

Area/Parish	Background information	Comments	Recommendation
<p>Baunton</p>	<p>Historically, a portacabin was sited in Baunton for elections. However, in 2021 it was not possible to source a cabin because of supply issues due to COVID. Since that time, Baunton have voted at Cirencester Golf Club.</p> <p>Letter from Peter Davies, Chair of Baunton PC With reference to your correspondence with Cllr. Marie Whiteman and your visit to our Church/Community Centre on 29th November 2023, Baunton Parish Council would like to formally request that our Church/Community Centre be used as our Polling Station at the next and all forthcoming elections.</p> <p>We totally understand why you withdrew the Portacabin facility that Baunton used for many years as it was very expensive. However, now we have a much more affordable facility would you please consider Baunton having their own Polling Station again. Our Charge for the day would be minimal, just £100 to cover lighting and heating.</p> <p>Now we no longer have the north side of Baunton Lane in our parish parking will not be a problem. As you saw when you visited we now have kitchen and toilet facilities in the Church/Community Centre.</p> <p>Many of our residents are elderly and some no longer drive so being able to vote In the village would be very advantageous to them and to democracy.</p>	<p>Baunton Parish Council asked us to consider using the Church in Baunton as a polling station. Since 2021, the Church has installed toilet and kitchen facilities and it is therefore suitable as a station.</p>	<p>Allocate St Mary Magdalene as the polling place/station for Baunton Parish.</p>

<p>Colesbourne</p>	<p>HWG Elwes, Chairman, Colesbourne Parish Meeting</p> <p>The Colesbourne Meeting is content with the Polling Station proposed for the village in the Churn Valley ward.</p>		<p>Retain Colesbourne Estate Office as polling station for Colesbourne Parish</p>
<p>Coln St Aldwyns</p>	<p>Until the 2023 elections, a portacabin was sited in Coln St Aldwyns for electors. However, the location for the cabin is no longer available. The Church was considered as a possible alternative but does not have facilities for staff or suitable lighting. For the May 2023, it was therefore agreed with the parish council and district and county councillor that electors would vote at Quenington Village Hall.</p> <p>As part of the current review, the Electoral Services Manager has asked the current parish council and district and county councillors for their views on the change.</p>	<p>Cllr Dominic Morris, County Council - My recommendation would be the Quenington Village Hall. It is closest to the most people, has the green by way of parking and is more 'in the public domain' than either of the other options. I don't believe the Mill will be ready by next May looking at the scaffolding yesterday!</p> <p>Response from parish council – agreed to voting at Quenington until such time as the Mill re-development is complete.</p>	<p>Retain Quenington Village Hall as the polling station for Coln St Aldwyns.</p> <p>Review this once the re-development of the Mill has been completed in Coln St Aldwyns.</p>
<p>Driffield</p>	<p>During the Boundary Working Group, Cllr Fowles asked that the polling station for Driffield be considered. He felt that Driffield could vote at Ampney Crucis Village Hall instead of the Harnhill Centre. The Electoral Services Officer sought the views of the District and County Councillor, Lisa Spivey and Driffield Parish Council.</p>	<p>Response from Lisa Spivey, District and County Councillor – I can understand why Driffield parish Council wish to keep the polling station in Harnhill, although I would question</p>	<p>Retain Harnhill Centre as polling station for Driffield and contact them to see if costs can be reduced.</p>

	<p>Their responses are given in the next column. Based on these responses it is recommended that the polling station at Harnhill be retained.</p>	<p>that the majority of people using it walk to the polling station as the majority of voters will live in Driffield rather than Harnhill and will most likely drive there. Anyway. I assume that you can only have 1 polling station for every election in order to reduce confusion? I was going to suggest that when CDC pays for an election, that Ampney Crucis village hall is used, and that when Driffield pay for it, they can choose, but that's probably not feasible? And I also assume that there is no negotiation to be done with the current polling station at Harnhill?</p> <p>Driffield Parish Council - Council considered consultation from CDC on polling station in Driffield be removed and residents to use the Ampney Crucis Village Hall – Council felt that the identity of the parish should be preserved and should not be further eroded by amalgamating polling station.</p>	
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Mickleton	Mickleton Parish Council – recommend King Georges Hall		Retain King George’s Hall as polling station for Mickleton
New Mills	<p>Cllr Joe Harris, currently vote at Watermoor School. The turnout at this station is significantly lower than other areas of Cirencester. Concern that the location of the station is a barrier to voting.</p> <p>Mulberry Court was considered as an option but unfortunately they are not able to guarantee use at elections. If there is an outbreak of flu/covid etc, they will close the building to visitors to protect residents.</p>		With no other suitable building in the Ward, it is recommended that further work is carried out to ensure that electors are aware of the walking routes from New Mills estate through to Watermoor School. This is likely to be in the form of a map and/or instructions included with poll cards.

Northleach	Cllr Tony Dale , happy with current arrangements for Northleach		Retain the Westwoods Centre as polling station for Northleach Town
Swell	Swell Parish Council are happy that their polling station remains at the village hall.		Retain Swell Village Hall
Tetbury Town	<p>Historically, there have been 3 polling stations in Tetbury all in one location. However, in 2021, this was not possible due to COVID concerns. The stations were therefore split between 2 locations; 2 stations at the Dolphins Hall and 1 at the Goods Shed.</p> <p>Following the 2021 election, the 2 locations were used at the May 2023 District and Parish/Town elections and electors have become used to the different locations.</p> <p>However, Tetbury Town Council have expressed concern about the additional cost of 2 locations compared to just 1. This would affect them directly at a contested Town election where they are liable for costs.</p> <p>Tetbury Town Council is not currently warded so when a by-election occurs, the whole Town will be asked to participate in the vote. With around 5,000 electors, the cost of an election is around £8,000.</p> <p>If the Town Council were to be warded, each Councillor would represent a given ward and any by-elections would be for the relevant ward only thus reducing the cost.</p>	<p>Cllr Twells: I am very strongly supportive of retaining two polling stations due to the shortage of parking and general congestion at Dolphins Hall. It would also be, by some distance, the largest polling district in the Cotswold District and much larger than best-practice suggests. At a general election with a high turnout we might start to see queues at the busiest times and potentially voters being turned away.</p> <p>I am also strongly in favour of a warding pattern for TTC, along the lines of the system used in Cirencester. In my view there might even be a case for each district ward (or part thereof) to be sub-divided into two parish wards each returning 2 or 3 councillors. That would allow</p>	<p>Retain the current 2 location, 3 station arrangement for polling stations in Tetbury.</p> <p>The District Council consider undertaking a Community Governance Review to “ward” the Town Council area for future elections. Any changes approved as part of such a review would come into effect from the next ordinary elections in May 2027.</p> <p>The District Ward Boundary Review may also consider the warding options for Tetbury.</p>

	<p>In this case, the split of polling stations would not impact on the cost as only one location would be needed.</p>	<p>for more effective and convenient local government and (at a guess) reduce the cost of by-elections by approx. 80%.</p> <p>I don't believe there are any other parishes of a similar size to Tetbury that are unwarded. If you compare the number of votes at the CDC election to the TTC election it's clear that many electors opted not to vote when confronted with a ballot paper of sixteen candidates and fifteen votes - and who can blame them?</p> <p>Comments awaited from Tetbury Town Council, Cllr Ian Watson, Cllr Nicki Ind</p>	
<p>Watermoor</p>	<p>Watermoor Ward covers an area of Cirencester either side of the A429 dual-carriageway.</p> <p>The polling station is currently located at Watermoor Church Hall and concern has been expressed about those electors without transport finding access difficult.</p>	<p>Further research needed on potential to use the Spiritualist Church or Kingdom Hall</p>	<p>4/1/24: Baptist Church is not available. The Spiritualist Church in Meadow Road may be an option – Electoral Services Manager will continue to research</p>

	<p>Councillor Gary Selwyn asked that consideration be given to a different location on the opposite side of the dual-carriageway.</p> <p>The Electoral Services Manager approached Cirencester Baptist Church as a suitable alternative. The Church would be suitable and has one room with a separate entrance. However, the entrance is stepped and not accessible so anyone not able to use the steps would need to get to the polling station by walking through the building from the main entrance.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the Church feel that this would compromise the safety of other users in the building . In particular, the youth club meet on Thursday evenings and use a number of the rooms resulting in people moving around the building.</p> <p>This option is therefore not available to us at this time. The Electoral Services Manager will continue to seek alternative locations in the area.</p>		<p>Cllr Selwyn has also suggested the Kingdom Hall which is opposite the Spiritualist Church</p>
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