The Electoral Commission

Dealing with doubtful ballot papers

Supporting local government elections in England

Translations and other formats

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1 Introduction

1.1 This booklet is designed to assist Returning Officers (ROs) and their deputies in adjudicating doubtful ballot papers at local government elections in England. This booklet should also be read in conjunction with our general guidance on managing the verification and count which can be found on our website.

1.2 The RO may delegate the final decision on adjudication to one or more deputies, but this must be done explicitly in writing.[1]

1.3 Because the RO discharges a statutory function in adjudicating doubtful votes, the RO or authorised Deputy RO, and no other staff employed by the RO at the count, should carry out this function.

1.4 One of the aims of this booklet is to help to ensure consistency of approach across England.

1.5 This booklet has been developed in consultation with representatives of the electoral community, including members of the Elections, Referendum and Registration Working Group and the UK Electoral Coordination and Advisory Board, and the Electoral Commission is grateful for their assistance throughout this process.

1.6 When undertaking the adjudication of ballot papers it is important to ensure that the process is carried out in full view of all candidates and agents present, as well as in the presence of any Commission representatives and accredited observers in attendance.

Managing the adjudication at local government elections in England

1.7 ROs should not wait until towards the end of the count before starting the adjudication process; this should be carried out regularly throughout the count process in clear view of those entitled to be present.

1.8 Those ballot papers that have been rejected should be stamped with the word 'rejected' and placed in the appropriate package. All other ballot papers must be counted.

1.9 In wards where more than one candidate is to be elected, a ballot paper can be rejected in part. Those ballot papers that have been rejected in part should be endorsed with the words 'rejected in part' and with a note indicating which vote or votes have been counted. ROs must ensure that partially rejected ballot papers move forward to the count so that the good vote(s) can be counted.

1.10 A statement must be prepared showing the number of ballot papers rejected under each of the following headings:[2]

- want of official mark
- voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to

[1] Section 35(4), Representation of the People Act 1983
[2] Rule 47(5), Schedule 2, Local Elections (Principal Areas) (England & Wales) Rules 2006

- writing or mark by which the voter could be identified
- unmarked or void for uncertainty

2 Principles of adjudication

2.1 Any doubtful ballot papers should be placed in a tray for the supervisor to take to the RO for adjudication.

2.2 The whole of the ballot paper needs to be considered when adjudicating doubtful votes in case the voter has made any marks outside of the voting boxes.

2.3 The RO may only reject a ballot paper on the following grounds:

- want of official mark (not the unique identifying mark)
- voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for
- those where the voter's intention is uncertain
- those that appear unmarked
- having any writing or mark by which the voter can be identified

2.4 A ballot paper should not be rejected because the vote is:[3]

- not marked in the proper place
- marked other than by a cross
- marked by more than one mark

  A ballot paper can be rejected in part if more than one candidate is to be elected to the ward. If the voter is entitled to vote for more than one candidate, good votes must not be rejected because another vote on the ballot paper is uncertain.[4]

2.5 Therefore, the following ballot papers will need to be passed to the RO for adjudication:

- those that appear to have no official mark
- those that appear to contain more votes than the voter is entitled to vote for
- those with any writing or mark by which the voter may be identified
- those where there is no mark or uncertainty as to the vote

2.6 In addition, in order to help maintain the integrity of the election, the following ballot papers should be passed to the RO for further consideration:

- any ballot paper torn or damaged in any way

[3] Rule 47(3), Schedule 2, Local Elections (Principal Areas) (England & Wales) Rules 2006, Rule 47(3) Schedule 2 Parishes and Communities Rules 2006

[4] Rule 47(2) Schedule 2, Local Elections (Principal Areas) (England & Wales) Rules 2006, Rule 47(2) Schedule 2 Parishes and Communities Rules 2006

- any ballot paper with anything unusual about it (for example, any paper that appears to have been altered, either with a clearly different writing instrument or with correction fluid)

2.7 In the case of ballot papers that appear to have been altered, ROs may consider packaging them separately in case of later challenge or investigation.

Want of official mark

2.8 Absence of the official mark must lead to an automatic rejection. The RO has no discretion.

2.9 However, where instead of a pre-printed official mark a stamping instrument has been used, a partial piercing or embossing of the ballot paper should not in itself result in a rejection.[5] As long as it is clear that the ballot paper has been stamped by polling station staff, the fact that not all the pins have stamped through the ballot paper or that the perforation is not wholly on the paper is immaterial.

Voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for

2.10 This is a matter for the RO's judgment.

2.11 Additional marks must not lead to a rejection if it is clear that those marks were not intended as a vote.

2.12 A paper on which each of the candidates is marked 1, 2, 3, 4 etc. instead of with a cross (see examples 15, 38 and 62) should not be rejected on the grounds of voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. It is reasonable to conclude that in ranking the candidates the voter is putting them into order of preference and a ballot paper marked in this way should therefore be accepted as a valid vote for the candidate against which the number 1 is marked in single-member wards, the candidates against which the numbers 1 and 2 are marked (in two-member wards) and against which the numbers 1, 2 and 3 are marked (in three-member wards). This position is consistent with the position set out in the legislation for Scottish Parliamentary elections which states that a paper marked 1, 2 and 3 etc. instead of with a cross must be allowed as a good vote for the candidate or party against which the number 1 is marked.[6]

Writing or mark by which the voter can be identified

[5] Cirencester case, Lawson v. Chester-Master (1893) 4 O'M&H 194 and Newington case, Lewis v. Shepperdson (1948) 2 All ER 503
[6] Woodward v. Sarsons (1875), LR 10, CP74 and Cirencester case (1893)

2.13 There are two aspects to this:

- either any writing or mark on the ballot paper which, of itself, identifies the voter, or
- the voter can be identified by such writing or mark

2.14 It is important to bear in mind that the legislation states that the voter **can be**, not may be or might possibly be, identified (which does not include the ballot paper number and unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper).

Writing or mark which, of itself, identifies the voter

2.15 A ballot paper must be rejected if:

- the electoral number of the voter written on the ballot paper unequivocally identifies the voter
- it may reasonably be held to bear the name (or signature) or unique address of the voter on its front

The voter can be indirectly identified by any writing or mark on the ballot paper

2.16 The RO is not required to investigate the matter or require evidence to be produced to identify the writing or mark. But, the RO should consider any evidence that is given to them at the time.

2.17 Where there is doubt about the identity of the person who marked the ballot paper, the RO should allow rather than reject the ballot paper.

Unmarked ballot papers

2.18 Unmarked ballot papers must be rejected.

2.19 A ballot paper marked by means other than a pencil should not be rejected simply because of that.

2.20 Marks other than a cross, however faint, may still be valid.

Void for uncertainty

2.21 Establishing voter intention is crucial when determining doubtful ballot papers.

2.22 The key phrase in the Rules is: 'A ballot paper […] shall not […] be deemed to be void if an intention that the vote shall be for one or other of the candidates **clearly** appears'.[7]

[7] Rule 47(3), Schedule 2, Local Elections (Principal Areas) (England & Wales) Rules 2006, Rule 47(3) Schedule 2 Parishes and Communities Rules 2006

2.23 Each ballot paper should be considered on its own merits and decisions should be taken on a case-by-case basis.

2.24 In wards where more than one candidate is to be elected, a ballot paper can be rejected in part. If the voter is entitled to vote for more than one candidate, good votes should not be rejected because another vote on the ballot paper is uncertain.

2.25 The key question a Returning Officer should ask is whether the voter has, on the face of the paper, indicated a reasonably clear intention to vote for a candidate or candidates.

Decisions on ballot papers

2.26 The decision of the RO is final, but may be subject to review on election petition.[8]

[8] Rule 48, Schedule 2, Local Elections (Principal Areas) (England and Wales) Rules 2006, Rule 48 Schedule 2 Parishes and Communities Rules 2006

3 Summary

3.1 The principles to be applied are set out above. In practical terms, the general approach can be summarised as follows:

- Always be clear and consistent.
- Take time to ensure that a considered decision is given in every case.
- Determine whether the intention of the vote clearly appears on the ballot paper. As part of this, ROs will need to:
  - consider the whole of the ballot paper
  - consider whether the way a ballot paper has been marked means that a vote for a candidate is clearly apparent

4 Examples

4.1 The examples provided here under ‘allowed’ and ‘rejected’ are based on previous case law or are taken from the specific rules for local government elections in England.

4.2 Ultimately, the decision on any particular ballot paper, including the question as to whether an intention to vote for a particular candidate appears, rests with the RO.

Case law references

4.3 Abbreviated case law references have been used throughout this booklet. The following table lists the full case law references.

Abbreviation	Full reference
Berwick-upon-Tweed case	Berwick-upon-Tweed case [1880] 3 O'M&H 178
Buckrose case	Buckrose case, Sykes v. McArthur [1886] 5 O'M&H 110
Cirencester case	Lawson v. Chester Master [1893]
Cornwell v. Marshall	Cornwell v. Marshall [1977] 75 LGR 676 DC
Eley v. Durant	Eley v. Durant [1900] 4SJ 430
Levers v. Morris	Levers v. Morris [1971] 3 All ER QBD
Richmond case	Richmond London, Election, Re [1976] Times, 6 August
Rowe v. Cox	Rowe v. Cox [2001] QBD, Case M/294/01
Ruffle v. Rogers	Ruffle v. Rogers [1982] QB 1220
South Newington case	South Newington case, Lewis v. Shepperdson [1948] 2 All ER 503
West Bromwich case	West Bromwich case, Hazel v. Viscount Lewisham [1911] 6 O'M&H 256
Woodward v. Sarsons	Woodward v. Sarsons [1875] LR10 CP 733

Single-member wards

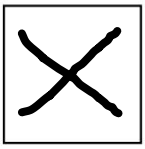
Allowed votes

The following are suggested examples of allowed votes.

Example 1

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Boots – Cirencester case, *Eley v. Durant* and Rule 47(3)(c).

Example 2

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 [illegible]
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



Allow for Miller – *Woodward v. Sarsons* and Rule 47(3)(c).

Example 3

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Hood – Rule 47(3)(c).

Example 4

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



Hood
The Forest
Party!

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



Allow for Hood – *Ruffle v. Rogers* and Rule 47(3)(b).

Example 5

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Miller – West Bromwich case and Rule 47(3)(a).

Example 6

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

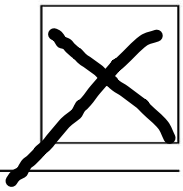
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		✓
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Clover – Rule 47(3)(b).

Example 7

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Barber – Berwick-upon-Tweed case and Rule 47(3)(a).

Example 8

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		Yes
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Grey – Rule 47(3)(b).

Example 9

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



Allow for Miller – Rule 47(3)(a) and (b).

Example 10

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

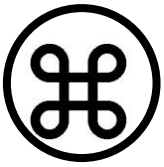
Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



☐

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



☐

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

☐

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



☐

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



☐

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



☐

Allow for Boots – Rule 47(3)(a) and (b).

Example 11

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



ELECT BARBER

Allow for Barber – *Ruffle v. Rogers* and Rule 47(3)(a) and (b) [provided there is no other candidate by the name of Barber].

Example 12

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party

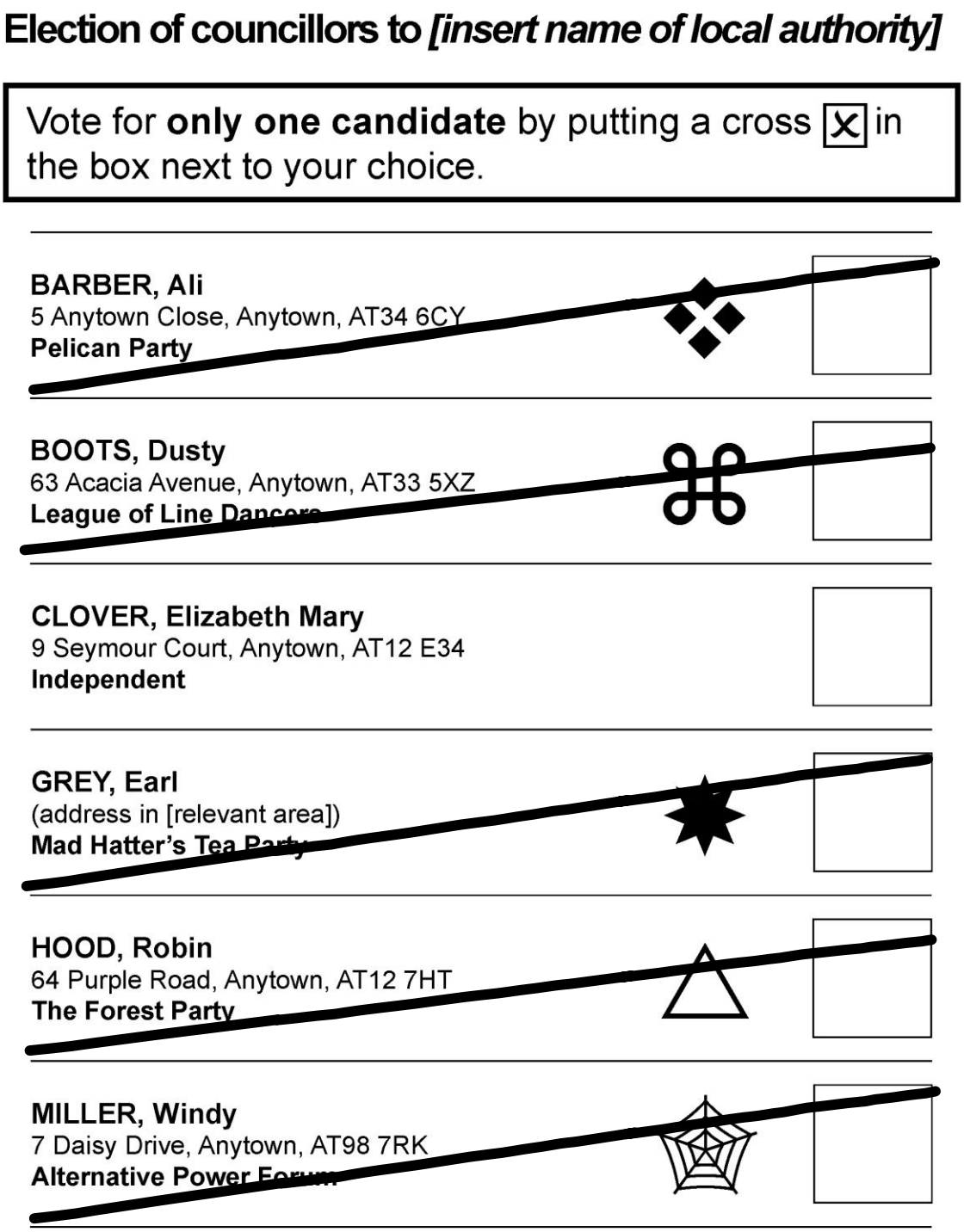


MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



Allow for Barber – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(3)(a).

Example 13



Allow for Clover – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(3)(b) and (c). See also *Schofield's Election Law,* Volume 5, Appendix E, E20 (Shaw & Sons, 2008 as updated by supplement issue no.1).

Example 14

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum

Allow for Boots – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(3)(c). See also *Schofield's Election Law,* Volume 5, Appendix E, E20 (Shaw & Sons, 2008 as updated by supplement issue no.1).

Example 15

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

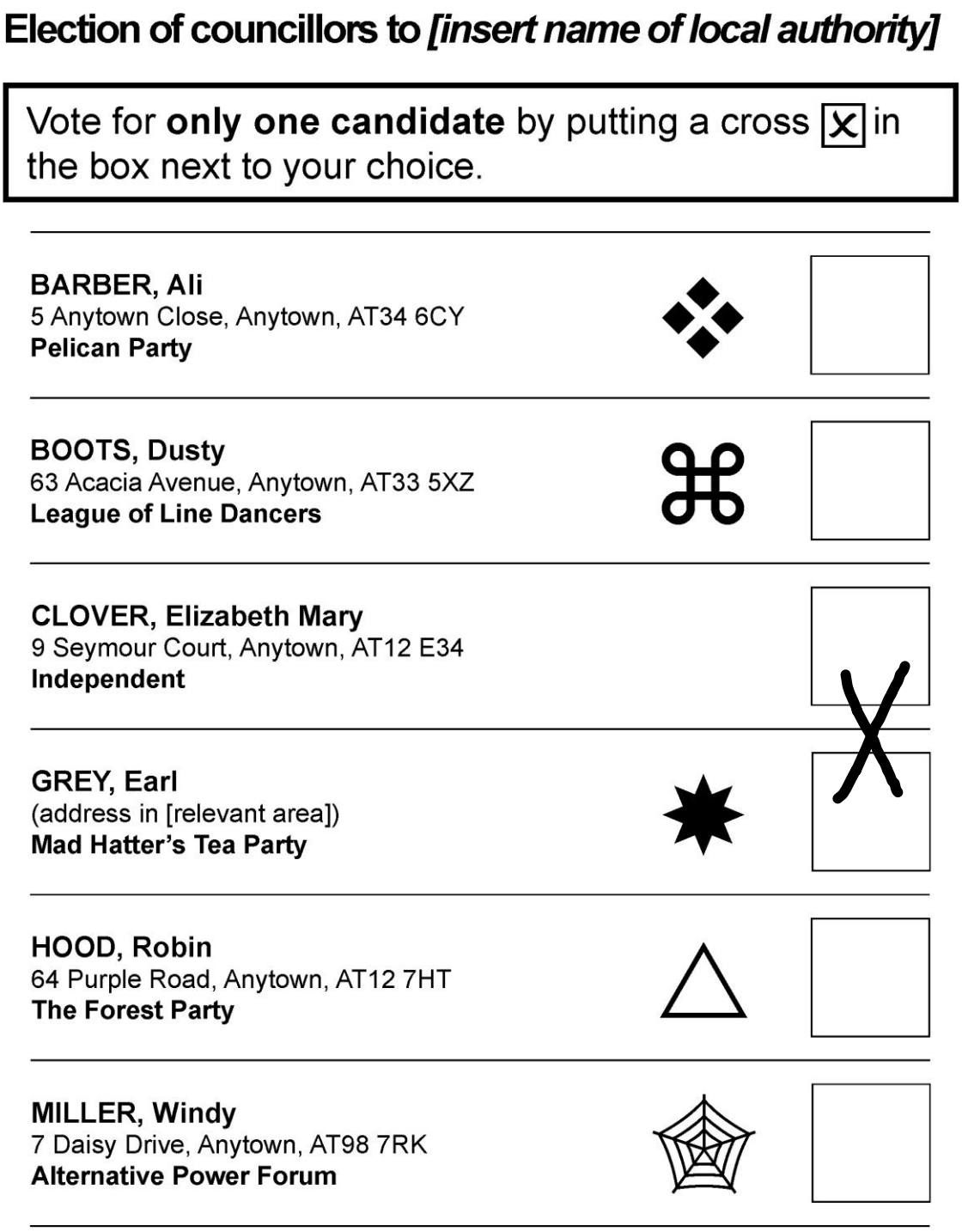
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		6
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		3
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		1
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		2
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		5
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		4

Allow for Clover – vote marked otherwise than by means of a cross. Rule 47(3)(b).

Rejected votes

The following are suggested examples of rejected votes.

Example 16



Reject – voter's intention uncertain. Buckrose case and Rule 47(1)(d).

Example 17

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party





BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers





CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party

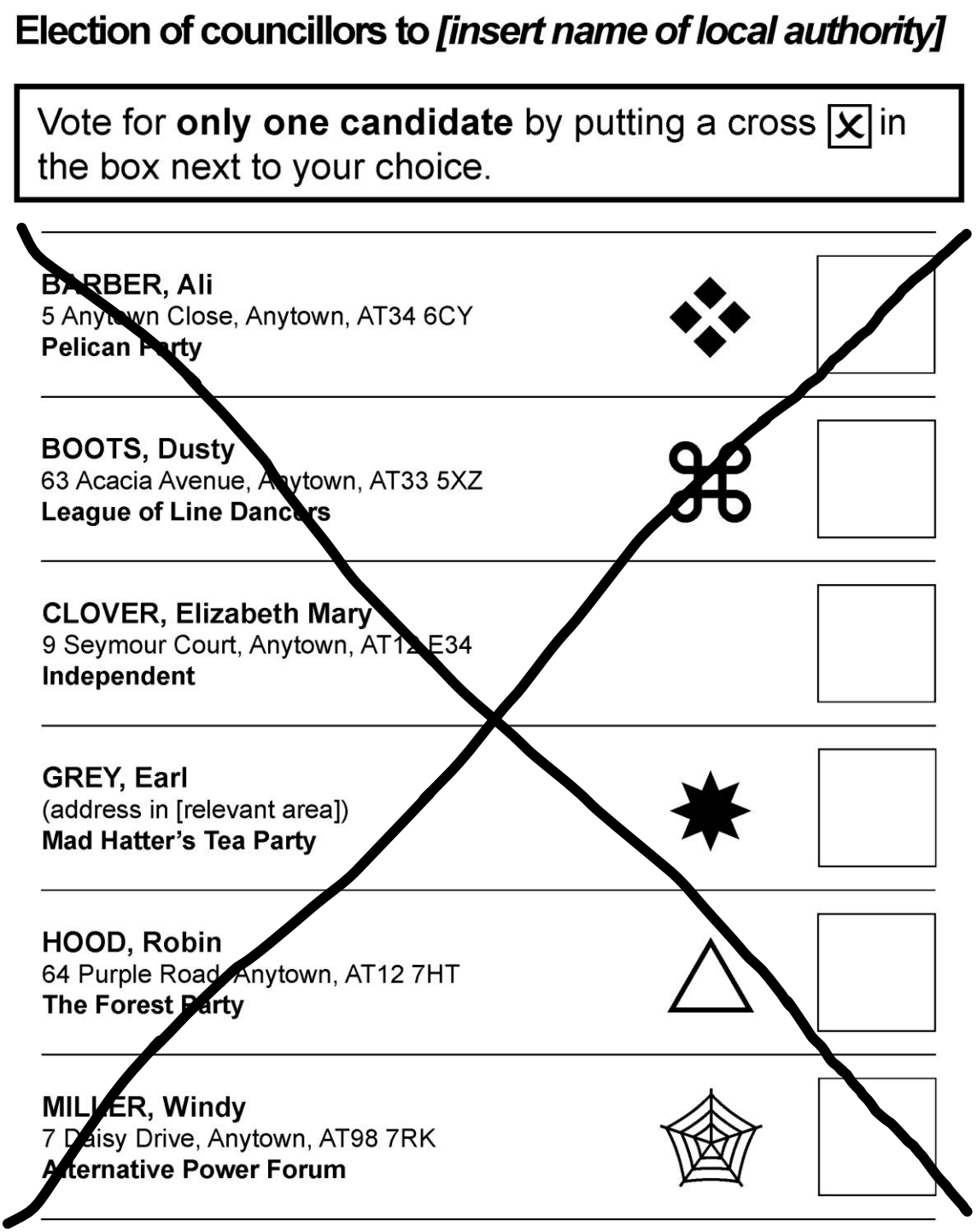


MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



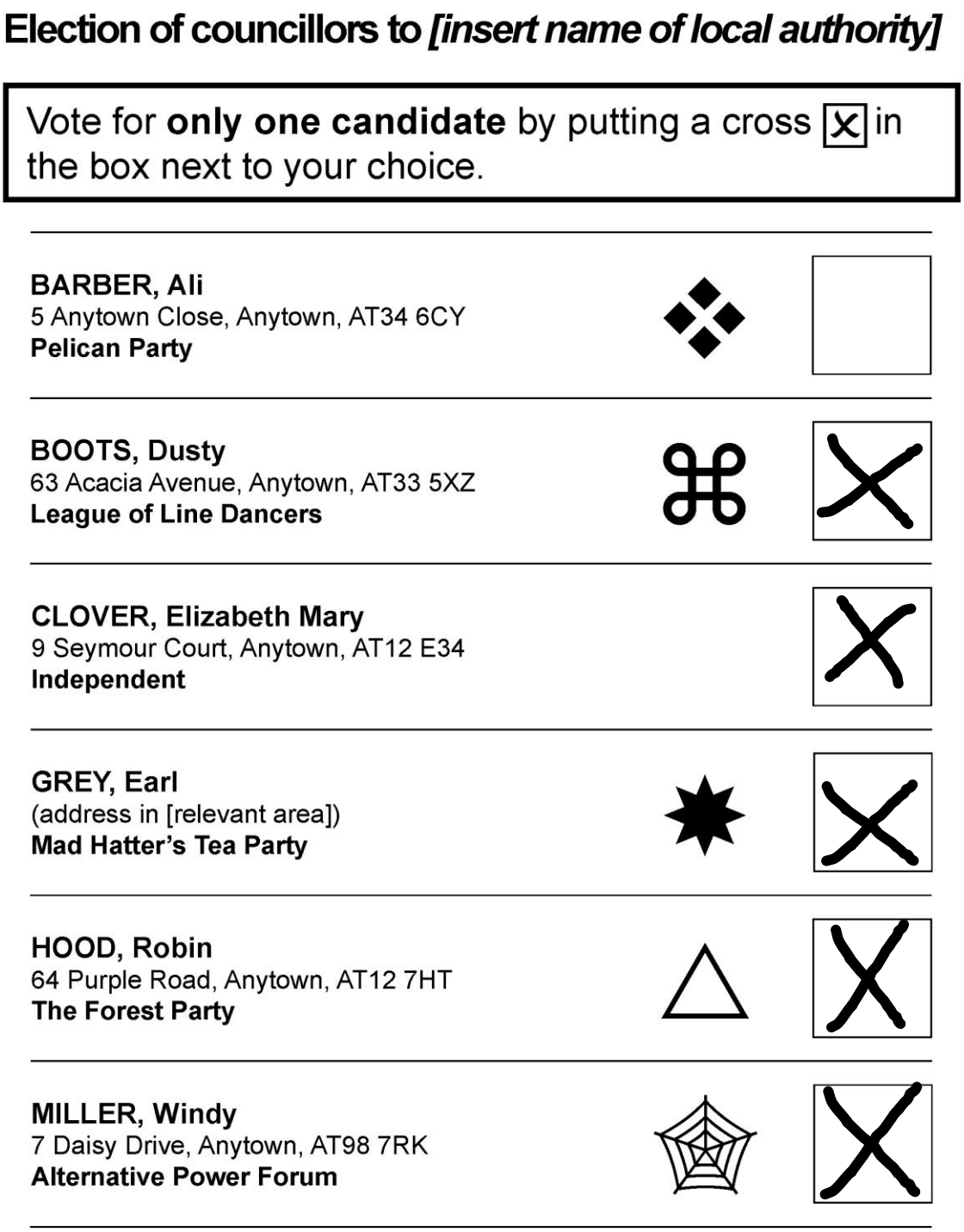
Reject – voter can be identified. *Woodward v. Sarsons*, South Newington case and Rule 47(1)(c).

Example 18



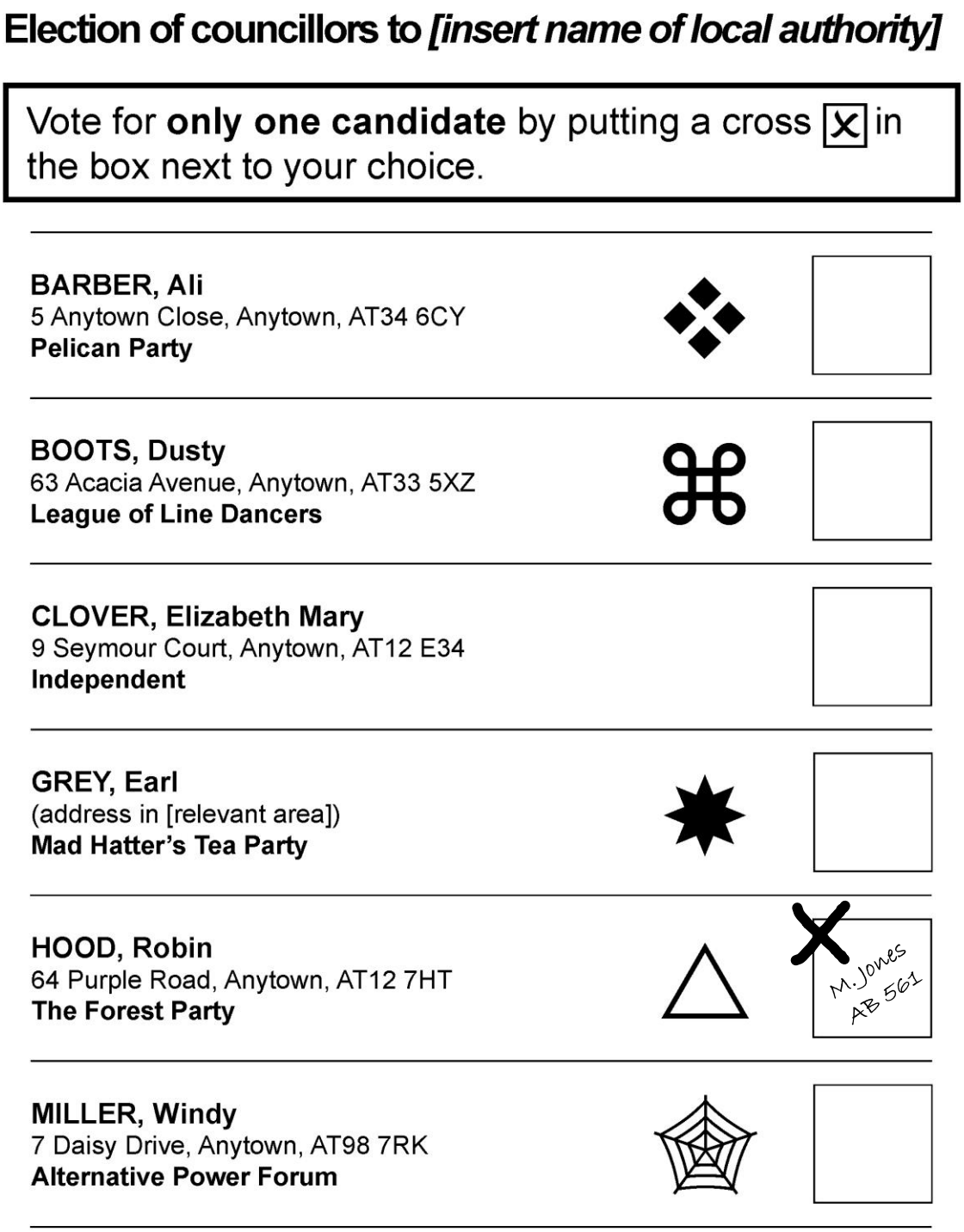
Reject – voter's intention is uncertain. *Rowe v. Cox* and Rule 47(1)(d).

Example 19



Reject – voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. Rule 47(1)(b).

Example 20



Reject – voter can be identified. *Woodward v. Sarsons* and Rule 47(1)(c).

Example 21

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		None of the above ✔

Reject – void for uncertainty. Rule 47(1)(d).

Example 22

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		X
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		Yes
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Reject – voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. Rule 47(1)(b).

Example 23

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **only one candidate** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		X
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Reject – voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. Rule 47(1)(b).

Two-member wards

Allowed votes

The following are suggested examples of allowed votes.

Example 24

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		X
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		X

Allow for Clover and Miller – Cirencester case, *Eley v. Durant* and Rule 47(3)(c).

Example 25

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



[X]

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



[ ]

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

[ ]

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



[ ]

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



[ ]

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



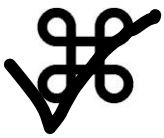
[X]

Allow for Barber and Miller – *Woodward v. Sarsons* and Rule 47(3)(c).

Example 26

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		X
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		X
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Boots and Hood – Rule 47(3)(c).

Example 27

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



[ ]

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



[Boots League of Line Dancers]

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

[ ]

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



[ ]

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



[Hood The Forest Party!]

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



[ ]

Allow for Boots and Hood – *Ruffle v. Rogers* and Rule 47(3)(b).

Example 28

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Boots and Miller – West Bromwich case and Rule 47(3)(a).

Example 29

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		✓
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		✓

Allow for Hood and Miller – Rule 47(3)(b).

Example 30

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



Allow for Boots and Miller – Berwick-upon-Tweed case and Rule 47(3)(a).

Example 31

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		Yes
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		Yes
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Clover and Grey – Rule 47(3)(b).

Example 32

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



Allow for Grey and Miller – Rule 47(3)(a) and (b).

Example 33

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



Allow for Boots and Grey – Rule 47(3)(a) and (b).

Example 34

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum

ELECT MILLER & CLOVER

Allow for Miller and Clover – *Ruffle v. Rogers*. Rule 47(3)(a) and (b) [provided there are no other candidates by the name of Miller or Clover]

Example 35

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



☐

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



☐

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

☐

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



☐

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



☐

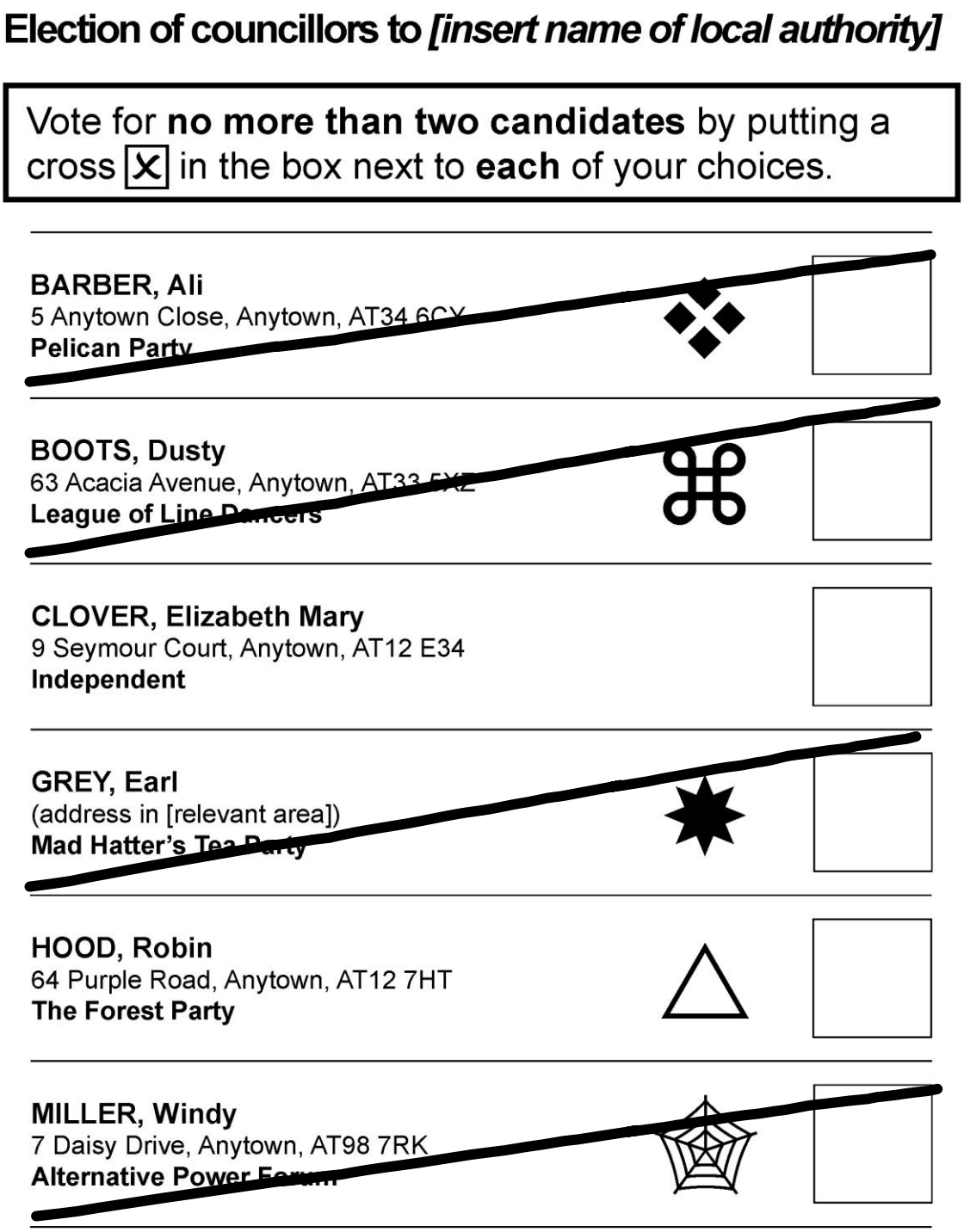
MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



☐

Allow for Boots and Hood – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(3)(a).

Example 36



Allow for Clover and Hood – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(3)(b) and (c). See also *Schofield's Election Law*. Volume 5, Appendix E, E20 (Shaw & Sons, 2008 as updated by supplement issue no.1).

Example 37

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CX
Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum

Allow for Boots and Hood – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(3)(c). See also *Schofield's Election Law*. Volume 5, Appendix E, E20 (Shaw & Sons, 2008 as updated by supplement issue no.1).

Example 38

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		6
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		3
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		1
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		2
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		5
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		4

Allow for Clover and Grey – vote marked otherwise than by means of a cross. Rule 47(3)(b).

Rejected votes

The following are suggested examples of rejected votes.

Example 39

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		X
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Reject – voter's intention is uncertain. Buckrose case and Rule 47(1)(d).

Example 40

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party





BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers





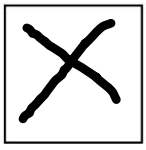
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



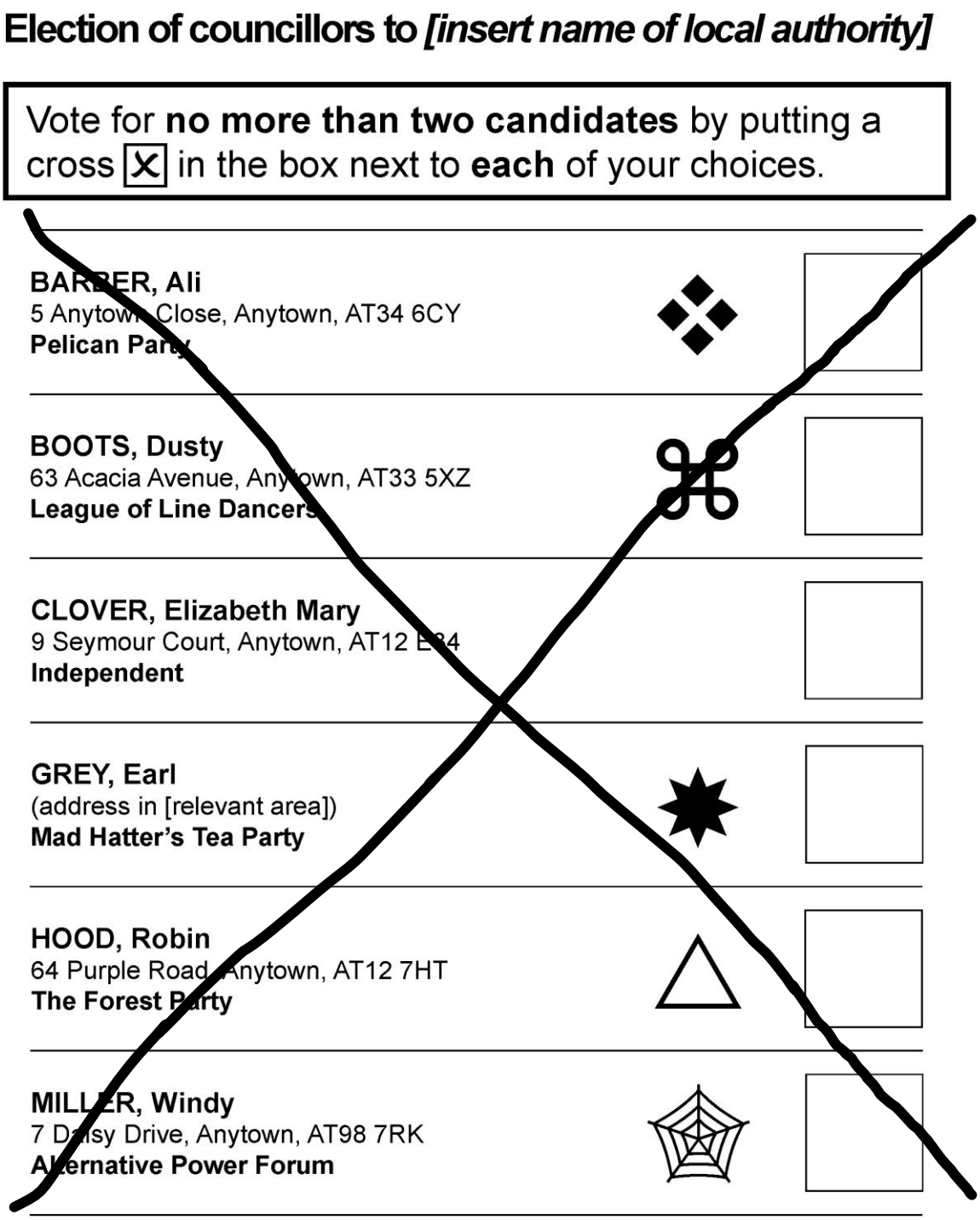


MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



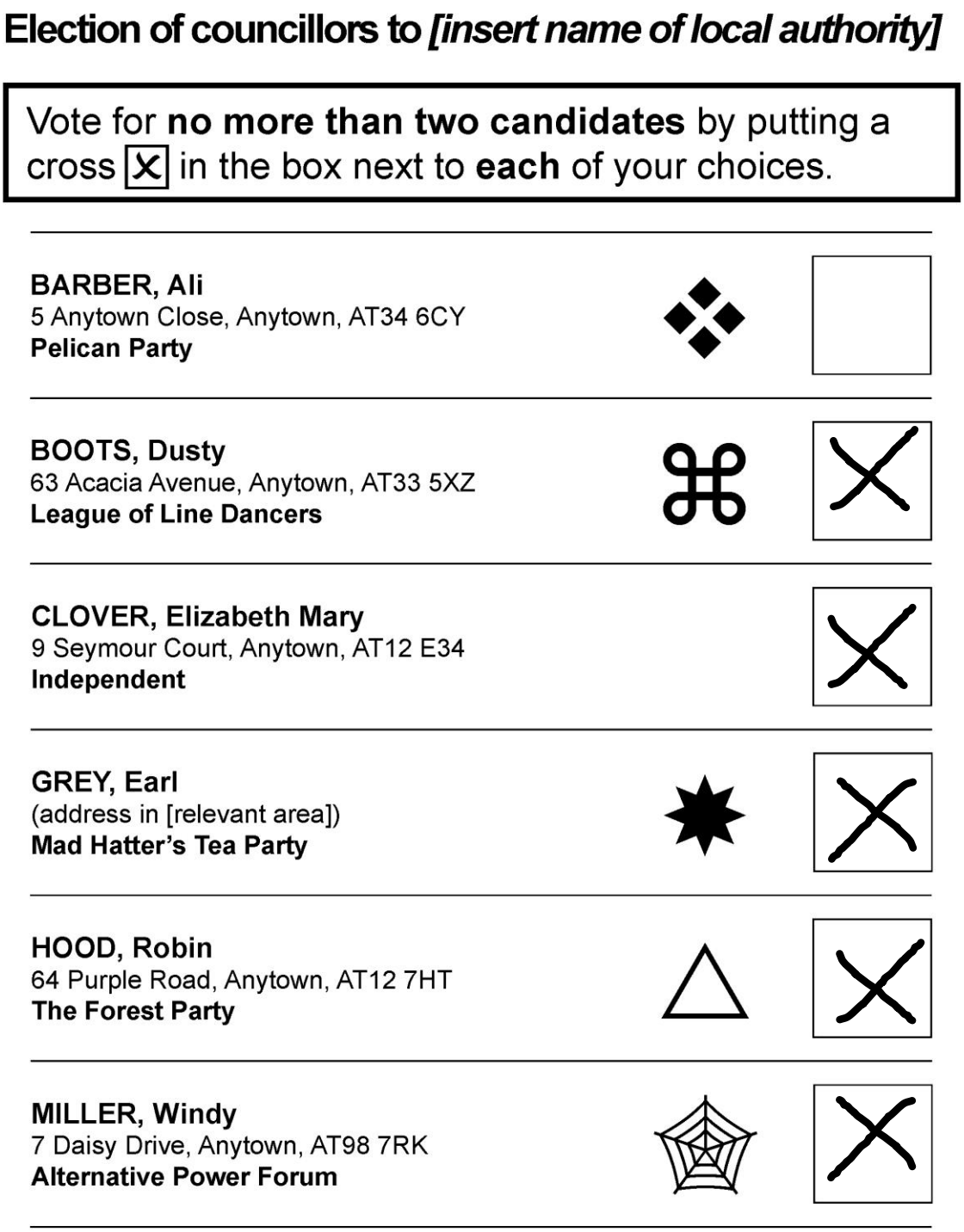
Reject – voter can be identified. *Woodward v. Sarsons*, South Newington case and Rule 47(1)(c).

Example 41



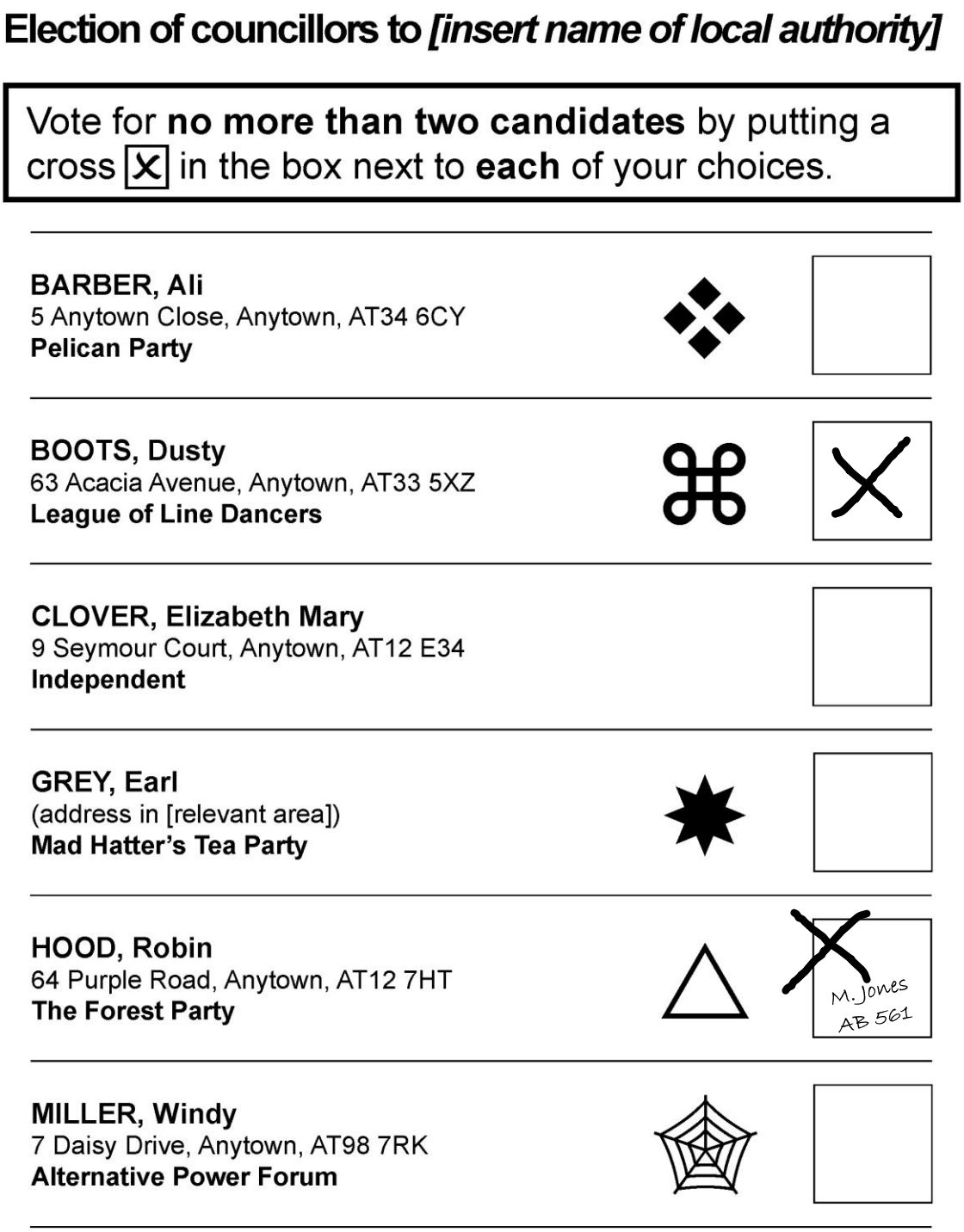
Reject – voter's intention is uncertain. *Rowe v. Cox* and Rule 47(1)(d).

Example 42



Reject – voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. Rule 47(1)(b).

Example 43



Reject – voter can be identified. *Woodward v. Sarsons* and Rule 47(1)(c).

Example 44

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		None of the above ✓

Reject – void for uncertainty. Rule 47(1)(d).

Example 45

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		X
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		X
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		Yes
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Reject – voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. Rule 47(1)(b).

Example 46

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

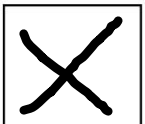
BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent



GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



Reject – voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. Rule 47(1)(b).

Example 47

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than two candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		X
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		X
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		X
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		X

Reject – voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. Rule 47(1)(b).

Three-member wards

Allowed votes

The following are suggested examples of allowed votes.

Example 48

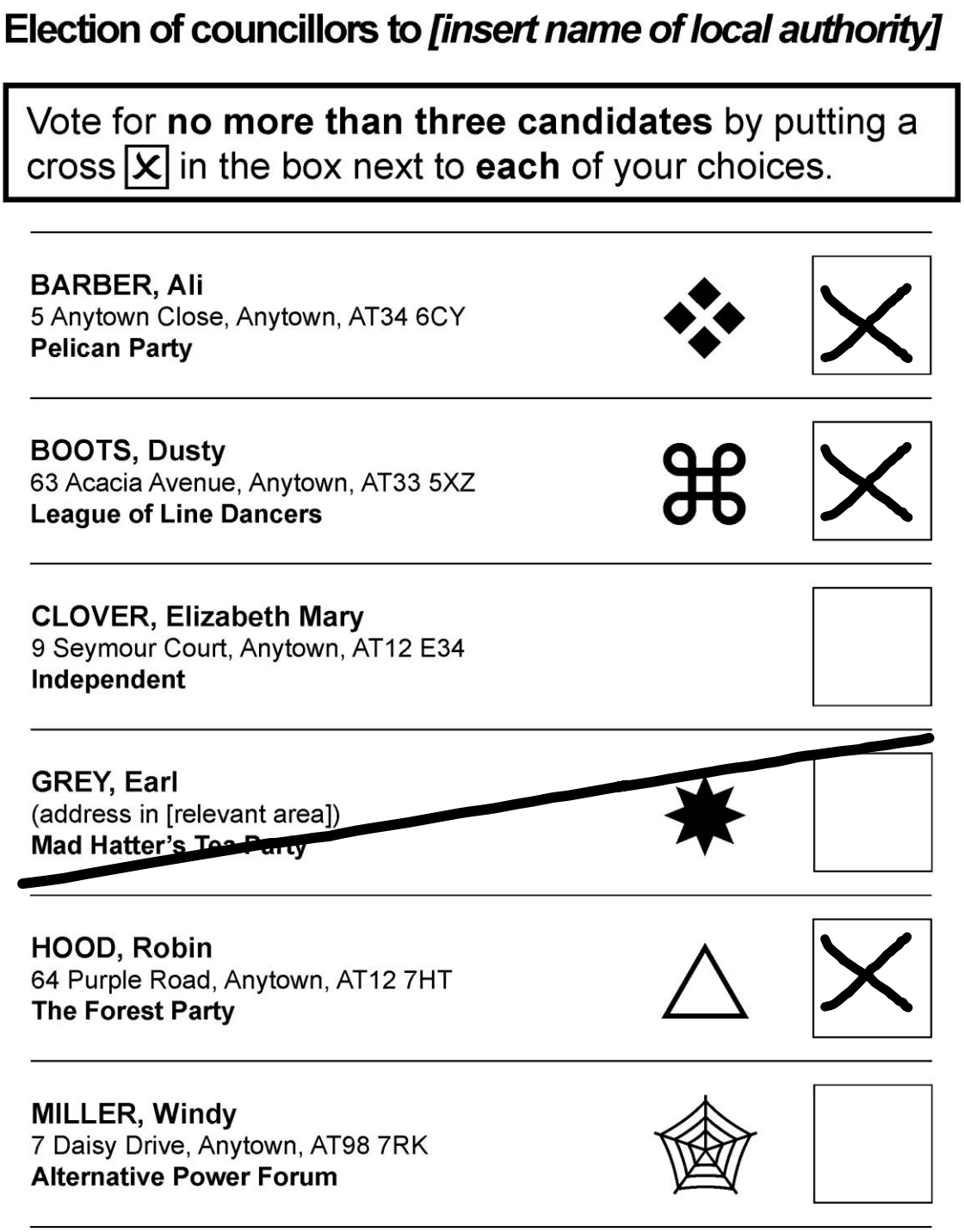
Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Barber, Boots and Grey – Cirencester case, *Eley v. Durant* and Rule 47(3)(c).

Example 49



Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum

Allow for Barber, Boots and Hood – *Woodward v. Sarsons* and Rule 47(3)(c).

Example 50

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		X
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		X
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		X
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Barber, Grey and Hood – Rule 47(3)(c).

Example 51

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		Boots League of Line Dancers
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		Hood The Forest Party!
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		Miller Alternative Power Forum

Allow for Boots, Hood and Miller – *Ruffle v. Rogers* and Rule 47(3)(b).

Example 52

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**	 	
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Allow for Boots, Grey and Hood – West Bromwich case and Rule 47(3)(a).

Example 53

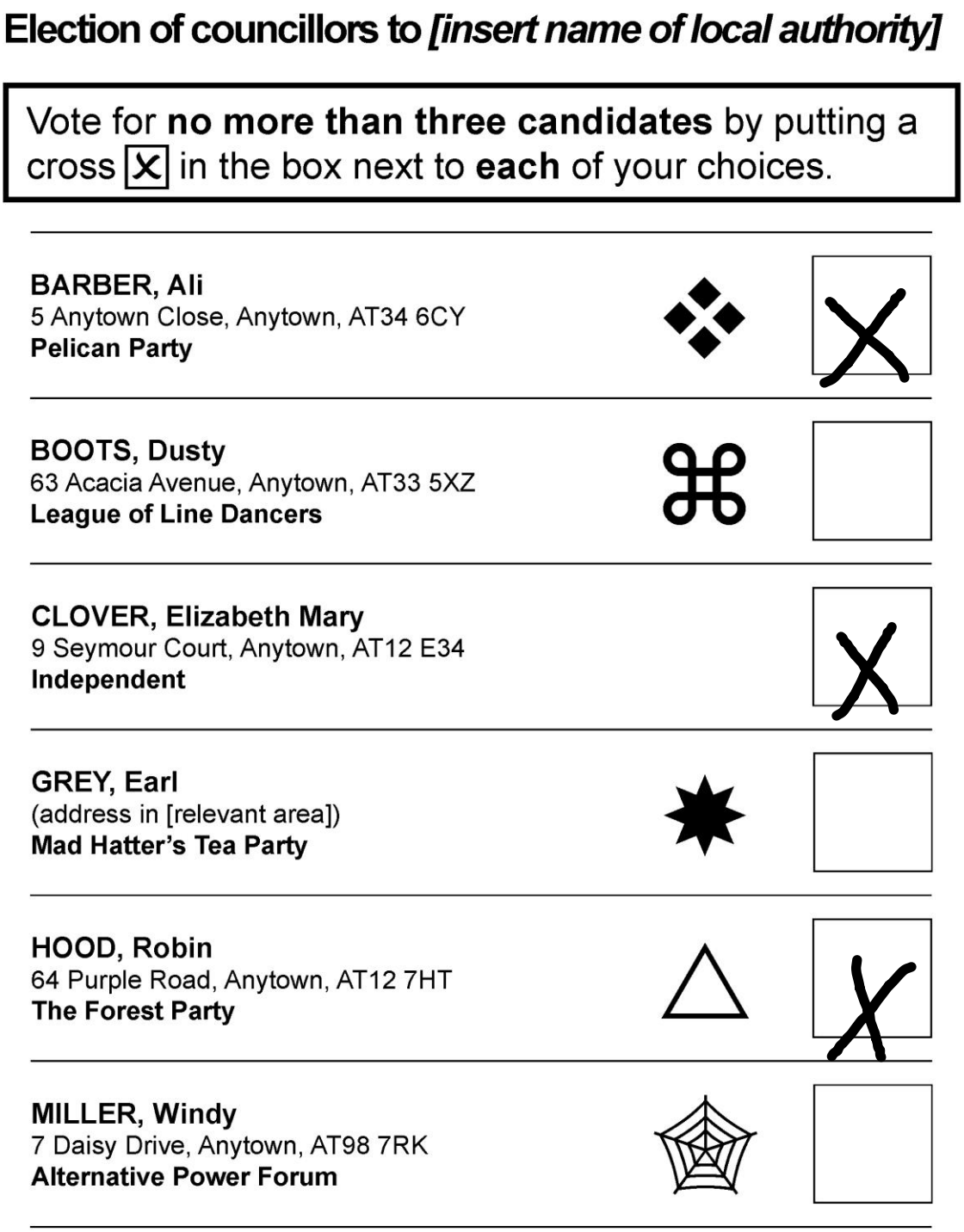
Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		✓
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		✓
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		✓

Allow for Barber, Hood and Miller – Rule 47(3)(b).

Example 54



Allow for Barber, Clover and Hood – Berwick-upon-Tweed case and Rule 47(3)(a).

Example 55

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		Yes
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		Yes
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		Yes

Allow for Clover, Grey and Miller – Rule 47(3)(b).

Example 56

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



Allow for Barber, Grey and Miller – Rule 47(3)(a) and (b).

Example 57

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



☐

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



☐

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

☐

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



☐

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



☐

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



☐

Allow for Boots, Grey and Hood – Rule 47(3)(a) and (b).

Example 58

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



ELECT MILLER, CLOVER & Boots

Allow for Miller, Clover and Boots – *Ruffle v. Rogers*. Rule 47(3)(a) and (b) [provided there are no other candidates by the name of Miller, Clover or Boots.]

Example 59

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum

Allow for Barber, Boots and Hood – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(3)(a).

Example 60

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6GT
Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum

Allow for Clover, Grey and Miller – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(3)(c). See also *Schofield's Election Law*, Volume 5, Appendix E, E20 (Shaw & Sons, 2008 as updated by supplement no.1).

Example 61

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6QY
Pelican Party

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E9Y
Independent

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum

Allow for Boots, Grey and Hood – *Levers v. Morris* and Rule 47(3)(c). See also *Schofield's Election Law*, Volume 5, Appendix E, E20 (Shaw & Sons, 2008 as updated by supplement issue no.1).

Example 62

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		6
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		3
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		1
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		2
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		5
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		4

Allow for Clover, Grey and Boots – vote marked otherwise than by means of a cross. Rule 47(3)(b).

Rejected votes

The following are suggested examples of rejected votes.

Example 63

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

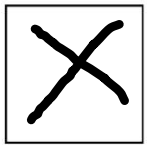
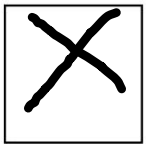
BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		X
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		X
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Reject – voter's intention is uncertain. Buckrose case and Rule 47(1)(d).

Example 64

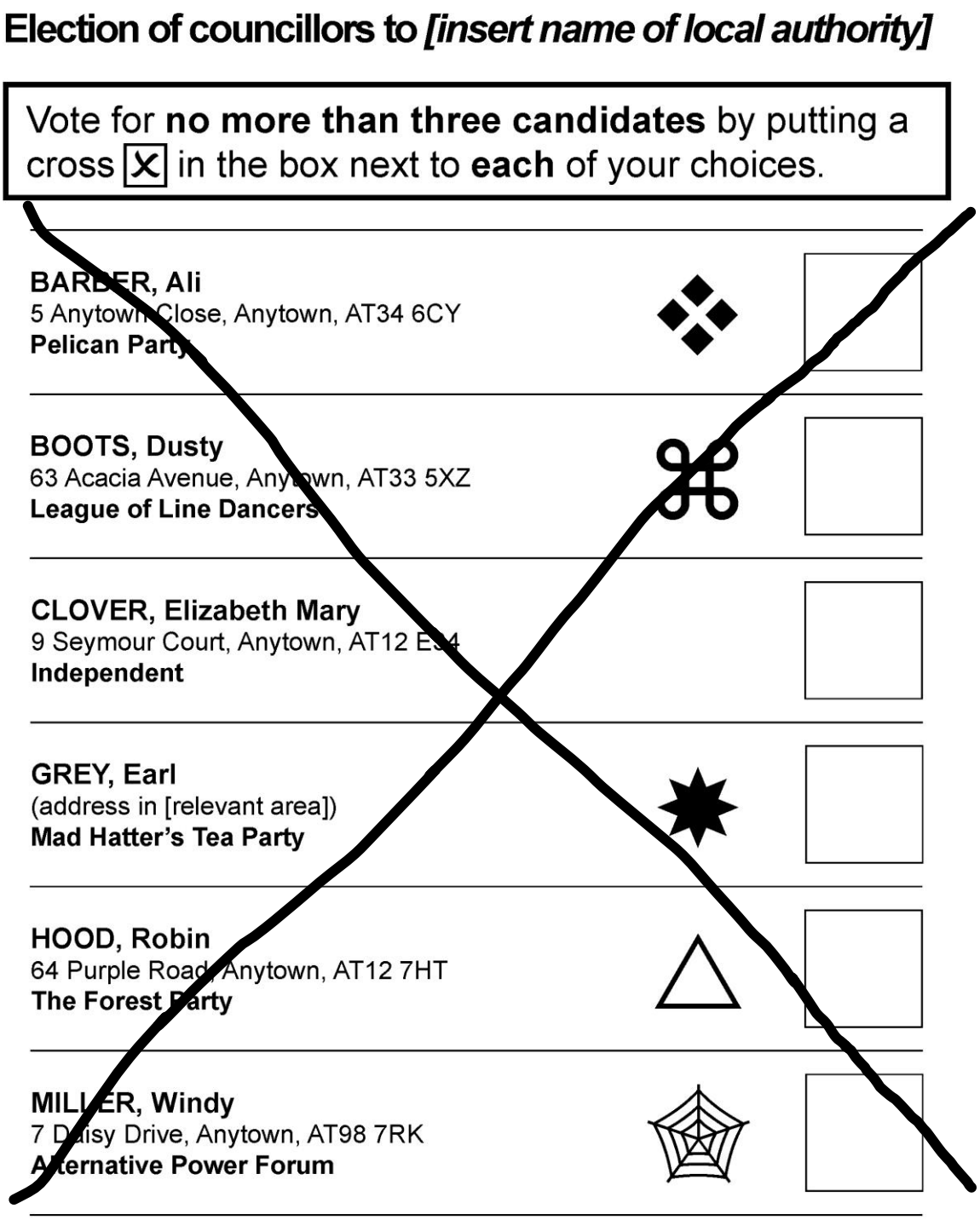
Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Reject – voter can be identified. *Woodward v. Sarsons*, South Newington case and Rule 47(1)(c).

Example 65



Reject – voter's intention is uncertain. *Rowe v. Cox* and Rule 47(1)(d).

Example 66

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		X
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		X
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		X
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		X
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		X

Reject – voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. Rule 47(1)(b).

Example 67

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		X
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		X
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		X M. Jones AB 561
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Reject – voter can be identified. *Woodward v. Sarsons* and Rule 47(1)(c).

Example 68

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



☐

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



☐

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

☐

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



☐

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



☐

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



None of the above ✔

Reject – void for uncertainty. Rule 47(1)(d).

Example 69

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		Yes
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		X
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		Yes
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		Yes
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		

Reject – voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. Rule 47(1)(b).

Example 70

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali
5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY
Pelican Party



☐

BOOTS, Dusty
63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ
League of Line Dancers



☐

CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary
9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34
Independent

☒

GREY, Earl
(address in [relevant area])
Mad Hatter's Tea Party



☐

HOOD, Robin
64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT
The Forest Party



☐

MILLER, Windy
7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK
Alternative Power Forum



☐

Reject – voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. Rule 47(1)(b).

Example 71

Election of councillors to *[insert name of local authority]*

Vote for **no more than three candidates** by putting a cross [X] in the box next to **each** of your choices.

BARBER, Ali 5 Anytown Close, Anytown, AT34 6CY **Pelican Party**		
BOOTS, Dusty 63 Acacia Avenue, Anytown, AT33 5XZ **League of Line Dancers**		
CLOVER, Elizabeth Mary 9 Seymour Court, Anytown, AT12 E34 **Independent**		X
GREY, Earl (address in [relevant area]) **Mad Hatter's Tea Party**		X
HOOD, Robin 64 Purple Road, Anytown, AT12 7HT **The Forest Party**		X
MILLER, Windy 7 Daisy Drive, Anytown, AT98 7RK **Alternative Power Forum**		X

Reject – voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for. Rule 47(1)(b).

Annex - Legislation

The election rules

The relevant rules for local government elections in England are as follows:

Rejected ballot papers

Rule **47** –

(1) Any ballot paper –

(a) which does not bear the official mark, or

(b) on which votes are given for more candidates than the voter is entitled to vote for, or

(c) on which anything is written or marked by which the voter can be identified except the printed number and other unique identifying mark on the back, or

(d) which is unmarked or void for uncertainty,

shall, subject to the provisions of paragraphs (2) and (3), be void and not counted.

(2) Where the voter is entitled to vote for more than one candidate, a ballot paper shall not be deemed to be void for uncertainty as respects any vote as to which no uncertainty arises and that vote must be counted.

(3) A ballot paper on which the vote is marked –

(a) elsewhere than in the proper place, or

(b) otherwise than by means of a cross, or

(c) by more than one mark,

shall not for such reason be deemed to be void (either wholly or as respects that vote) if an intention that the vote shall be for one or other of the candidates clearly appears, and the way the paper is marked does not itself identify the voter and it is not shown that he can be identified by it.

(4) The returning officer must –

(a) endorse the word “rejected” on any ballot paper which under this rule is not to be counted; and

(b) in the case of a ballot paper on which any vote is counted under paragraph (2), endorse the words “rejected in part” on the ballot paper and indicate which vote or votes have been counted;

and must add to the endorsement the words “rejection objected to” if any objection is made by a counting agent to his decision.

(5) The returning officer must draw up a statement showing the number of ballot papers rejected, including those rejected in part, under the several heads of –

(a) want of official mark;

(b) voting for more candidates than the voter is entitled to;

(c) writing or mark by which voter could be identified; and
(d) unmarked or void for uncertainty

and the statement must record the number of ballot papers rejected in part.

Decisions on ballot papers

Rule **48** – The decision of the returning officer on any question arising in respect of a ballot paper is final, but may be subject to review on an election petition.