

**CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the Corporate Affairs Committee was held on 11 March 2010.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Clark (Chair), Councillors Brunton, McIntyre, McPartland, Mrs H Pearson, OBE and Purvis.

**OFFICERS:** C Davies, S Harker, and R Painter.

**\*\* DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made at this point of the meeting.

**\*\*MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2010 were taken as read and approved as a true record.

**SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES – APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNOR**

A report of the Head of Commissioning and Resources was presented requesting Members to give consideration to the re-appointment of Mrs K Morris to Priory Woods School as a Local Authority Representative. Mrs Morris' term of office expired on 7 February 2010 and she had indicated that she was willing to serve a further four-year term of office.

**ORDERED** as follows:-

1. That the following appointment be approved for a four-year term of office:

<u>School</u>	<u>Governor</u>
Priory Woods School	Mrs K Morris (wef 7.2.10)

**POLLING STATIONS**

The Members' Office Manager presented a report of the Director of Legal and Democratic Services seeking Members' agreement to proposed changes of location of several Polling Stations. The Council had a duty to keep all Polling Stations under review and ensure that all electors had reasonable facilities for voting and that Polling Stations were accessible to all.

The Polling Stations under consideration were currently located at:

- St Alphonsus School, Cadogan Street – North Ormesby and Brambles Farm Ward (Polling District EB).
- The Nursery, Berwick Hills Primary School, Westerdale Road – Pallister Ward (Polling District IA).
- Whinney Banks Youth and Community Centre, Harehills Road – Ayresome Ward (Polling District BB).

In the run up to the Parliamentary General Election, all polling stations were contacted to ascertain their availability. Recent enquiries had established that:

- Due to current building works, the polling station based in St Alphonsus School was not available for the Parliamentary General Election 2010.
- Due to current building works, the polling station based in the Nursery, Berwick Hills Primary School, was not available for the Parliamentary General Election 2010.
- Due to demolition, the polling station based in Whinney Banks Youth and Community Centre was not available for the Parliamentary General Election in 2010.

Alternative accommodation had been identified and inspected and Polling Station assessments had been completed. Details of the ward implications were given in the submitted report. In preparation for the Parliamentary General Election, the following proposals were presented for Members' consideration:

- a) To replace the Polling Station based within St Alphonsus School, Cadogan Street, to a polling station based within St Alphonsus Church, located on Westbourne Grove.
- b) To replace the Polling Station based within The Nursery, Berwick Hills Primary School, Westerdale Road, to Berwick Hills Primary School, Westerdale Road.
- c) To replace the polling station based within Whinney Banks Youth and Community Centre to a temporary polling station located on West Lane.

St Alphonsus Church was located just outside of the polling district but was still within reach of the electors. The premises had both vehicle and pedestrian access and had good parking facilities on site. The building had ideal access for wheelchair users and people with disabilities including level access and double entrance doors. Street lighting lit the exterior of the building.

Berwick Hills Primary School was located within the polling district and was close to where the majority of the electors lived. The premises had both vehicle and pedestrian access and had good parking facilities on site. The building had ideal access for wheelchair users and people with disabilities and a permanent ramp was in-situ. The exterior of the building could be floodlit. However, there could be a logistical problem for the school as it might have to be closed for the day.

A temporary station sited on West Lane would be close to where the majority of the electors lived. West Lane had suitable on road parking for electors that would not interfere with the flow of traffic. An electrical supply was in place and street lighting was present.

The interiors of each of the buildings were acceptable for use as polling stations, and provided adequate facilities for both polling station staff and electors.

A map was circulated to Members for clarification of the locations of the existing and proposed Polling Stations.

The fee involved for hiring accommodation at St Alphonsus Church was £100. There were no hire charges involved for using Local Authority buildings such as schools. The usual fee for hiring and siting a temporary station and associated costs was £550.

**ORDERED** as follows that:

1. St Alphonsus Church, Westbourne Grove, be approved as an alternative polling station within the North Ormesby and Brambles Farm Ward.
2. Berwick Hills Primary School, Westerdale Road, be approved as an alternative polling station within the Pallister Ward.
3. a temporary polling station, West Lane, be approved as an alternative polling station within the Ayresome Ward.