

**WEALDSTONE URBAN DISTRICT  
ELECTION RESULTS, 1894-1918**

## WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1894	652	59.4	William A. Jepson	200	51.7
			James Smither	190	49.1
			Charles Tyler	167	43.2
			Frederick Judge	162	41.9
			Fred Gullett	145	37.5
			Joseph T. Draper	144	37.2
			Edwin J. Powell	137	35.4
			Matthew Dymock	133	34.4
			Robert Balk	115	29.7
			Frederick King	107	27.6
			George Lander	104	26.9
			George R. Rogers	103	26.6
			Henry W. Job	91	23.5
			Miss Edith B. Joyner	87	22.5
			John C. Woodhead	87	22.5
			James Winter	80	20.7
			Henry Drury	78	20.2
			Richard D. Rixon	74	19.1
			George E. Farnhill	72	18.6
			Thomas Smerdon	70	18.1
Walter H. Collins	60	15.5			
John E.A. Durham	22	5.7			

Note: The *Harrow Observer* of 27 June 1902 incorrectly reported that the number of electors at this election was "just over 800". The *Harrow and Wealdstone Press* recorded imprecisely that "taking all things into consideration, Wealdstone polled well, between 400 and 500 recording their vote out of a register of 600-odd", while the *Watford Observer* reported that there were "about 650 voters" and that "over 400 electors visited the booth during the day". The only precise figure for the number voting, 387, was supplied by the *Harrow Observer* in 1902.

Two further nominated candidates for this election — Richard Bootle and William Hutchings — withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period.

The *Harrow and Wealdstone Press* has been preferred as the source for the voting figures of the successful candidates, figures that are in agreement with those presented by the *Watford Observer*. The result reported by the *Harrow Gazette* differed in three cases: Smither, Judge and Powell were recorded as receiving 200, 168 and 133 votes, respectively.

A group called the 'Ratepayers' Defence Association' endorsed twelve candidates: Jepson, Smither, Gullett, Draper, Powell, Dymock, King, Lander, Rogers, Job, Winter and Collins.

Balk and Woodhead received the endorsement of a public meeting of workmen.

The *Middlesex and Buckinghamshire Advertiser* reported: "The poll .... was taken on Monday last at the Wealdstone Board Schools, Mr. Rexworthy, solicitor, being the Returning Officer. Considering the unpleasant weather, there was a very good attendance of voters. The poll was declared about 11 pm." Meanwhile, the *Watford Observer* printed a colourful report of polling day: "In the new Urban Parish of Wealdstone the inhabitants were early astir, and the clock had scarcely struck 8 before the anxious electors demanded admittance to the polling booth at the Board Schools. There were three presiding officers here .... The Returning Officer, Mr. Rexworthy, took charge of No. 1 Station, Mr. Whatmore superintended No. 2, and Mr. Chilton presided over the Guardians' ballot box. Between 8 and 9 a good few recorded their votes, these being chiefly gentlemen who go daily to the City. Things went very quiet until the afternoon, when electors were brought down in conveyances from the outlying districts of Greenhill, Northolt, and the Kenton way. In the village much excitement was caused by the advocates of the labour party. Men with sandwich boards paraded the town displaying large bills, and others with blacked faces and gaudy dresses delivered handbills and exhorted the electors to vote for their particular candidates. Towards evening, the officials at the polling stations began to get busy, and in the last hour fully two-thirds of the votes were recorded."

## WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
[Disqualification of Gullett]					
1896 (13/4)	504	41.5	Harold Senier	135	65.9
			Richard D. Rixon	47	22.9
			Henry W. Job	<u>23</u>	<u>11.2</u>
				88	43.0

Note: Spoilt ballot papers: 4.

Gullett was disqualified under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, subsection 7, for his failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council or its committees.

On 1 October 1895 Local Government Board Order no. 33,399 made radical changes to the boundary of Wealdstone UD with Harrow-on-the-Hill UD. This was the first election following the Order coming into force; 156 parochial electors (1896 *Register*) transferred to Harrow-on-the-Hill, while 4 parochial electors transferred to Wealdstone — one of whom was Senier.

Rixon sought election as an "Independent Candidate".

The *Wealdstone, Harrow and Wembley Observer* provided an analysis of the number voting during each hour of the poll, as follows:

<u>Hour</u>	<u>Box 1</u>	<u>Box 2</u>	<u>Hour</u>	<u>Box 1</u>	<u>Box 2</u>
8 - 9	5	3	2 - 3	11	2
9 - 10	5	3	3 - 4	12	6
10 - 11	7	6	4 - 5	7	6
11 - 12	5	5	5 - 6	7	10
12 - 1	11	5	6 - 7	8	14
1 - 2	11	5	7 - 8	31	24
			Totals	120	89

The *Observer* reported on the by-election as follows: "The weather was not at all favourable for outdoor sport — a keen wind blowing all day with alternate showers of rain and hail — still, one would have expected that the electors, especially those living within a stone's throw of the booth, would have exercised that privilege so long agitated for and now so seldom taken advantage of. Punctually at eight o'clock the doors of the school were opened [and] the first elector to record his vote was Mr. H. Hiscock. ... There are evidently no [Jewish] voters in the parish of Wealdstone, and out of the Gentile list only four electors were unable to read, while several were still under the impression that they could vote by proxy...."

[Resignations of Tyler, Judge, Lander and Senier]

1897 (24/4)	530	36.8	Richard D. Rixon	88	45.1
			Henry W. Job	87	44.6
			Thomas L. Johnson	76	39.0
			Thomas Smerdon	73	37.4
			John C. Woodhead	69	35.4
			Clarence R. Crispin	60	30.8
			James B. Wright	41	21.0

Note: The resignations of Lander and Senier (due to health and business reasons, respectively) were received by the Clerk to the Council in February 1897. Tyler and Judge were both residents of Headstone Road, a portion of Greenhill that transferred from Wealdstone UD to Harrow-on-the-Hill UD in October 1895. The Clerk was instructed to write to them asking if they might consider resigning from the Council at this time, so as to avoid the possible expense of a further by-election at a later date.

## WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1898	527	50.5	Robert Balk	158	59.4
			John Robinson	140	52.6
			James Smither	132	49.6
			William A. Jepson	128	48.1
			John R. Newman	109	41.0
			Joseph T. Draper	100	37.6
			David Woodhall	95	35.7
			Edwin J. Powell	93	35.0
			Henry W. Job	92	34.6
			Richard D. Rixon	89	33.5
			Thomas Smerdon	75	28.2
			James B. Wright	75	28.2
			George R. Rogers	72	27.1
			James Gray	43	16.2

Note: The *Wealdstone, Harrow and Wembley Observer* reported that a total of 526 ballot papers were supplied to the Presiding Officer, thereby implying that this figure, differing by one from the number of entries in the *Register of Electors*, was the number of people entitled to vote at the election. The total ballot papers issued was reported to be 266, from which the turnout above has been calculated.

Smither, Jepson, Newman, Draper, Woodhall, Powell, Rixon and Wright issued a joint election address.

[Resignation of Job on appointment to a disqualifying office]

1899 (8/7)	587	20.6	George A. Champriss	64	52.9
			John Myers	<u>57</u>	<u>47.1</u>
				7	5.8

Note: A third candidate for this election, John C. Woodhead, withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period.

Job resigned from the Council upon his appointment as Wealdstone Urban District's Collector of General Domestic Rate. His salary was £45.

[Resignation of Robinson. Disqualification of Smerdon]

1900 (25/6)	693	Matthew Dymock	Unopp.
		William R. Farrar	Unopp.

Note: Smerdon was disqualified under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, sub-section 7, for his failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council or its committees.

The date given above was the nomination day. Two further candidates for this election, William Hindes and Joseph E. Lilley, withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period. (Lilley had been nominated without his consent.)

## WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1901	798	48.5	Frederick W. Wale	211	54.5
			Robert Balk	191	49.4
			Albert Dodd	169	43.7
			John R. Newman	160	41.3
			William A. Jepson	157	40.6
			Arthur J. Gilbert	156	40.3
			Thomas Humphrey	151	39.0
			Edwin J. Powell	147	38.0
			Matthew Dymock	139	35.9
			Joseph T. Draper	124	32.0
			William May	111	28.7
			David Woodhall	109	28.2
			James B. Wright	90	23.3
			George A. Champriss	84	21.7
William R. Farrar	62	16.0			

Note: Dodd, Gilbert and Humphrey were the nominees of the Wealdstone Tradesmans' Association. Jepson, Powell, Dymock, Draper, Woodhall, Wright and Farrar sought election on a joint 'ticket'.

[Resignations of Jepson, Gilbert and Powell. Disqualification of Dymock]

1902 (21/6)	897	32.4	Dr. Reginald P.N.B. Bluett	168	57.7
			James How	128	44.0
			Arthur Aldred	119	40.9
			Charles Twinn	111	38.1
			William J. Clench	77	26.5
			Charles E. Brady	75	25.8

Note: Dymock was disqualified under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, subsection 7, for his failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council or its committees.

How was the nominee of the Wealdstone Tradesmans' Association.

## WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1904	1,172	52.1	Henry Drury	311	51.0
			Robert Balk	308	50.5
			Frederick W. Wale	267	43.8
			John McK. Thompson	255	41.8
			Charles Twinn	201	33.0
			William May	186	30.5
			James How	181	29.7
			Arthur Aldred	173	28.4
			Henry E. Groves	170	27.9
			Alfred E. Green	167	27.4
			Alexander S. Meikle	166	27.2
			Henry W. Job	154	25.2
			John Musson	137	22.5
			William G. Fuller	133	21.8
			Frederick G. Cork	78	12.8
			Edward G. Alleyn	73	12.0
George A. Champniss	59	9.7			

Note: On 24 September 1902 Local Government Board Order no. 44,414 made minor changes to the boundary of Wealdstone UD with Harrow-on-the-Hill UD. This was the first election following the Order coming into force; no electors were affected by the boundary alteration.

An eighteenth candidate for this election, Edward Felton, withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period.

How, Green and Musson were the candidates of the Wealdstone Tradesman's Association. There is uncertainty surrounding Musson's name. The spelling in the 1904 *Register of Electors* is 'Mussen'; the version used above was the spelling in the list of nominations printed by the *Harrow Observer* and also in the election address of the Association's candidates published in the classified advertisement sections of the local press.

Groves was the nominee of the local branch of the Independent Labour Party (ILP).

### [Disqualification of Thompson and Aldred]

1905 (29/4)	1,149	36.2	Mark Wenham	199	47.8
			William G. Fuller	155	37.3
			Frederick G. Cork	154	37.0
			William H. Taylor	83	20.0
			John Robinson	58	13.9

Note: Spoilt ballot papers: 11.

Thompson and Aldred were disqualified under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, sub-section 7, for their failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council or its committees.

The *Harrow Gazette* incorrectly reported that the number of electors at this election was 1,125. Turnout has been calculated on the basis that the reported number voting (416) is correct.

### [One seat vacant — Death of May]

## WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1907	1,633	51.5	Mark Wenham	445	52.9
			Henry Drury	393	46.7
			Robert Balk	390	46.4
			Charles Twinn	383	45.5
			Frederick W. Wale	354	42.1
			Charles S. Ellis	333	39.6
			Harold J. Blyth	323	38.4
			James How	316	37.6
			George E. Farnhill	307	36.5
			Alfred E. Green	298	35.4
			Alexander S. Meikle	296	35.2
			Frederick Dymock	269	32.0
			William G. Fuller	268	31.9
			Henry W. Job	243	28.9
			Henry E. Groves	236	28.1
			George F. Keys	187	22.2

Note: Spoilt ballot papers: 2.

The nomination papers of two candidates for this election, Frederick Almond and William J. Whittle, were rejected by the Returning Officer. In the case of Almond, a carpenter and joiner, the seconder's name "did not comply with the voting list". Additionally, the section dealing with Almond's 'qualification' to be a candidate was completed incorrectly ("Resident in Wealdstone for over 20 years and always taken an interest in local affairs"). In the case of Whittle (a builder) — who, according to the *Harrow Observer* was to be one of the Wealdstone Tradesmen's Association candidates — his papers were submitted three minutes after the designated time (12 noon on 7 March) for close of nominations.

Twinn, Ellis and Blyth contested the election on a joint 'ticket'.

Farnhill, Dymock, Groves and Keys contested the election on a joint 'ticket'. The *Harrow Observer* endorsed Farnhill as one of the twelve candidates they wished to see elected; Dymock, Groves and Keys were not endorsed and were described as "Socialistic elements". Farnhill, in a letter to the paper, said he had "practical sympathy with the needs of workers" but was not a Socialist.

The *Harrow Gazette* printed details of the turnout for each of the four ballot boxes, as follows:

<u>Box</u>	<u>Electors</u>	<u>Voted</u>	<u>T'out</u>
1	385	191	49.6%
2	426	219	51.4%
3	369	187	50.7%
4	453	242	53.4%
Totals	1,633	839	51.4%

In addition one tendered ballot paper issued for Box 1.

The *Observer* reported on polling day as follows: "Monday was probably the finest election day remembered, and the most lethargic voter must have been tempted out by the brilliancy of the day .... The candidates were early astir and faced the first voters with persuasive smiles .... The afternoon was dull .... but the advent of workers from London soon changed the peaceful progress of the poll. More candidates arrived, the ranks of supporters began to converge upon the centre of interest, and the voters were besieged with advice and entreaty. 'Don't forget John Bull' was the claim of a well-known councillor, and dozens of multi-coloured cards were thrust upon those who entered the scene of warfare. The most importunate canvassers were the children, who entered into the fray with a zest that augurs well for the municipal future of Wealdstone."

[Death of Drury]

## WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1908 (10/10)	1,892	28.2	Edward Roberts	406	76.4
			Herbert E. Harwood	87	16.4
			Henry W. Job	<u>38</u>	<u>7.2</u>
				319	60.0

Note: Spoilt ballot papers: 2. (Both rejected papers showed votes for two candidates.)

The *Harrow Observer* reported that the Clerk to the Council was uncertain about the polling date. "The Guardians notice [about the death of Drury] was dated September 12, so that the election must take place before October 12. October 10 was a Saturday, but he understood that on this day there was a Marathon race, in which Wealdstone people took a great deal of interest. Should the polling take place on this day or October 12? Councillor Wale said it would not take the voters from 8 to 8 to go and see the Marathon race and he proposed the election be on Saturday, October 10. This was agreed."

Job was elected unopposed in the by-election to replace Drury as a Guardian for Wealdstone on the Hendon Union Board of Guardians.

The *Observer* printed details of the turnout for each of the four ballot boxes, as follows:

<u>Box</u>	<u>Electors</u>	<u>Voted</u>	<u>T'out</u>
1	448	124	27.7%
2	496	159	32.1%
3	513	140	27.3%
4	435	110	25.3%
Totals	1,892	533	28.2%

The newspaper reported that the by-election was not without controversy. At a public meeting called in support of Harwood, one of the platform speakers — a Mr. Charles F. Gough [*sic*] of Hindes Road — "went on to defend himself against certain critics in reference to his action in addressing a Conservative crowd from a van in support of Mr. Harwood, and said the Conservative meeting had been concluded before he advocated Mr. Harwood's candidature. He attributed the [criticism] to a friend of the other candidate [Roberts] connected with the 'big concern' [Kodak]." In conclusion, Gough said the audience "ought to prevent their Council being controlled by the large interests in the place. If they were going to allow themselves to be controlled by English agents of a foreign firm they knew what was going to happen (laughter and applause)." For further information on the political views of Gough, see Appendix W (p. 215).

Of the result, the *Observer* commented that Roberts received solid support "from the employees of the Kodak and other factories", and that Harwood who claimed to have the support of leading Conservatives, Liberals and Socialists in the town "was expected to do much better". The *Harrow Gazette* added that "Mr. Job's candidature was of the modest and retiring type, but Mr. Harwood prosecuted his campaign boldly and vigorously, and it says much for Mr. Roberts' popularity .... that he should be returned by such a handsome majority in the face of opposition so determinedly conducted."

At the meeting of Wealdstone UDC on 27 October 1908, the Clerk submitted his account of expenses incurred as Returning Officer for this by-election, amounting to £38.11s.6d.



## WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1910	2,165	59.3	John Favell	767	59.8
			Edward Roberts	730	56.9
			Griffith O. Davies	652	50.8
			Robert Balk	561	43.7
			Peter N. McFarlane	481	37.5
			Alfred E. Green	452	35.2
			George E. Farnhill	446	34.8
			Charles S. Ellis	423	33.0
			Arthur B. Crundall	393	30.6
			Frederick W. Wale	386	30.1
			Charles Twinn	381	29.7
			Alexander S. Meikle	369	28.8
			James How	369	28.8
			George Clarke	363	28.3
			John H. Searcy	333	26.0
			William H. Taylor	293	22.8
			Edwin C. Strawbridge	275	21.4
			David Woodhall	264	20.6
			Charles A. Woodland	264	20.6
			James Taylor	261	20.3
			Sidney C. Collins	257	20.0
			William G. Fuller	241	18.8
			Arthur H. Winfield	203	15.8
			Herbert E. Harwood	192	15.0
			William Cayford	189	14.7
			Alfred Beeston	57	4.4

Note: Spoilt ballot papers: 5. (4 ballot papers had votes for more than 12 candidates. The other paper disclosed the voter's identity.)

In addition to the 26 nominated candidates, three further candidates for this election, Ernest W. Meller, Alfred I. Taylor and Charles J. Twinn, withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period. (Charles J. Twinn continued with his candidature in the simultaneously-held Guardians election. He was the son of Charles Twinn.)

Meikle and How tied for the twelfth elected place, each polling 369 votes. Meikle was declared elected after lots were drawn.

Green, How and Clarke were the nominees of the Wealdstone Tradesmans' Association.

Davies, McFarlane, Farnhill, Crundall, Searcy and Woodland were the nominees of a group called the 'New Wealdstone Party'. They issued an election address covering ten main issues with the following headings: Extension of the Boundary, Labour Exchange, Public Convenience, Fire Protection, Maintenance of Roads, Tree Planting, Public Bath, Assessments, Bye-Laws, Amusements. The *Harrow Observer* noted that the "'yellow six' headed by Mr. G.O. Davies" campaigned hard, used "lady canvassers" and that their "rosettes were seen everywhere ... their literature flooded the place, and every other trap and motor car apparently had been commandeered by them." Due to the presence of Farnhill on the 'ticket' the *Observer* believed the local Liberal Party gave it's support.

Strawbridge and J. Taylor were also unsuccessful candidates in the Harrow Weald Parish Council election held on the same day as this election; see page 120. Strawbridge and Winfield issued a joint election address.

Subsequent to the election Twinn placed a notice in the *Harrow Observer* thanking "the 381 electors who (notwithstanding the campaign of gross misrepresentation, innuendo, and slander concerning me) so kindly voted for me on Monday last."

Farnhill was disqualified in June 1912 under the terms of the Local Government Act 1894, section 46, sub-section 7, for his failure, throughout a period of six consecutive months, to attend any meetings of the Council or its committees. The vacancy was not filled.

## WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
[Resignation of Roberts]					
1911 (8/4)	2,262	41.9	George Clarke James How	553 <u>390</u> 163	58.6 <u>41.4</u> 17.2

Note: Spoilt ballot papers: 4. (3 papers were rejected because the elector had voted for both candidates. The remaining spoilt paper contained a mark that identified the voter.)

This was the first election to Wealdstone UDC where a second polling place was provided, at the Bridge Schools, for electors living to the south of the railway line (with the exception of those electors in Headstone Drive who continued to vote at the High Street Schools). The statistics for the two districts were:

<u>Polling District (PD)</u>	<u>PD Letter</u>	<u>Register Entries</u>	<u>Parochial Electors</u>	<u>County Electors</u>	<u>Parliamentary Electors</u>
North-East	V	1,486	1,438	1,295	1,301
South-West	W	845	824	755	737
Totals		2,331	2,262	2,050	2,038

During the election campaign Clarke issued a statement that, if elected, he would not join a ring or clique on the Council. Nevertheless, the *Harrow Observer* reported that Clarke was supported by the "Yellow Ticket" group of councillors, led by Cllr. G.O. Davies and Cllr. P.N. McFarlane, "and under their wing Clarke made many converts, especially among the poorer voters of the district."

[One seat vacant — Disqualification of Farnhill]

1913	2,432	44.2	Frederick W. Wale	596	54.4
			George Clarke	582	54.1
			Robert Balk	564	52.5
			Robert J. Hurford	533	49.6
			John H. Searcy	500	46.5
			Charles Carrington	463	43.1
			Griffith O. Davies	460	42.8
			Charles Twinn	422	39.3
			Herbert E. Harwood	418	38.9
			William H. Taylor	416	38.7
			Alexander S. Meikle	382	35.5
			James How	372	34.6
			Alfred I. Taylor	367	34.1
			William G. Beal	332	30.9

Note: A fifteenth candidate for this election, a William J. Evershed, withdrew after the close of nominations but within the allowable period.

Searcy declared himself to be in favour of a system of annual, rather than triennial, elections for Wealdstone UDC. The *Harrow Observer* reported that Wale was also a "strong exponent of annual elections"; this had been a policy of the newspaper for a number of years.

Note: The 1916 election was postponed because of the First World War. All twelve members continued as Councillors until the 1919 election, unless a casual vacancy was caused by death, resignation or disqualification. The following vacancies occurred on Wealdstone UDC during this period and were filled by co-option:

[Resignation of Searcy]

## WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1917 (20/2)			Arthur W. Blessley	Co-opt.	

[Resignation of Carrington]

1917 (19/6)			Walter R. Everett Philip Porter Alfred I. Taylor David Woodhall	Co-opt.	
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Note: Sitting councillors considered the names of four people for co-option to replace Carrington. The *Minutes* of the Council record that after full discussion it was resolved, unanimously, that Everett be chosen to fill the vacancy. However, the *Harrow Observer* reported that it was only after a "long debate" that Everett was chosen. The paper used an alternative spelling ('Everitt') of his surname.

[Resignation of Meikle]

1917 (18/12)			John Hastings George A. Lock Alfred I. Taylor David Woodhall	Co-opt.	
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Note: Sitting councillors considered the names of four people for co-option to replace Meikle. The *Minutes* of the Council record that after full discussion it was resolved, unanimously, that Hastings be chosen to fill the vacancy. However, the *Harrow Observer* reported that a vote was taken on the matter and that Hastings was elected by a majority of three.

[Resignations of Hurford and Blessley]

1918 (16/4)			Rowland Parker Alfred I. Taylor  John H. Baker Henry M. Bullen George A. Lock Alfred P. Mitchell Philip Porter David Woodhall James E. Wyatt	Co-opt. Co-opt.	
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Note: Sitting councillors considered the names of nine people, shown above, for co-option to replace Hurford and Blessley. The *Minutes* of the Council record that after full discussion it was resolved, unanimously, that Parker and Taylor be chosen to fill the vacancies. However, the *Harrow Observer* reported that this decision was reached only after a ballot had been taken.

[Resignation of Everett]

## WEALDSTONE UDC, 1894-1918 [cont.]

Election	Electors	T'out	Candidate	Votes	%
1918 (17/9)			Edward J. Hewett Frederick C. Pike Philip Porter David Woodhall	Co-opt.	

Note: The *Minutes* of the Council record that sitting councillors considered the names of four people, shown above, for co-option to replace Everett. The *Minutes* also record that after full discussion it was resolved, unanimously, that Hewett be chosen to fill the vacancy.

The *Harrow Observer* records a more complex discussion as having taken place. Hewett, Porter and Woodhall were proposed and seconded by sitting councillors; James E. Wyatt was proposed by Cllr. Harwood but there was no seconder. Pike was the secretary of the local branch of the NFDSS and wrote a letter to the Council stating that soldiers who had fought for their country should be represented on the Council, and suggested the names of William C. Froome, Henry C. Tidder and himself. Alfred P. Mitchell, secretary of the Harrow and Wealdstone District Trades Council, wrote a letter to the Council stating that the working classes should be represented on the Council, and suggested the names of William Marshment, "J.W. Bentley" (likely to be Walter J. Bentley), Henry M. Bullen and himself.

There is uncertainty surrounding Hewett's name. The *Minutes* of the Council, the *Harrow Observer* and a *Kelly's Directory* for 1918 show the version above; the 1913 *Register of Electors* gives the alternative spelling 'Hewitt'.