

## SOUTH SHROPSHIRE PARLIAMENTARY CONSITUENCY

**CLEOBURY MORTIMER DIVISION**

Polling District		Polling Place/ Polling Station	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
LJK	Wheathill	Farlow & Oretton Village Hall	161	1

**Submissions:**

**Wheathill Parish Council:** Request to consider the use of Cleobury North Village Hall as an alternative polling place for LJK Wheathill was withdrawn.

**Returning Officer Representations:** No changes requested.

**Electoral Registration Officer Proposals:** No changes proposed.

**Financial Impact:** No financial impact.

## NORTH SHROPSHIRE PARLIAMENTARY CONSITUENCY

**OSWESTRY SOUTH DIVISION**

Polling District		Polling Place/ Polling Station	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
NHB	Oswestry (Castle Ward) (part of)	Horeb Welsh Methodist Rooms	886	1

**Submissions:**

**Oswestry Town Council:** Members had identified polling places to be investigated including the use of Oswestry Cricket Pavilion as a polling place.

**Councillor Kerr (Unitary Member for Oswestry South):** In support of replacing Horeb Welsh Methodist Rooms with Oswestry Cricket Pavilion following the Unitary, Town and Parish elections due to be held on 1 May 2025.

**Returning Officer Representations:**

The existing polling place is considered suitable at the present time, however, is unlikely to be available in the longer term. It is considered necessary to identify and relocate to an appropriate venue within the locality.

**Electoral Registration Officer Proposals:**

**Horeb Welsh Methodist Rooms** – The existing polling place may no longer be available long term, and it is necessary to identify and relocate to a replacement venue within the locality going forward. The Electoral Registration Officer has undertaken a site visit to Oswestry Cricket Club pavilion, and it has been deemed suitable for all electors to access and considered appropriate for use as a polling place going forward.

The Electoral Registration Officer confirms that the local member, Councillor Kerr, is in support of the proposals.

**Financial Impact:** There would be no additional polling staff costs incurred. There would be an expected reduction in hire charges of approximately £200 based on rates quoted in July 2024.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- (a) It is recommended that Horeb Welsh Methodist Rooms are retained for the Unitary, Town and Parish elections due to be held on Thursday 1 May 2025.
- (b) It is recommended that Oswestry Cricket Club pavilion replace Horeb Welsh Methodist Rooms as the designated polling place for NHB Oswestry (Castle Ward) (part of) following the elections held on Thursday 1 May 2025.

**SHREWSBURY PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY**

**BAGLEY**

Polling District		Polling Place/ Polling Station	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
SBA	Shrewsbury (Bagley Ward) (Part of)	Bagley Sports and Social Club	2554	2

**Submissions:**

No submissions were received.

**Returning Officer Representations:**

The existing polling place is considered suitable; however, the main hall is unlikely to be available for by-elections and elections with a proven smaller elector turn out. It is considered necessary to identify and relocate to an appropriate venue within the locality.

**Electoral Registration Officer Proposals:**

**Bagley Sports and Social Club (Main Hall)** – The existing polling place would still be available for elections with a high turnout, however, the club would be unable to allocate the main hall for smaller, adhoc elections. The Electoral Registration Officer undertook a site visit to Bagley Sports and Social Club to review the suitability of a smaller side room and tested its use during the recent Police and Crime Commissioner election, however, it was confirmed it was unsuitable to be used as a double station for future elections.

The Electoral Registration Officer has undertaken a site visit to Greenfields & District Bowling Club, and it has been deemed suitable for all electors to access and considered appropriate for use as a polling place going forward.

The Electoral Registration Officer confirmed no objections had been received from the local member, Councillor Garry Burchett.

**Financial Impact:** There would be no additional polling staff costs incurred. There would be an expected reduction in hire charges of approximately £400 based on rates quoted in July 2024.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that Greenfields & District Bowling Club replace Bagley Sports and Social Club as the designated polling place for SBA Shrewsbury (Bagley Ward) (part of).

**COPTHORNE**

Polling District		Polling Place/ Polling Station	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
SIA	Shrewsbury (Copthorne Ward) (Part of)	Army Reserve Centre	970	2

**Submissions:**

**Councillor Wilson (Unitary Member for Copthorne):** Although not opposed to using Shropshire Education and Conference Centre as a polling place for SIA Shrewsbury (Copthorne Ward) (part of), requested continued consideration be given to identifying alternative venues. Not supportive of using Woodfield Primary School or St George's Junior schools as a replacement.

**Returning Officer's Proposals:**

Following notification of Army Reserve Centre no longer being available, the Electoral Registration Officer is instructed to identify an accessible alternative polling place for SIA Shrewsbury (Copthorne Ward) (part of).

**Electoral Registration Officer Proposals:**

**Army Reserve Centre** – Access to the existing site is no longer available due to security concerns/lack of service personnel on site and a new location needed to be identified. Shropshire Education and Conference Centre is currently used as a polling place for SIC Shrewsbury (Copthorne Ward) (part of) and is deemed suitable for all electors to access and considered appropriate to use as a polling place going forward.

The Electoral Registration Officer confirmed no objections had been received from the local member, Councillor Rob Wilson.

**Financial Impact:** There would be no additional polling staff costs incurred. There would be an expected reduction in hire charges of approximately £306 based on rates quoted in April 2021.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that Shropshire Education and Conference Centre replace Army Reserve Centre as the designated polling place for SIA Shrewsbury (Copthorne Ward) (part of).

**MONKMOOR**

Polling District		Polling Place/ Polling Station	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
SOA	Shrewsbury (Monkmoor Ward) (Part of)	Belvidere Primary School	1428	1

**Submissions:**

**Ms Cossie (Local Resident):** Concern was raised over the continued use of the school as a polling place as this required it to be closed to students during term time.

**Councillor Moseley (Unitary Member for Monkmoor):** In support of moving from Belvidere Primary School to Abbots Wood Day Centre.

**Returning Officer Representations:**

Although the current polling place remains a suitable venue, the Electoral Registration Officer is instructed to identify accessible alternatives for consideration.

**Electoral Registration Officer Proposals:**

Although the existing polling place continues to be a suitable venue, it was considered appropriate to review alternative options to reduce the impact on education caused by the close of the school on polling day. The Electoral Registration Officer has undertaken a site visit to Abbots Wood Day Centre, and it has been deemed suitable for all electors to access and considered appropriate for use as a polling place going forward.

The Electoral Registration Officer confirms that the local member, Councillor Pam Moseley, is in support of the proposals.

**Financial Impact:** There would be no additional polling staff costs or hire charges incurred.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that Abbots Wood Day Centre replace Belvidere Primary School as the designated polling place for SOA Shrewsbury (Monkmoor Ward) (part of).

**PORTHILL**

Polling District		Polling Place/ Polling Station	Electors	No. of Stations in Venue
SPB	Shrewsbury (Porthill Ward) (Part of)	Army Reserve Centre	1428	2

**Submissions:**

No submissions were received.

**Returning Officer's Proposals:**

Following notification of Army Reserve Centre no longer being available, the Electoral Registration Officer is instructed to identify an accessible alternative polling place for SPB Shrewsbury (Porthill Ward) (part of).

**Electoral Registration Officer Proposals:**

**Army Reserve Centre** – Access to the existing site is no longer available due to security concerns/lack of service personnel on site. The Electoral Registration Officer undertook a site visit of Shrewsbury Schools Cricket Centre prior to the Police and Crime Commissioner election in May 2024 and it has been deemed suitable for all electors to access and considered appropriate for use as a polling place going forward.

The Electoral Registration Officer confirmed no objections had been received from the local member, Councillor Julian Dean.

**Financial Impact:** There would be no additional polling staff costs incurred. There would be an expected reduction in hire charges of approximately £306 based on rates quoted in April 2021.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that Shrewsbury School Cricket Centre replace Army Reserve Centre as the designated polling place for SPB Shrewsbury (Porthill Ward) (part of).