From: Joanna Priestley Worlington PC < Worlington PC@outlook.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 8:22 PM **To:** elections <elections@westsuffolk.gov.uk>

Subject: Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places

Dear Sirs

I am writing on behalf of Worlington Parish Council in response to your review of Polling Districts and Polling Places.

The residents of Worlington have historically used Worlington Village Hall as a polling station and this has always worked well, as it is located in the centre of the village. Worlington has a large population of older voters, some of whom have mobility issues, and the Village Hall has disabled access along with a disabled car park directly outside.

Worlington Parish Council strongly feel that the Village Hall should remain as the polling station for the village as it is the recognised hub of the community and, while postal votes can be very useful for people with busy lives or who cannot leave the house, for some people coming to a communal area to put pencil to paper is something they have always done to cast their vote and might also be the only place they get to see another person all week.

Worlington Parish Council would like to add that West Suffolk Council must allow villages to feel fully included in the democratic process and not fall to the wayside or sidelined in any efforts to streamline voting practices.

With kind regards

Joanna Priestley

Clerk to Worlington Parish Council

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