

**CLAYTON-LE-WOODS AND WHITTLE-LE-WOODS PARISH COUNCILS**

**MINUTES OF THE SUBSIDISED BUS COMMITTEE**

**HELD ON MONDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 7.00PM**

**AT CLAYTON GREEN LIBRARY**

**PRESENT:** Councillor M Clifford Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council  
(Chair)  
Councillor E Bell (Whittle-le-Woods Parish Council)  
Councillor C Bromilow (Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council)  
Councillor J Cronshaw (Clayton-le-Woods Parish Council)  
Councillor T Newall (Whittle-le-Woods Parish Council)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor A Bradley (Chorley Council)  
Councillor B Murray (Chorley Council)  
Councillor J Fillis (Lancashire County Council)  
Mrs T Morris (Clerk to the Council)  
One Member of the Public

**16.06 OPENING DISCUSSION**

The meeting was opened by Councillor M Clifford who welcomed all the parties to the meeting and made the appropriate introductions.

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor G Candlish (Whittle-le-Woods Parish Council) and It was noted that a representative from Cuerden Parish was unable to attend the meeting but they would be invited to future meetings.

**16.07 DISCUSSION REGARDING 114 SERVICE**

Councillor J Fillis the LCC cabinet member for public transport outlined the LCC proposal to offer a suitably sized bus for the use of the parish councils to operate a bus service on receipt of a viable business plan.

As regards the 114 service this was being subsidised by LCC initially for 6 months until 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016. However, Councillor Fillis confirmed that the subsidy would be extended to the end of the financial year in the first instance which would give the local borough and parish councils a chance to

**ACTION**

come to a decision as to whether to underwrite the subsidy themselves.

It was noted that the survey which was conducted regarding the viability of the route was based on residents needs in terms of travel to work, college, training or to gain access to services i.e. hospital town centre etc.

Councillor B Murray and Councillor A Bradley informed the meeting of the following:

The purpose of Chorley Council was to manage any transition in the reduction of public transport services and to maintain the existing services where possible.

At present Chorley council were subsidising a number of bus services including the 109 and 24 to Blackburn. It was stated that the Coppull route was struggling at the present time.

It was noted that the 114 route had been altered since April 2016 and that there had been increased passenger take up in the Eaves Lane/Harpers Lane which was at the Chorley end of the route.

It was observed that a number of key bus stops had been removed within Clayton-le-Woods and this would need to be investigated.

There was discussion regarding the possibility of a smaller circular route out of peak times.

## **16.08 KEY QUERIES**

- Positive consultations with residents and users
- What is the current arrangement with 114 and the ongoing impact?
- Possible Advertising revenue from bus?
- Charging individual passengers, a little extra per trip
- Clinical Commissioning Groups - possible source of funding
- Passenger groups/frequency of bus and length of route main variables
- Certain passengers attract a subsidy of 50p in £1
- Transition period would be of key concern to councils who may have to make decisions regarding the setting of the future precept
- Input from South Ribble if 114 viable to Leyland
- Partnership versus Operator led bus service

- Bus/staff backup if mechanical failure or staff illness/absence
- Possible S106 Monies available?

It was proposed that further detailed information session be arranged preferably at Chorley Council offices with officers from LCC and Chorley Council.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be convened as soon as was practicable.