

POLLING DISTRICT/PLACES REVIEW - CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Parish	Respondent	Comments
Adlestrop	Adlestrop Parish Meeting	I think everyone in Adlestrop is happy travelling to Oddington to vote.
Ampney Crucis	Resident comment	We live in SHEEPHOUSE LANE within the village of Ampney Crucis where the village hall is used for elections. This is to say that both my husband and I are completely satisfied with this location and agree it should continue without alteration.
Baunton	Resident comment	We would prefer to keep the portacabin in the village
Beverston	Beverston Parish Council	<p style="text-align: center;">Submission to Cotswold District Council Electoral Services Review</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2nd December 2019</p> <p>Dear Sirs,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Review of Polling Districts & Polling Places Beverston Parish Council/Beverston Village Hall</p> <p>I am writing on behalf of the Beverston Parish Council (BPC) in response to the above review being undertaken on behalf of the CDC.</p> <p>Whilst we understand the need for rationalisation of voting locations, and recognize that the Parish of Beverston does not meet the review guidelines of 200 plus voters, we strongly believe that there are several compelling reasons which must be taken into account, and which collectively provide a compelling rationale for the continuation of voting at Beverston Village Hall (BVH).</p> <p>(1) Beverston village forms the hub for four other separate residential conurbations within the Parish (Chavenage, Nesley, Babdown, and part of Calcot). This geography is already unhelpful in voting terms and any further 'fractionation', such as the suggested consolidation with Kingscote on the far side of the A46, will seriously diminish the existing sense of a cohesive community, which the BPC has successfully achieved over the years. The</p> <p>number of registered voters is also materially understated in the consultation document.</p> <p>(2) The Beverston Village Hall, where voting has traditionally taken place, forms the central hub of the village and is the only secular location with public access in the Parish where meetings of any kind can take place. It is run on an incredibly tight budget, and the income derived from hosting national & local elections and other referendums (presently charged at a modest £280 per event) forms an important and dependable part of the operating budget. This income will be even more necessary in the future, since the Parish will shortly be assuming ownership of the building and will take on full repairing and maintenance responsibility for the Village Hall, previously undertaken by a recently deceased benefactor.</p> <p>(3) Beverston Parish has an age profile, which already requires that elderly parishioners (some with special needs) are reliant on others to travel from Chavenage and Nesley to vote. Off road parking is available beside the Village Hall, which is also in walking distance for Beverston residents including one in her nineties. Any relocation of voting will further complicate already difficult journeys, and certainly also require new transport arrangements.</p> <p>(4) In terms of access, the Village Hall sits very conveniently beside the road through Beverston, with no parking restrictions. There is also 'on-site' parking available for disabled voters when required. Whilst the BPC recognises that fully compliant disabled access and WC facilities are not yet in place (unsurprisingly given that it was a Victorian village schoolhouse), it has already decided to raise the funds necessary to install these facilities once ownership documentation has been signed. If a decision is now made to move voting elsewhere, this will inevitably make fundraising harder, and may indeed have the unintended consequence of diminishing currently intended facilities.</p> <p>For all of the above reasons, the BPC strongly argues for the continuation of Beverston Village Hall as a Polling Place within the Polling District of Beverston Parish. The amount of money that would be saved by consolidating with Kingscote is very modest, and the negative impact on the community will be disproportionately significant.</p> <p>Yours Faithfully,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Caroline Lowsley-Williams Chair Beverston Parish Council</p>
Beverston	Beverston Parish Council	Further to the Beverston Parish Council submission made yesterday I am writing to add another major concern on behalf of our voting parishioners. CDC must please take into full account that there is no public transport whatsoever available within the Beverston Parish. It is frankly totally unreasonable to expect all of our parishioners to make their own private transport arrangements to vote in Kingscote or elsewhere. It is crucially important that this also be taken into account please. At present all Beverston village residents [the largest component of the parish voting numbers) simply walk to the Village Hall to place their votes. For this reason as well as all the others mentioned in my earlier letter, the BPC strongly argues for the continuation of Beverston Village Hall as a Polling Place within the Polling District of Beverston Parish. The amount of money that would be saved by consolidating with Kingscote is very modest and, as stated previously, the negative impact on the community will be disproportionately significant.
Beverston	Resident comments - 25 residents made this comment or similar	I am writing as a resident and voter in Beverston Parish to express my support for the letter that was submitted by Beverston Parish Council in response to the Polling Places Review. I strongly urge Cotswold District Council to take full note of the contents of the letter and not to consolidate our future voting arrangements elsewhere, outside the boundaries of the Parish. This is really important to me as a voter, for all the reasons stated. It is also important to note that the Beverston Parish is not served by any public transport.

Beverston	Resident comment	I am writing as a voter and member of the Beverston community to support the letter submitted by the Beverston Parish Council about the continuation of having the village hall as a polling station - it is vital for the village to have this as a source for our community within the village - since there is no public transport the older members are escorted by the younger ones to vote. It is also a source of community spirit for us all to meet and it is a vital source of funds needed to keep the hall functioning for the general well being of the village - we spend a lot of time trying to keep the whole village together in very difficult circumstances - the road of course continues to be a source of great anguish. These small communities need help - please don't remove one valuable source and make it even more difficult for us.
Beverston	Resident comment	I have been informed that it is proposed that the polling station in Beverston is to be transferred to Kingscote . You will be aware that we lost access by public transport in the village 2 years ago and the current polling station is used by 12 pensioner residents of Beverston, whose accessibility will be severely restricted. Beverston Village Hall is the focus for events of the parish community, which include Chavenage and Nesley and Babdown and we are very concerned about the loss of income that will put the viability of the hall itself into a precarious position. Please continue to use the village hall as a polling station !!!
Beverston	Resident comment	I write as a resident and voter in Beverston Parish to give my absolute support for the letter and points that were submitted by Beverston Parish Council in response to the Polling Places Review. It is so important for small communities like ours that there is a community hub which serves peoples needs. I strongly urge Cotswold District Council to take full note of the contents of the letter and not to consolidate our future voting arrangements elsewhere, outside the boundaries of the Parish which will make it very awkward to vote for different reasons for all residents. It is also important to note that the Beverston Parish is not served by any public transport and Kingscote is isolated from services. It has also been brought to my attention that according to the Electoral Commision : - <i>“According to Para 3 of Chapter II of Handbook for Returning Officers, polling stations should be set up in such a manner that ordinarily no voter is required to travel more than two kms to reach his polling station. “</i> This service should be retained to support the rural community in Beverston and surrounding hamlets and villages.
Beverston	Resident comment	As a resident and Voter in the Beverston Parish I wish to express my support for the letter that was submitted by Beverston Parish Council in response to the Polling Places Review. I wish Cotswold District Council to act on the contents of the letter and not consolidate future voting arrangements at Kingscote or elsewhere outside the Beverstone Parish. This issue is very important to me in maintaining my democratic right to be able to vote at a location accessible for myself and family. As a resident of the Parish I have been able to cast my vote without hinderance for the past 29 years, as a committed and regular voter (and to reduce my and other voters Carbon Footprints) I require a location to vote within walking distance of my permanant residence and including the reasons stated in the Parish Council's response to you on 2nd December. Thanking you in anticipation of retention of the existing Polling station location. Please let me know should you decide to further consider or plan to change these existing arrangements so that further discussions can take place with the Parish Council prior to making any changes.
Beverston	Resident comment	I am writing as a voter in Beverston Parish to express my support for the letter that was submitted by Beverston Parish Council in response to the Polling Places Review. I urge Cotswold District Council to consider the contents of the letter and not to consolidate future voting arrangements elsewhere, i.e. outside the boundaries of the Parish. This is really important to me as a resident in the Parish for 29 years, as a committed and regular voter, and for the reasons stated in the Parish Council's response to you of 2nd December.
Beverston		I understand that it is planned to terminate the facility of a polling station at Beverston Village Hall and to oblige voters to go to Kingscote to vote. I would like to express my support for the letter that was submitted by Beverston Parish Council in response to the Polling Places Review and to express my strong objection to the planned move for Beverston voters to have to go to Kingscote to vote. I would add that, if it IS decided to terminate the facility for a polling station in Beverston, then it would make much more sense for Beverston voters to go to Tetbury to vote, which is half the distance to travel and much more convenient.
Coberley	Coberley Parish Council	Coberley Parish Council opposes the proposal to combine Coberley Part 1 and Part 2 with the polling station at National Star College for the following reasons: Coberley Parish is a widely spread community with a large number of older residents. The polling station at Coberley Primary School is in the heart of the village, which has the highest concentration of population in the parish. It is also near to another sizeable pocket of the parish's population, Upper Coberley. CDC's statistics show that it serves the majority of the population, 110 electors. It is our understanding that National Star College was initially set up as a polling station to serve resident students at the college, who were unable to access the polling station at Coberley Primary School. This is still the case and it is, therefore, important that it remains as a polling station. It also serves the communities in the west of the parish at Ullenwood and Salterley Grange. The two locations are separated by a major trunk road which bisects the parish, the A436. To travel between the two locations requires passing through a known hazardous junction, the Cowley/Ullenwood crossroads, the scene of numerous serious road traffic accidents. The route is certainly not one which would be walked by the great majority of our parishioners in the east of the parish, due both to distance (1.5 miles) and safety. Hence, to combine both polling stations at this location, would generate additional motor vehicle journeys, which we believe CDC would prefer to avoid as being contrary to its policy to reduce carbon emissions. Furthermore, during the latter part of each afternoon and early evening, the traffic on the A436 is so heavily congested in the section which it would be required to navigate, that many locals avoid making journeys involving this section of road during these hours. Hence this would likely restrict the times when parishioners from the east of the parish would vote.

Coberley	Cllr Julia Judd in consultation with the parishes in her area	COBERLEY 1 @ 2 - Unconfirmed but off the record individual discussion was resistant to change and questioned why National Star College suggested over Coberley School when there are more voters in Coberley.
Coln St Aldwyns		I am responding to your request for feedback regarding polling stations, specifically combining Coln St Aldwyns and Hatherop. Having considered the matter I am against any change that would involve the combining of these two polling stations. In overview the Electoral Administration Act 2006 explicitly states in 18A-3B that each Parish is to be a separate polling district. I am aware that 18A-4 states the above does not apply if there are any special circumstances. You have not indicated that there are any special circumstances in your consultation and I am of the opinion that none exist. The usual primary concern is adequate disability access and there is certainly no problem in Coln in this regard. Cost cannot be a special circumstance as the process is funded by central government. On a practical issue, Coln is a large parish the centre being at least 1km from the centre of Hatherop. Any need for voters to travel further than necessary (to Hatherop) would have a serious negative effect on voting levels. Again, I reiterate my strong view that the status quo should be maintained to preserve the maximum opportunity for all citizens to vote.
Coln St Aldwyns		I am responding to the request for comments in relation to the of the polling station in Coln St Aldwyns. It would be very regrettable to remove the polling station in the village, given the high proportion of the residents who are elderly. Some are infirm and not all can drive. Confining them to a postal vote would be undemocratic.
Coln St Aldwyns		I live in Coln St Aldwyns and here are my comments:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • currently there are three Polling Places at Hatherop, Coln and Quenington. Coln St Aldwyns would seem to be the one ideal location, given that people from Hatherop and Quenington visit Coln for the one and only shop and Post Office. • I realise that Coln St Aldwyns does have to rely on a Portable Cabin for voting days. If Coln's voting place was to close for that reason - I would prefer to vote in Quenington •
Coln St Aldwyns		I support the proposal that Coln should be amalgamated with Quenington.
Coln St Dennis		(emailed forwarded to CDC from Geoffrey Clifton-Brown's office) I have received a consultancy paper from CDC about polling stations. They are considering dropping the Coln Rogers/ Coln St. Dennis/ Calcot and part Fossebridge location from Coln Valley Village Hall, and moving/combining us with Bibury. The Coln St Dennis Parish Council [and I personally too] consider this a retrograde step and I would ask you to campaign for our voting location to remain at Coln Rogers.
Coln St Dennis	Coln St Dennis Parish Council	The residents of the Coln Valley would like the polling station to remain at The Village Hall in Coln Rogers. It would be most unwelcome, and inconvenient for many for the Coln Valley voting to be moved to Bibury.
Compton Abdale		I have noted that you are considering the possibility of discontinuing the use of Compton Abdale Village Hall as a Polling Station and considering requiring residents of the village to use the existing Polling Station at Chedworth Village Hall to cast their votes in any democratic exercise. My wife and I wish to express our views on this proposal and submit Objections . Reasons for Objection <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proposal will in effect disenfranchise some electors residing within the village of Compton Abdale who for health or other reasons are unable to travel several miles to the Polling Station. 2. The proposal substantially increases the number of car journeys to and from the new Polling Station (with associated pollution and waste of resources) which is clearly against the current policy of the Cotswold District Council. 3. The proposal will lead to a significant reduction of residents who are willing to vote in the election which does not benefit democracy. 4. In inclement weather conditions (particularly during the winter months) it may be very difficult for residents to access a Polling Station at Chedworth which is a considerable distance from the village. The road network between Compton Abdale and Chedworth requires accessing several steep hills along the road net work. Walking to the Polling station will not be a practical alternative. 5. Having a Polling Station sited within the village of Compton Abdale adds to the feeling of community spirit which is vital for a small rural community in major democratic exercises. 6. The cost saving achieved by the Council in removing the Polling Station from the village of Compton Abdale is not proportionate to the overall loss that the residents of the village and the community as a whole will suffer in inconvenience. I very much hope that you will take our views into account.

Compton Abdale		<p>I refer to the above review as it concerns Compton Abdale.</p> <p>As a new resident of the village I find it curious that we fall under the Chedworth & Churn Valley constituency because all other villages in it are some distance away and there are no connecting public transport facilities, nor is it realistically cyclable, to get to any of the other polling stations.</p> <p>On the other hand, Sandywell contains several villages that are nearer, such as Hazleton, Shipton Oliffe, Turkdean and Hampnett that are all walkable. Most of them also happen to be in the same benefice so we 'know' them better and can share transport etc.</p> <p>So in this era of trying to save our planet it is curious that you are proposing that 80 electors must <i>drive</i> several miles to vote, it seems ill-thought out.</p> <p>As for elderly residents that don't drive, what are they supposed to do?</p> <p>If you are trying to save money, then move us to Sandywell, otherwise I think you must leave things as they are with a polling station retained at Compton Abdale. Either that or pay for transport to Chedworth for less mobile electors.</p>
Compton Abdale		<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment of the polling station review. I am writing from Compton Abdale a small village with a good community spirit but we have very few services provided and to take away the polling station would be a loss to the community. In addition to the loss of a valued resource there is the much needed revenue that it brings to the village hall to be considered. However if you are looking for savings I would suggest you review the opening hours for sometime I have felt there was no need to be open for such a long day. This may involve an act of parliament but if it helps keep open the rural polling stations at a time when you are looking to cut back it must be worth considering.</p>
Compton Abdale		<p>Reasons for retaining the polling station at Compton Abdale</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There are around fifty dwelling places in Compton with a little over a hundred inhabitants. Many are over 65. Almost all walk to the polling station, centrally located in the village hall. Those who need to be driven can be driven to the station's front door. Facilities for wheelchair users and the disabled are very good. 2. This ensures a high turnout. Electoral officers often comment on the high turnout in our village. If the polling station were removed, the figure would decrease, as voting would mean driving to Chedworth. 3. When elections or polls occur in winter or inclement weather (as in the forthcoming election) villagers will be less likely to vote if it means driving to Chedworth. 4. Hence removal of polling facilities at Compton Abdale will lead to the disenfranchisement of much of a village that has traditionally had a significantly high turnout. 5. At a time when central government is spending significant sums in an attempt to increase the number of registered voters, it seems counterintuitive to reducing spending slightly at the cost of what will be a significant proportion of those entitled to vote. We should be congratulating ourselves on the fact that an excellent turnout is achieved for such a low cost. 6. It is worth noting that funds from use of the village halls as polling station are returned direct to the village community by being paid to the village hall funds. In turn, these funds pay for the upkeep of the hall and the local church. This is not spending, it's investment in community infrastructure.
Cowley	Cllr Julia Judd in consultation with the parishes in her area	COWLEY & BIRDIP - Voted against at their Parish Meeting - they shall be contacting you direct.
Cowley	Cowley Parish Council	<p>I can confirm that Cowley Parish Council voted to object to the closure of the Polling Station at Cowley. It was noted that whilst the village of Cowley is far smaller in size to that of Birdlip there are significant disadvantages to the electorate in Cowley as the closure would require travel to the Polling Station in Birdlip. This is because of the long distance from Cowley to Birdlip if using the A429/A436 main roads, the hazards in crossing the A417 trunk road if using the shorter single track lane route and also the lack of direct public transport. Overall it was agreed that closing the polling station in Cowley would have a significant detrimental effect on the electorate in the village of Cowley.</p>
Cowley	Birdlip Village Hall	<p>A request to move the station from the village hall to St Mary's Church was received from the school. The school use the village hall for lunches and before/after school clubs and the elections create significant disruption to the school day. This has been more so during 2019 with three elections taking place – 2 of which were unscheduled. Comments were sought from County and District Councillors and the Parish Council. Their comments are awaited.</p>
Driffield	Driffield Parish Council	<p>We understand that CDC should ensure that all electors have reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable in the circumstances. With regards to Harnhill Centre For Christian Healing, Harnhill Manor, GL7 5PX being under review as a polling place we would like to register the following comments, which were agreed by Driffield and Harnhill Parish Council at the meeting of Tuesday 12th November 2018.</p> <p>Harnhill Centre for Christian Healing is central to our Parishes, has a large car park and disabled access. Some residents walk to use this polling place, such is the central location.</p> <p>Ampney Crucis and Down Ampney polling places will require our residents to make a journey by car, they are busier and therefore parking can be a problem (this can cause concern for elderly or disabled residents who may not decide to make the journey and not register their vote.)</p> <p>Should CDC be decided to consolidate and remove smaller polling places we would strongly object to the removal of Harnhill Centre For Christian Healing as it is a central and a much needed electoral facility to our residents and community.</p>

Ebrington	Ebrington Parish Council	We are happy with our polling arrangements and note that there is no change suggested to our polling station.
Edgeworth	Resident comment	<p>I write as former Chair of our Parish Meeting and as a resident of Edgeworth for over 40 years to request the retention of the Polling Station at Edgeworth, following the Review, for the following reasons:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edgeworth has been described as one of the remotest areas in the Cotswolds and the District Plan describes the access roads as “tortuous” 2. The most easily accessible alternative would be Miserden, a distance of almost 3 miles, but Miserden is within Stroud District and therefore beyond the Cotswold District boundary. 3. Other alternatives would be for us to vote at Sapperton or Duntisbourne, either being a distance of 3 to 4 miles. Either would appear practical when simply looking at a map but this would not take into account the “tortuous” nature of the lanes between Edgeworth and either Sapperton or Duntisbourne nor that travelling to either would necessitate crossing steep valleys. 4. There is no local bus service and if we all chose to exercise our right to vote in person this would create a potential 65 additional car journeys on polling days on roads already described as “tortuous”. 5. Of course we could all apply for postal votes but concerns have been expressed over potential fraud associated with these and at least one political party is campaigning against postal votes in the current election. <p>For these reasons I urge those undertaking the Review to recommend the retention of the Polling Station at Edgeworth. Who knows what the future holds in terms of postal votes or access to private transport? If this facility closes it is unlikely ever to be reinstated and yet another amenity will be lost to this small rural community.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to express concerns.</p>
Edgeworth	Resident comment	The very thought of moving the Polling Station to another Village is totally ridiculous. The Reading Room in Edgeworth is easily reached by everyone in the Village. My Family have lived in Edgeworth since 1937, making myself one of the oldest residents !
Edgeworth	Cllr Julia Judd in consultation with the parishes in her area	<p>I think it is a pity to have to change the current arrangement, but am not sure what they are proposing.</p> <p>I agree postal votes are easy to operate, but that may not be true for older residents.</p> <p>I would appreciate more detail of what is being suggested, when that is known.</p>
Hazleton	Hazleton Village Hall Committee	<p>The Hazleton Village Hall Committee has had sight of the Polling District and Places Review. Although listed in the Review as 'no change', we would like to make the following points, which we hope are helpful:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We would be very pleased to continue offering the Hall as a Polling Station. 2. In case you are not aware, the Hall recently underwent significant redevelopment, with the support of funding from CDC, including provision of disabled toilets, improved access (no steps) for disabled and elderly, modern heating and lighting and a fully equipped kitchen. There is parking within the Hall grounds.
Icomb	Icomb Parish	<p>Your Consultation regarding Polling Stations was considered at a recent meeting of the Icomb Parish Meeting. The Meeting concluded unanimously that they would like to retain the Polling Station in our village.</p> <p>For your information the Polling Station is located in:</p> <p>Icomb Village Hall Church Road Icomb GL54 1JE</p>
Mickleton		A request was received to consider moving the polling station in Mickleton from Joseph Webb Hall to King George's Hall. Comments were sought from County and District Councillors and the Parish Council. Their comments are given below.
	Mickleton Parish Council	Further to your e mail to ... of February 6th 2020, I have consulted with all members of the Mickleton Parish Council over the weekend regarding their views on the suggested relocation of the Mickleton Polling Station from the Joseph Webb Hall in Chapel Lane Mickleton, to the King George's Hall Coffee Lounge, also in Chapel Lane, Mickleton. I received responses from every Mickleton Parish Councillor and all, without exception, are in favour of the suggested move.
	Comments from County and District Councillors	Thank you for your email and the reasoning behind changing the polling station make sense especially if we have another election in the depths of winter when it's dark. The disabled access is also better at the King George's Hall. Clearly the Parish Council's opinions are very important in deciding whether to make this change - have you approached them? They do not appear to be copied into your email. (NB: <i>parish council emailed separately</i>)
		I agree with the proposal. KGH has better Disabled access.

Notgrove	Resident comment	I fully support the retention of local polling stations. If we loose these we will preventing those who live and work in rural areas the ability to vote. Numbers of individuals voting are reducing and we need to encourage as many as possible to partake. We have a large urban society and it will be a great loss if those in rural areas lose the ability to vote. When our local village hall was closed and we had to go to a local village to vote, the turn out was much lower than usual.
Sapperton	Chair of Sapperton Parish Council	SAPPERTON & FRAMPTON MANSELL: Because of the age demographic of Sapperton I feel very strongly that losing this local village polling station would substantially disadvantage some of our residents and their capacity to cast their vote on such important matters. I honestly think it is unlikely that postal voting is going to fill this void for those affected, rather that they would likely turn up at the Hall, find it closed and then not vote. Our Village Hall is lovely and warm for the attending Council Officers and as a rural community I really don't think dark winter nights are such an issue and Parishioners can always drive & park right outside if it is. I would strongly object to losing Sapperton Village Hall as our polling station!
Southrop	Southrop Parish Council	They are all happy for the Station to the Village Hall, the only change is that the entrance that would make it easier for those less able bodied, would be the rear entrance and not the front entrance. The front entrance doesn't have disabled access.
Turkdean	Turkdean Parish Meeting	There is concern among Turkdean parishioners that, following the review, our current polling station at Notgrove may be moved to Hazleton. While the distances may not be so different the narrow roads and hilly terrain make it far easier in bad weather to access Notgrove than Hazleton. This is important given that our electorate is no longer as young as it was. If it is necessary to consolidate polling stations then the easiest alternative destination for Turkdeaners (and presumably Notgrovers) would be Cold Aston.
Turkdean	Resident comment	We note with concern that the Acting Returning Officer's report states that the Polling Place for Turkdean electors is in Hazleton with a recommendation that there should be no change. The normal Polling Place for Turkdean is Notgrove Village Hall and we were told that the move to Hazleton was a temporary one whilst Notgrove Village Hall was being rebuilt. The Polling Place for the General Election on 12 December 2019 is, as expected, Notgrove Village Hall. We further note the Acting Returning Officer intends to review the Polling Place for Notgrove electors, suggesting Hazleton as the alternative. We assume, therefore, that the recommendation would apply to Turkdean electors too and we record strong objections. You will be aware that there is only one return bus journey each week through Turkdean which means that those wishing to vote need to travel by car. The journey by road from Turkdean to Hazleton is significantly more difficult than travelling to Notgrove and we believe that this extra hurdle would act as a disincentive to vote.
Westcote	Westcote Parish Meeting	I forwarded your email to the Westcote Contact Group and, as you can imagine, there was very strong support for the retention of a Polling Station at Westcote Village Hall. I don't know how many parishioners contacted you directly, but the comments I received can be summed up with the email copied below. <i>Dear Sir/Madam.</i> <i>I write to you as a resident of Church Westcote.</i> <i>I am one of the many in the Cotswolds District who now find themselves at the mercy of what is called "ageing".</i> <i>As such, and being of the generation who believes in, and takes their responsibility of voting seriously, I urge you to retain our village hall's use at times of voting, whatever the issue.</i> <i>The hall's location allows myself, and other members of the village who find walking/travelling an issue, to fulfil our obligations without endangering ourselves, or anyone else.</i> <i>I thank you for your time spent in reading my request.</i> We are not a large community, but as stated above take our voting rights seriously. We would be grateful if the <i>status quo</i> was maintained, with a Polling Station in the Village Hall.
Westcote	Resident comment	I fully support xxx comments below. I have to take my very aged mother in law to vote and longer journeys are extremely fraught. She always votes so please keep Church Westcote polling station.
Westcote	Resident comment	I write to you as a resident of Church Westcote. I am one of the many in the Cotswolds District who now find themselves at the mercy of what is called "ageing". As such, and being of the generation who believes in, and takes their responsibility of voting seriously, I urge you to retain our village hall's use at times of voting, whatever the issue. The hall's location allows myself, and other members of the village who find walking/travelling an issue, to fulfil our obligations without endangering ourselves, or anyone else. I thank you for your time spent in reading my request
Whittington	Whittington with Syreford Parish Meeting	There is no longer a polling station in Whittington parish, and no bus to the nearest one, which is 30+ minutes walk away.

(END)