



Minutes of the meeting of the **Public Facing Boundary Review Panel** held on Zoom on Monday 4 November 2024 at 2.30 pm

**Members Present:** Mr R Briscoe, Mr J Brown, Mr S Johnson, Mr T O'Kelly and Ms V Weller

**Members not present:** Mr T Johnson

**In attendance by invitation:**

**Officers present all items:** Mrs L Baines (Democratic Services Manager), Ms M de Silva Puttick (Democratic Services Officer), Mr J Mildred (Divisional Manager for Corporate Services) and Mrs J Ward (Elections Manager)

## 8 **Chair's Announcements**

Apologies were received from Cllr T Johnson.

## 9 **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the Panel held on Friday 22 March 2024 were approved as a correct record.

## 10 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## 11 **Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places in the Chichester District - Final proposals**

Mrs Ward introduced the report. She explained that this follows the initial report and consultation from March 2024 and will go to Council. She commented that polling station locations are not set in stone and can change if for example they are unavailable or have building work going on.

Cllr Briscoe questioned why there are no polling stations in Walderton, as a couple of electors had raised concerns over the distance that they had to drive to get to their nearest station. He asked officers if something more central in this area could be considered and asked for clarification as to whether it was possible to hold polling stations in a pub.

Mrs Ward explained that the original polling station was no longer available and it was felt that moving electors to another station that was just outside of the area would be the best solution. Issues such as the lack of phone signal and the cost to hire and staff the polling station for such a small electorate also needed to be considered. The lack of polling station in this area did not flag as a problem in the consultation. She explained that it is possible to use a pub as a polling station, however this can be expensive and that electors can have a postal vote if they are unable to get to a polling station . She advised that she would look into the option of the pub and would let Cllr Briscoe know the outcome.

Cllr Johnson praised the northern polling station location in Bosham.

RESOLVED:

**That the report on the review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations for the Chichester District, as set out in Appendix 1, be agreed.**

## 12 **Late Items**

There were no Late Items.

The meeting ended at 2.43 pm

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CHAIRMAN

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Date: