

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting of General Purposes Committee

Date: Wednesday, 19th November, 2014

Place: Committee Room 7, Civic Centre, Southend-on-Sea

Present: Councillor K R Robinson (Chairman),
Councillors B Ayling (Vice-Chairman), T K Byford*, J I Courtenay, C J
Nevin, N D Ward
(*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31)

In Attendance: R Tinlin, C Gamble, F Abbott & T Row

Start/End Time: 6.00 p.m./6.50 p.m.

**** **Part I**

399 Apologies and substitutions.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Folkard (Substitute: Cllr Byford), Kenyon and Moring.

400 Declarations of interest.

The following interests were declared at the meeting:

(a) Councillors Byford Courtenay and Robinson - Agenda Item 4 (Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places/Polling Stations) - Non-pecuniary: Lives in one of the polling districts included in the proposals.

401 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 27th November, 2013

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 27th November, 2013 be received, confirmed as a correct record and signed.

402 Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places/Polling Stations

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive & Town Clerk proposing amendments to polling districts and polling places in the Parliamentary constituencies of Southend West and Rochford and Southend East that fall within the Borough. These had been developed following a statutory review of polling districts and polling places and subsequent consultation exercises.

A summary of the responses received to the consultation, together with the comments of the Returning Officer in respect of those responses were attached to the report at appendix 2. The recommendations of the Returning Officer in respect the proposed changes were attached to the report at appendix 3.

Large scale plans illustrating the proposals were displayed at the meeting. These included subsequent proposals for amendments to the polling district boundary between EQ and ER in Kursaal Ward and amendments to the polling district EB in Shoebury Ward, which had been suggested after the publication of the report.

With reference to the Returning Officer's recommendations regarding Friars Community Centre, the Committee was informed that this polling station would

become a double station in the event that the proposals for the polling district boundary were approved. It may be necessary to identify suitable alternative premises to accommodate these polling stations.

The Committee was also informed that an alternative room at the Westborough School in MacDonald Drive would be used as a polling station for the polling district WP, in place of the Nursery Building.

Resolved:

1. That the comments received in response to the public consultation exercise on the polling districts and polling places/stations, as set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted report, be noted.
2. That the proposed amendments to the polling districts and polling places, as set in the Report of the Returning Officer (Appendix 3), together with those subsequent amendments outlined at the meeting and summarised above, be approved.

Chairman: _____