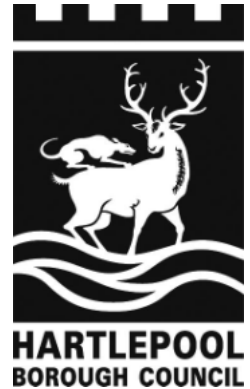


GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE AGENDA



Tuesday, 1 February 2011

at 4.30 pm

in Committee Room C, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

Councillors Aiken, C Akers-Belcher, S Akers-Belcher, Fleet, Flintoff, Gibbon, James, Simmons and Wells

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 3. MINUTES**
 - 3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2010
- 4. ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**
 - 4.1 Appointment Of Local Authority Representatives to Serve On School Governing Bodies – *Director of Child and Adult Services*
 - 4.2 Review of Polling Places – *Chief Solicitor*
- 5. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT**

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

6 December 2010

The meeting commenced at 4.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Martin Aiken (In the Chair)

Councillors: Bob Flintoff, Marjorie James, Chris Simmons and Ray Wells

Officers: Alyson Caman, Legal Services Manager
Lorraine Bennison, Principal Registration and Members Services Officer
Alison Swann, HR Business Partner
Tracy Rowe, Regeneration Officer
Jackie Payne, Senior Registration Officer
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

Other: Christine Blakey, David Nin, Fred Corbett

22. Apologies for Absence

Councillors, Christopher Akers Belcher, Stephen Akers Belcher and Steve Gibbon.

23. Declarations of interest by members

None.

24. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2010

Confirmed.

25. Training for General Purposes (Appeals and Staffing) Committee (HR Business Partner)

Members were reminded of the training which had been provided for the Committee in relation to Final Stage Grievance, Employee Pension Arrangements and Appeals Against Dismissal. An evaluation of the sessions was required but Members agreed that due to current pressure of work on the department this may be better left until after budgetary

decisions had been made. It was however felt that a manual should be compiled which would be circulated to new members of the GP Committee as well as a copy available in the Members' library. It was felt that it would be useful for a single training session to be held for new members of the Committee. Members were asked whether there were any other subjects which should be covered and it was suggested that there be a session covering staffing reviews/restructures, although this would not be held until after February 2011.

Decision

The Committee noted the report.

26. Further Electoral Review of Hartlepool Borough Council *(Principal Registration and Members Services Officer)*

Members were provided with a draft copy of the Submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England on Warding Arrangements as part of the Electoral Review of Hartlepool Borough Council and were invited to comment on this.

Members suggested a number of minor amendments to the submission and all agreed that Officers had done an excellent job in producing this document.

It was clarified for a member of the public that the transition to 33 members would occur by having all out elections in 2012 followed by a Mayoral election in 2013 and by thirds after that. Proposed wards would follow natural and physical boundaries although numbers of electors should be within the suggested variance.

It was queried how resident representatives would fit into the proposed new structure and the answer was that this was not yet clear and would be determined by Council following implementation of the electoral review outcome.

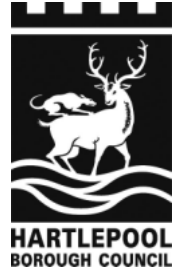
Decision

Members endorsed the updated draft submission on warding arrangements, subject to minor amendments, for consideration by Full Council at an Extraordinary Meeting on 16 December 2010.

The meeting concluded at 5.08 pm

CHAIR

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
1ST FEBRUARY 2011



Report of: Director of Child & Adult Services

Subject: APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY
REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON SCHOOL
GOVERNING BODIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update members of the General Purposes Committee in respect of vacancies that currently exist for Local Authority representative governors, and to request members to make recommendations to the Children's Services Portfolio Holder in respect of the appointment of Local Authority representative governors to serve on school governing bodies.

2. BACKGROUND

Applications are invited from members of the general public, elected members and those governors whose term of office is about to expire or has expired and who are, interested in serving or wish to continue to serve as a LA representative governor on school governing bodies.

The following criteria were agreed by the Borough Council for the recruitment of LA representative governors in 2000. LA governors should be able to show:

- demonstrable interest in and commitment to education;
- a desire to support the school concerned;
- a commitment to attend regular meetings of the governing body (and committees as appropriate) and school functions generally;
- good communication/interpersonal skills;
- ability to work as part of a team;
- a clearly expressed willingness to participate in the governor training programme.

A schedule (**Appendix 1**) is attached setting out details of vacancies which currently exist for LA representative governors, together with applications received in respect of the vacancies (**Appendix 2**). **This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006) namely, information relating to any individual (para 1)**

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the recommendations for the appointments set out in the confidential section of the minutes, of LA representative governors be referred to the Children's Services Portfolio Holder for approval.

Contact Officer:

**Ann Turner, Governor Support Officer, telephone 523766
e.mail ann.turner@hartlepool.gov.uk**

Child and Adult Services



VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

January 2011

**Contact Officer: Ann Turner
Telephone: 01429 523766**

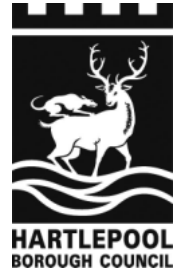
VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	POSSIBLE INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENTS
Barnard Grove Primary School Mr Michael Kay Councillor Rob Cook	One Vacancy	No interest expressed	
Catcote School	Three Vacancies	Mr James F Bryant	
Eldon Grove Primary School Mrs Jacqui Butterworth Mrs Patricia Vaughan	One Vacancy	No interest expressed	
Grange Primary School Councillor R. Flintoff	One Vacancy	No interest expressed	
Greatham C. E. Primary School Mrs Pat Brotherton	One Vacancy	Councillor Geoff Lilley	
Rift House Primary School Mrs Sylvia Tempest	Two Vacancies	No interest expressed	

SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	POSSIBLE INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENTS
Rossmere Primary School Mrs Maureen Smith	One Vacancy	Councillor Patricia Law ton Miss Nicola Marie Leighton	
Seaton Carew Nursery School Councillor Geoff Lilley	One Vacancy	Councillor Hilary Thompson Councillor Paul Malcolm Andrew Thompson	
St Helen's Primary School Miss Chris Lamb Councillor Reubin Atkinson Mr John Ibbotson	One Vacancy	No interest expressed	
Throston Primary School Mrs Susan. Allison Mr Kevin Shears	One Vacancy	No interest expressed	
West Park Primary School Mrs Sally Kirby Mrs Margaret Boddy	One Vacancy	Councillor Ray Wells	

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

1 February 2011



Report of: Chief Solicitor

Subject: REVIEW OF POLLING PLACES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider and review the suggestions for alternative polling places to be used at future elections.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Under Section 18 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006, local authorities are required to review the polling districts and polling places on a 4 yearly cycle. The last full review of polling districts and polling places was undertaken in autumn 2007 and agreed by Council in December 2007. The next scheduled full review must be completed by December 2011.

2.2 As the Council is currently undergoing a Further Electoral Review, the next full review of polling districts and polling places will not commence until the outcome of the Further Electoral Review is known – completion date September 2011.

2.3 In addition to the above, each Council is required to keep their polling districts and places under review during the intervening period.

2.4 Interim reviews were undertaken in 2009 and 2010, with a number of changes to Polling Places approved and implemented.

2.5 Attached at **Appendix A** is a table detailing the existing polling districts and places. Only one adverse comment was received regarding the venues used at the combined Parliamentary and Local elections held in May 2010. The issue raised was investigated and a solution identified.

3. PROPOSALS

3.1 Currently the authority has 59 polling districts which reflect local areas and communities. There are no plans to review polling districts and therefore it is will not be necessary to revise and republish the Electoral Register.

- 3.2 However, a number of potential new locations for polling places have been identified, offering improved access and car parking facilities. Attached at **Appendix B** are details of the affected polling districts together with the existing and proposed polling places.
- 3.3 In the Brus Ward, the “Area bounded by King Oswy Drive, Fulthorpe Ave, Nicholson Way & Joyce Rd” is identified as the polling place for Polling District AA. Current arrangements are for the use of a portable unit, located on the car park at the rear of the shopping parade. Recent investment in the area has led to the Northern Lights Academy on King Oswy Drive being available. This location offers improved access and car parking facilities and is more cost effective for the Council.
- 3.4 An adverse comment was received in October 2010 regarding access arrangements to the room used at Owton Manor Primary School. The school is identified as the Polling Place therefore there is no requirement to seek approval for change in room location. However, for completeness, the room currently used is the Infant Kitchen with the new room location for 2011 being the Dining Room which offers improved access.
- 3.5 As part of the Council’s strategy for bridging the budget deficit for 2011/12, a number of buildings currently used as polling places have been earmarked for potential closure. Election officers are currently putting contingency arrangements in place should such locations be unavailable at election time.
- 3.6 Following changes to polling places, there is a requirement to publish the revised details. Public notice is usually given at council buildings including the Civic Centre, branch libraries and community buildings. Notice is also published on the Council’s website.

4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 An access audit has been undertaken at all proposed locations to ensure that buildings units are fully accessible

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That Members consider and agree the alternative venues identified as possible polling places as detailed in **Appendix B**.
- 5.2 That Members agree to Election Officers identifying suitable contingency arrangements for polling stations should current locations be unavailable at election time.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

General Purposes Committee Minutes – 5 December 2007
Council minutes – 13 December 2007
General Purposes Committee Minutes – 13 February 2009
General Purposes Committee Minutes – 20 March 2009
General Purposes Committee Minutes – 19 March 2010

7. CONTACT OFFICER

Lorraine Bennison – Principal Registration & Members' Services Officer
Legal Services
Chief Executive's Department
Hartlepool Borough Council
Telephone Number: 01429 523017
E-mail – lorraine.bennison@hartlepool.gov.uk

APPENDIX A

EXISTING POLLING DISTRICTS AND PLACES 2010

POLLING DISTRICT	POLLING PLACE
BRUS WARD	
AA	Area bounded by King Oswy Drive, Fulthorpe Ave, Nicholson Way & Joyce Rd
AB	West View Community Centre, Miers Avenue
AC	St Thomas More's Parish Centre, Easington Road
BURN VALLEY WARD	
BA	Eldon Grove
BB	St Matthew's Community Centre
BC	Polling District BC
DYKE HOUSE WARD	
CA	Lime Crescent Flatlets
CB	Jesmond Road Primary School
CC	Brougham Annexe, Wharton Terrace
CD	Parton Street
ELWICK WARD	
DA	Village Hall, Front Street, Hart
DB	Hartfields
DC	WI Hall, The Green, Elwick
DD	Polling District DD
DE/DF	Village Hall, Dalton Piercy
DG/DH	Polling District DH
FENS WARD	
EA	The Mowbray, Mowbray Road
EB	Fens Primary School
FOGGY FURZE WARD	
FA	Foggy Furze Branch Library
FB	St Cuthbert's Church Hall, Stratford Road
FC	Belle Vue Community Centre
GRANGE WARD	
GA	Supporters Club Car Park – Portable Unit
GB	Lynnfield Community & Learning Centre
GC	Polling District GC
GREATHAM WARD	
HA	Polling District HA
HB	Greatham Community Centre, Front Street, Greatham
HART WARD	
IA	Barnard Grove Primary School
IB	St Marks Community Centre
IC	Bamburgh Court
ID	Hartfields
OWTON WARD	
JA	Owton Manor Primary School
JB	Owton Manor Community Centre
JC	Grange Primary School
PARK WARD	
KA	High Tunstall School

POLLING DISTRICT	POLLING PLACE
KB	Bow Is Pavilion, Ward Jackson Park
KC	Hartlepool Cricket Club
RIFT HOUSE WARD	
LA	The Masefield Centre
LB	Browning Avenue Baptist Church
LC	Kingsley Primary School
LD	Polling District LD
ROSSMERE WARD	
MA	Tanfield Road Nursery
MB	Rossmere Centre, Rossmere Way
MC	Rossmere/Ardrossan Community Building
MD	Jutland Road Community Centre
SAINT HILDA WARD	
NA	Phoenix Centre
NB	St Helens Primary School
NC	Constables Lounge, Borough Hall
SEATON WARD	
OA	The Schooner, Warrior Drive
OB	Seaton Carew Branch Library
OC	Seaton Carew Youth Centre
STRANTON WARD	
PA	Mill House Leisure Centre
PB	Polling District PB
PC	Central Library, York Road
PD	Burbank Community Centre
THROSTON WARD	
QA	Polling District QA
QB	Throston Grange Community Centre
QC	Jesmond Road Primary School

APPENDIX B**PROPOSAL FOR REVIEWING POLLING PLACES**

POLLING DISTRICT	ELECTORATE (APPROX)	EXISTING POLLING PLACE	PROPOSED POLLING PLACE
BRUS WARD			
AA	2040	Area bounded by King Oswy Drive, Fulthorpe Ave, Nicholson Way & Joyce Rd – currently a portable unit	Northern Lights Academy
OWTON WARD			
JA	1500	Ow ton Manor Primary School (Room: Infants Kitchen)	Ow ton Manor Primary School (Room: Dining Room)