

## **Proposed changes to Polling stations in the Tividale ward**

- 1.1 As members may be aware, three of the five Polling Places in the Tividale ward are primary schools (i.e. Tividale Hall, Oakham and Grace Mary) and, because of the recent Local, West Midlands Mayoral and Police and Crime Commissioner elections they were forced to close to pupils on 6<sup>th</sup> May to accommodate voting.
- 1.2. To try to avoid similar closures occurring when the by-election is held, it is proposed that alternative venues are used and thereby allow all three schools to remain open to pupils on the day of the poll.
- 1.3. Following a review of available premises in the Ward, the following Stations/Places are proposed for the forthcoming elections.

### **Polling district: TIA – Currently Oakham Primary School**

It is proposed that the Station is re-located to Oakham Evangelical Church, City Road, Tividale (see also TID below).

### **Polling district TIB – Currently Tividale Hall Primary School**

It is proposed that this double station is re-located to Tividale Football Club, Packwood Road, Tividale.

### **Polling district TIC – Currently Oakham Library**

No change proposed

### **Polling district TID – Currently Grace Mary Primary School**

It is proposed that the Station is re-located to Oakham Evangelical Church, City Road, Tividale (see also TIA above)

### **Polling district TIE – Currently Residents' lounge, Darley House**

No change proposed

- 1.4. As members will see, it is being proposed that the Polling Stations at Oakham Primary School and Grace Mary Primary School are re-located to Oakham Evangelical Church, thus it being a double station.

The church is situated mid-way between the two existing Polling stations (0.3 miles from Oakham Primary and 0.2 miles from Grace Mary Primary) and, following a site visit, is considered to have all the necessary attributes necessary for a Polling station (e.g. off-street parking, situated on level ground, wheelchair accessible, and would allow for a one-way system in/out of the building to be put in place, if necessary).

Tividale Football Club is situated in Packwood Road, 0.4 miles from the existing polling double station of Tividale Hall Primary. Again, following a site visit, it is considered the proposed venue would prove to be a suitable site for a double polling station.

Officials from both the church and the Football Club have indicated a willingness for their premises to become Polling Stations.

Subject to an evaluation of the effectiveness of the two new, proposed Polling stations after the forthcoming by-election, it will be recommended that both venues remain as polling stations for future elections too.