Polling place review appeal

Our local authority, North Lincolnshire Council has conducted a review of polling districts and polling places ending on 30th September 2014.

As can be seen on the link below a report would be submitted to the meeting of the full council to be held on 11 December 2014.


Minutes of the said meeting can be found as attached document along with other submissions. The minutes do not show actions taken and to date no review report has been published.

Our small town, Winterton, had 3 polling stations: 2 in local buildings and 1 in a mobile unit. From an article published in the local press on 20th December 2014 it was reported that the town will be losing one polling station (the mobile unit) and will be served by two stations both at one end of the town.


Presently the North Lincs Council website still lists 3 polling places for Winterton and their “My Maps” shows 2 locations: The Old School Hall and the Methodist Chapel (screen shot attached).

A query made recently shows that there is confusion at North Lincs Council. See emails attached.

A letter from North Lincs Council dated 16th February informed the Methodist Chapel that the booking made for the forthcoming elections is now cancelled due to the fact that: “ The council has recently undergone a review of its polling districts and polling places and at a Full Council meeting on 11 December 2014 approved to combine the 3 current polling districts into 2 polling districts and have one polling place which will be the Old School Hall on West Street”.

As explained above there is no record of this in the minutes and no review report published so a great of number of people are highly concerned by the fact that they will have to all go to the Old School Hall to vote. The Old School Hall has limited car parking, is situated next to the Infants School with which it has a shared access drive and parking on the road is either prohibited or limited by no waiting times.

Because the forthcoming elections will be held for parliamentary election, local authority election and town council election it is anticipated that with 3 lots of ballot papers to be given out queues will be forming with the sheer number of people coming to vote in one place only. The other concern is that the Old School Hall is not entirely disabled friendly. There are 3 doors to negotiate to get to the polling table. 2 doors have steps to negotiate with one very high to go over for anyone in a wheelchair and impossible to go through for larger wheelchairs and motorised wheelchairs.

Of the 2 polling stations (Old School Hall and Methodist Chapel) the Old School Hall is the worst. The Chapel has got good access with large automatic doors, disabled parking on the forecourt, wide areas to manoeuvre wheelchairs and level access throughout the building.

Attached is a list of electors who want to make representation to the Electoral Commission for an appeal.

Their concerns are that people might be unable to exercise their right to vote through inadequate facilities in the township and they are also puzzled by the fact that another polling place (the Methodist Chapel) has been lost without any record of this decision being given/published.

N Mumby (Mrs)
Chair, Winterton Disabled Club
Reg Charity No 1034922