

Appendix B - Summary of representations and comments received.

**EAST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL
REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES 2023**

Organisation/ Councillor	Comments Received	(Acting) Returning Officer's Response
Cllr R Jackson	<p>Boars Head, Louth My only concern in Louth is the Boars Head, which I suspect is small considering the potential throughput, I'm not sure the access is great from the road, and I'm also not sure how well adapted it is for disabled access (I'd have to check). The sports hall at KEVIS would be better, what happened with that facility?</p> <p>None of the other proposed places stand out as problematic</p>	<p>Whilst KEVIS Sports Hall has been suggested as an alternative, this was used previously and moved to KEVIS Foundation House. The location/parking and safeguarding was a concern.</p> <p>The Boars Head Pub was considered a suitable alternative, we have the use of the back room which is separate from the main public area, and this has a disabled ramp and rail. There are three car parks that border the pub for convenient public access.</p> <p>It is therefore proposed to remain at the Boars Head, Louth.</p>
Cllr R Jackson	<p>Royal British Legion, Louth</p> <p>The Royal British Legion Hall in Northgate, Louth has been closed by the RBL due to structural issues and condemned. From discussions I've had with local members it seems like the repairs will be extensive and expensive - minimum of £250,000 estimated about 4 years ago, and likely the price will have risen quite a bit. So there's no realistic expectation that it can be used as a polling place in the next couple of years. It's going to take time to raise that kind of money, and then to make the repairs - assuming the RBL is amenable to that course of action, which isn't guaranteed.</p> <p>Long story short, you will need to find an alternative polling place. The library</p>	<p>An alternative venue is required for this polling station.</p> <p>Louth Library has adequate space, but no direct parking and the room is located upstairs.</p> <p>The Sessions House has been suggested, it has a large private car park and disabled ramp access. After an assessment of the building, it is proposed to move the polling station to the Sessions House, Eastgate, Louth.</p>

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	on Northgate is accessible, although parking isn't great, and would be worth enquiring about.	
Cllr G Marsh	<p>Corn Exchange, Alford I note that in the Alford area Hannah Cum Hagnaby are listed as attending "the Corn Exchange, Alford" when their nearest polling station is actually "the Church at Bilsby".</p> <p>I don't know if there is any historical reason that this is so but no one has ever complained to me that they would prefer to go to Bilsby Church.</p>	<p>Hannah cum Hagnaby falls within the Alford District and Alford & Sutton County boundaries. It was moved to the Corn Exchange at Alford after the Lincolnshire review (from 2017) to be best placed for a District Election.</p> <p>No comments that have been received as to the suitability of the polling station in Alford.</p> <p>It is therefore proposed to remain at the Corn Exchange, Alford.</p>
Cllr E Mossop	<p>I am sure that this may be common to a number of Wards where confusion has arisen as potential voters have seen a polling station only to discover that they are unable to vote at the same station as their neighbour who lives across the street.</p> <p>My example would be Keddington Parish where approximately 250 residents live in streets which due to expansion of the town, are within the built-up area of Louth but they are actually in Keddington Parish which is in Fulstow Ward. They currently are sent to Alvingham Village Hall to vote, three miles away.</p> <p>I do not anticipate that many voters will make the effort to drive out to Alvingham to cast their vote from these streets.</p> <p>Whilst postal voting is an option, I would like to see if it can be considered an option for voters to be allowed to vote at one of the Polling Stations in Louth. It may be that this would need extra vigilance by the polling clerks and ballot papers would have to be separated at the count, but I do not see these as insurmountable problems.</p> <p>The fact of the matter is that we must give every encouragement for people to vote and remove as many barriers as possible to prevent people from</p>	<p>Whilst the comments are valid. The parish boundaries cannot be realigned through a Polling District and Polling Places review. This will need to be addressed at the next Electoral Boundary Review. A date of which will be determined by the Boundary Commission.</p> <p>The last review of the boundaries in East Lindsey was completed and was in place for 2014. The East Lindsey (Electoral Changes) Order 2014 SI.1189</p>

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	voting. I see the Keddington situation as an example where we can do this.	
Cllr J Makinson-Sanders	<p>I would further comment that the eastern boundary of Louth needs to be looked at very closely As Cllr Mossop rightly points out the houses in question are felt to be in Louth, they enjoy all the facilities offered by the town but pay nothing to the Town Council for the use of them. This surely cannot be right and it is unfair that they are basically "getting the benefit of living in a town free of charge". I personally have worked to get the Nipper Bus Services extended down there, I know they use places like Hubbard Hills etc and to all intents and purposes class themselves as Ludensians.</p> <p>I actually have a similar issue on the west of Louth too. The old Trout Farm on Westgate was converted into homes, and is now called Troutbeck, but they too fall without the boundary, except for one property which is actually in my Ward. Their district councillor is Cllr Richard Fry, over 10 miles away in Binbrook. Ironically I can look out of my window and see them all quite clearly! They also have all the Louth facilities for a fraction of the cost which we pay in the rest of Westgate.</p> <p>Anomalies are interesting but to ensure that our residents have the right representation we should surely do something positive about the situation.</p>	<p>Whilst the comments are valid. The parish boundaries cannot be realigned through a Polling District and Polling Places review. This will need to be addressed at the next Electoral Boundary Review. A date of which will be determined by the Boundary Commission.</p> <p>The last review of the boundaries in East Lindsey was completed and was in place for 2014. The East Lindsey (Electoral Changes) Order 2014 SI.1189</p>
Cllr S Harrison	<p>Methodist Chapel, Withern</p> <p>Your records will show that I was a Poll Clerk for the last County Council Elections. The Polling Station used on that occasion was the room at the rear of the Chapel in Withern.</p> <p>I do not consider that this was an appropriate place for future use – it was extremely cold, I spent most of the day in my own heavy clothing, wrapped in a blanket. It was a time when because of Covid doors and windows had to be left open, but it really could not be described as adequate conditions for such a long day.</p> <p>My additional concern was the difficulties that the polling Officer had in trying to display the posters identifying the building as a polling station – she had to climb up over furniture and other items stacked in front of the windows in the</p>	<p>After considering the comments made and following an assessment of the Village Hall in Withern. It was felt that although the village hall is not as central as the Methodist Church, it provides better facilities. There is a private car park and the hall has adequate space and safer areas for signage and staff working at the polling station.</p> <p>It is therefore proposed to move the polling station to the Village Hall, Alford Road, Withern.</p>

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	<p>Chapel to place the posters and then remove them late in the evening. I am sure this did not meet with Health and Safety requirements, nor did the temperature of the room.</p> <p>The Village Hall in Withern (if available), which I am well acquainted with would be a much better venue. It has 2 access doors, toilets and has recently undergone improvements. It also has a good off road parking area.</p>	
Kirkby on Bain Parish Council	<p>Kirkby on Bain School, Kirkby on Bain</p> <p>I am contacting you on behalf of Kirkby on Bain parish council who would like to make comments on the review. The residents of Kirkby on Bain currently have to use Roughton village hall to vote when the school hall in Kirkby on Bain was previously used. The council are aware that the site did not meet certain accessibility regulations which have now been corrected since the last review was carried out. Can you please take this into consideration when commencing the new review. The parish council would like the school hall to be used in future elections.</p>	<p>After meeting with a representative of the school and it has been agreed that the school will be used as a polling station in the future.</p> <p>This is subject to all the agreed works being carried out on the lighting and accessibility of the building.</p>
Louth Town Council	<p>Boars Head, Louth</p> <p>St. Mary's Ward – Councillors were concerned about voting taking place in a pub (The Boars Head) and wondered if instead it would be better hosted at Church House, (still in St. Mary's Ward, opposite St. James's Church). It was felt this was a central location, parking could be accommodated on the cobbles next to the Church, the venue offers toilets and income from the rental would benefit a community space.</p>	<p>After a visit to the Church House, Upgate, Louth, it was considered unsuitable to be used as a polling station. Although the room is adequate. It has been confirmed that the cobbled street could not be used for parking as this is a private area, therefore the nearest parking would be some distance away on Bridge Street or Co-op car parks, on street parking on School House Lane or Little Eastgate. The building is also located at the very edge of St Marys Parish Ward.</p> <p>It is suggested that the polling station remain at the Boars Head. This is a central location for St Marys Parish Ward. There is separate access to the rear of the building with ramp</p>

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	<p>Royal British Legion, Louth St. James' Ward – Councillors were aware that the future of the RBL Hall, previously used, was under threat and might not be available. Therefore, it would like to put forward the Council's own building, Sessions House. This again is centrally located, has a car park at the rear, has disabled access and a disabled toilet.</p>	<p>access. Also, there are three car parks that surround the building.</p> <p>As mentioned previously, it is proposed that the new polling station be moved to the Sessions House, Eastgate, Louth.</p>
Skegness Town Council	Skegness Town Council would be happy to explore the option of using Tower Gardens Pavilion as a polling station.	Comments noted and should it be necessary to revise the current arrangements, we will highlight this site for consideration.