Teasdale and David Wood

Apologies for absence: Councillor Eber Kington

- 25** REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES. A report presenting the findings of the statutory review of polling districts and polling places was presented to the Committee together with recommendations in respect of Polling District boundaries and the location of Polling Places.

The Committee noted that the Council regularly reviewed its polling stations and so it was not surprising that relatively few suggestions for change had been put forward. However, the Committee's attention was drawn to four issues affecting Court, Ruxley, Ewell and Town Wards, in particular:

Court Ward

An Electoral Review of the County Council was currently being undertaken. If the Local Government Boundary Commission accepted submissions made in relation to the County Division Boundaries in the Court Ward area, it would be necessary to redraw the polling district boundary between F(A) and F(B).

Ruxley Ward

Officers were aware of the possibilities offered by the Horton Chapel development and were open to the possibility of proposing that it be designated as a polling place, subject to its suitability for that purpose, at the appropriate time (assuming the status quo in current Borough Ward boundaries).

Ewell and Town Wards

The (Acting) Returning Officer had been satisfied with the proposal that polling district J(B1) in Ewell Ward should be merged back with the rest of J(B) for administrative reasons and that the designated polling place should no longer be the Linton's Centre but Glyn School. However, since publication of the review, the Council had received confirmation of the Local Government Boundary Commission's draft recommendations in respect of County Division boundaries in Surrey. If these draft recommendations were approved, it would be necessary to retain and expand J(B1) because it would be part of a different County Council Division to the rest of Ewell Ward for County Council election purposes. In this scenario, the polling district would be renamed J(C) and it was still suggested that the designated polling place should be Glyn School.

The Linton's Centre was also the designated polling place for polling district K(A) in Town Ward. At the time of the review consultation, it had been understood that the intention was to hold elections for Police Commissioners in May 2012 and the availability of alternative accommodation at St. John's ambulance Hall in Hook Road, Epsom for a May 2012 election had been confirmed. However, it had subsequently been announced that these elections would not take place until November 2012.

It was agreed to recommend

- E**
- (1) the polling place for polling district E(A) be designated as West Ewell Evangelical Church;
 - (2) the Chief Executive be authorised to redraw the polling district boundary between polling districts F(A) and F(B) if this was necessitated by the outcome of the Electoral Review of Surrey by the Local Boundary Commission;
 - (3) the Chief Executive be authorised to create a new polling district J(C) if this was necessitated by the outcome of the Electoral Review of Surrey by the Local Boundary Commission;
 - (4) if created, the polling place for polling district J(C) be designated as Glyn School;
 - (5) should the Local Boundary Commission's recommendations which affect polling district J(B1) not be adopted, the polling district J(B1) should be retained and the designated polling place should continue to be The Linton's Centre;
 - (6) the polling place for K(A) should continue to be designated as The Linton's Centre until the future of the site is known.

26 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS. The Committee considered a proposed Calendar of Meetings for 2012/13

It was agreed to recommend

- F** the programme to Council as set out in the Annexe to the report

NEIL DALLEN
Chairman