

Chambers, Deborah

Subject: FW: polling stations

From: Jon Barry
Sent: 19 August 2014 08:30
To: elections
Cc: dave; c
Subject: polling stations

Thanks for your information re the new ward layouts and polling stations. I have the following comments.

Houses in Aldcliffe that are being transferred to Scotforth West. The list of houses in Aldcliffe that will be transferred to Scotforth West seems incomplete. For example, you seem to have missed 1, 2, 3 Cottage Farm. My colleague says you have missed

Ashlar House
INGLENOOK,
Inglewood
West Lodge
Ivy Cottage
Ashlar Lodge

but I think that some of these are already in Scoforth West.

My more substantive point is that It is a long way for people to get to Lancaster Methodist Church from Aldcliffe. Would it not be better for all of Aldcliffe to vote at the Boys and Girls Club?

I can see the sense in the Marsh Community Centre being used for all of the Marsh area. Though, previously, there have been long queues at this station and my concern is that this will get worse with all of the extra people. You would need to put on extra staff for it to work in my view (especially at the General Election).

You seem to be having doubts about using the Friends Meeting House for roads in Fairfield (Anthony Road, County Street etc). I don't understand this. This is the obvious place for the polling station and is near to all of these places. You say that it is not in the polling district. I don't understand this. It seems to me that the Friends Meeting House is in Castle Ward (new and old versions).

In view of the potential overcrowding at the Marsh Community Centre, I would suggest that the Friends Meeting House could also be used for the streets on Abraham Heights that have transferred to Marsh Ward (ie keep it as it is now).

Thanks

Jon Barry

Chambers, Deborah

Subject: FW: Polling review consultation response?

Importance: High

From: Lib Dems
Sent: 15 September 2014 21:47
To: consultation
Subject: LCC Consultation

To Whom it may concern,

We would first like to thank you for taking our previous comments about the Warton parish being kept out of the Carnforth ward into consideration and acting on them. However we would like to reiterate our objection to the the merger of the university ward with Scotforth rural ward. We believe such a change will drown out the voices of the rural ward that has nothing in common with the university.

Regards,
Lancaster and Morecambe Liberal Democrats

Mr Mark Cullinan

Returning Officer c/o Elections Office

Town Hall, Dalton Square

LANCASTER

LA1 1PJ

17th September 2014

Dear Mr Cullinan

POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES REVIEW

Thank you for your recent letter on this subject. I expressed the views of me and my Liberal Democrat colleagues in July 2013 at an earlier review stage, and I note with great pleasure that Warton is not now to be integrated into a revised and enlarged Carnforth area.

Apart from this, the proposals look sensible, practical and reasonable. It makes sense for the University of Lancaster to constitute a new ward pretty much on its own. The current arrangement is unsatisfactory. On the other hand, it may create problems for the smaller number of rural ("Scotforth Rural") voters now included in the proposed new University Ward, with its unusual electorate of highly mobile students who do not generally identify very closely with the Lancaster community. The great difficulty in canvassing views at the University is an added problem; it is a pity that the University does not permit candidates for this ward each to submit one electronic election address by way of the University intranet. Party representation has changed for the (old, existing) University Ward three times in about as many City Council elections, with low turnouts. It strikes me that the rural voters in "Scotforth Rural" might as well be included either in Lower Lune Valley or in Ellel, where their views are more likely to be reflected alongside those of other voters in the ward.

It was very unfortunate that the other University in Lancaster (the University of Cumbria, Lancaster Campus) was apparently unable to register many of the students in John O'Gaunt Ward on the last electoral register. It is hard enough to engage the interest of students in local affairs without their being disenfranchised in this way by the University authorities.

The only other issue on which I wish to comment at present is the unsatisfactory nature of the polling station at Lancaster Royal Grammar School in John O'Gaunt Ward. This is difficult for many voters in Standen Park and Standen Gate to access, and I anticipate that the substantial number of new voters who will live at The Residence and its adjacent building sites in Bulk Ward will also need a more accessible polling booth nearby.

With thanks for the work represented by this review, I remain yours sincerely

Chambers, Deborah

Subject: FW: Polling Station Review

From:

Sent: 24 September 2014 22:09

To: elections

Subject: Polling places

Good Evening Sir/Madam,

Following the recent meeting of Scotforth Parish Council we discussed the change in polling places and is this really necessary? Is Rowley Court being discontinued as a polling location?

Rowley Court more as convenient as the University, residents won't be as keen to go into the University and be unable to find their way or anywhere to park especially during the day.

Please include these comments in the consultation.

Clerk to Scotforth Parish Council

Submission to polling districts and polling places review

On behalf of Morecambe and Lunesdale Constituency Labour Party

Sir,

Please accept the following comments on the review of polling districts and places on behalf of Morecambe and Lunesdale Constituency Labour Party, which includes consultation and comments from all County, City and Town Councillors from the Constituency.

1. We broadly agree with the recommendations of the report sent to councillors and we applaud the hard work of the elections office staff.
2. The Heysham Village area that is now moving to Heysham central ward would need to travel significant distance in order to vote. We believe this is a major risk of disenfranchising a large amount of voters. We request that Heysham Village has its own polling station.
3. The area of Westgate ward the forms a part of the heaton-with-Oxcliffe parish takes in a significant portion of the electorate and has in the past had its own polling place. We believe that this area should also have its own polling station (and while we understand that mobile polling stations are not ideal) there is a danger of a lack of engagement due to traveling distances.
4. Members are concerned that Sandylands nursery is not large enough to deal with the anticipated high turnout of 3 elections on the same day.
5. Further to the placement of polling stations, colleagues would like to suggest that polling cards should have a small map on the rear to show where their polling stations are.

I hope these ideas meet with the kind consideration of the returning officer.

Kind Regards

Darren Clifford

Chair, Morecambe and Lunesdale CLP