

Review of Corsham town bus service – info sheet

Summary of proposed change

Town service 10A will continue to provide a half hourly service for most of the day, and will be diverted to serve Katherine Park instead of Valley Road. This will allow service 10E to be withdrawn. The town service will no longer serve Rudloe Estate, but the Bath – Chippenham services will still provide four buses an hour into Corsham from Leafy Lane and from the stops at the estate entrance on Bradford Road.

Commentary on current service

The town service links the estates and outlying settlements around Corsham with the town centre. There are two services, each currently running every 30 minutes between 0700 and 1815 on Mondays – Fridays and hourly between 0800 and 1315 on Saturdays. Service 10A runs on a loop via Broadmead, Dicketts Road, Neston, Basil Hill MoD, Upper Potley, Valley Road and Beechfield Road; and 10E runs out and back to Basil Hill MoD via Beechfield Road, Katherine Park, Park Lane and Rudloe Estate.

The service was expanded three years ago to run more frequently and to serve Basil Hill, funded by the developers of the Basil Hill MoD site in order to meet planning obligations that required a bus service to be provided to improve non-car access to the site. It was hoped that by the end of the period of developer funding, passenger use would have grown to the point that the expanded service could continue with only a limited ongoing requirement for council subsidy. Unfortunately this has not been the case.

The service in its current form costs around £200,000 per annum to operate. Of this, around a quarter is recovered from passenger fares, £80,000 from the developers and the remaining £80,000 from Council funding. The Basil Hill developer funding ends this year, and the cost to the Council will therefore rise to £160,000 per annum. As Council funding has also come under increased pressure, this is not affordable. The current operator has also given notice that he wishes to terminate his contract to run the service, and this is expected to lead to a further increase in the cost if the existing timetable is to be retained.

The service currently carries around 80,000 passenger journeys a year. However, when spread over the number of bus journeys operated this equates to on average only 7 passengers per trip. It is clear that the number of passengers does not justify the current level of service, which requires two buses and three drivers to operate.

Explanation of proposed changes

The proposed changes are designed to reduce the cost of operation by using only one bus, while continuing to provide an attractive service for the majority of users. A half hourly service will continue to operate for most of the day on the service 10A route, which will be diverted to serve Katherine Park. To allow a vehicle to be saved, the town service will no longer serve Rudloe Estate. However, there are frequent alternative services into Corsham (four buses an hour) from Leafy Lane and from the bus stop on Bradford Road at the entrance to the estate.

The proposed timetable, which would come into effect in January 2014, is shown overleaf.

A consultation on these proposals is under way and will close on **4 October 2013**. Details of the consultation can be found on the council's website (<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/consultations.htm>) or are available from the Passenger Transport Unit, Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Trowbridge BA14 8JN.

Corsham Town Service 10

proposed timetable from January 2014

Mondays to Saturdays

	NS	NS												
Corsham, Newlands Road	0715	0745	0815	0845	0920	0950				1050	1120	1150	1220	1250
Pound Pill	0717	0747	0817	0847	0922	0952				1052	1122	1152	1222	1252
Broadmead	0719	0749	0819	0849	0924	0954				1054	1124	1154	1224	1254
Dicketts Road	0720	0750	0820	0850	0925	0955				1055	1125	1155	1225	1255
Cotswold Family Centre	0721	0751	0821	0851	0926	0956				1056	1126	1156	1226	1256
Neston, Pool Green / Church Rise	0723	0753	0823	0853	0928	0958	Break			1058	1128	1158	1228	1258
Basil Hill, MOD Main Gate	0726	0756	0826	0856	0931	1001				1101	1131	1201	1231	1301
Westwells, bus shelter	0727	0757	0827	0857	0932	1002				1102	1132	1202	1232	1302
Upper Potley, Curlcroft Road	0728	0858	0828	0958	0933	1003				1103	1133	1203	1233	1303
Katherine Park, Freestone Way	0732	0802	0832	0902	0937	1007				1107	1137	1207	1237	1307
West Park Road	0736	0756	0836	0906	0941	1011				1111	1141	1211	1241	1311
Beechfield Road	0738	0808	0838	0908	0943	1013				1113	1143	1213	1243	1313
Corsham, Newlands Road	0741	0811	0841	0911	0946	1016				1116	1146	1216	1246	1316

	NS	NS		NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Corsham, Newlands Road	1320	1350		1450	1520	1550	1620	1650	1720	1750
Pound Pill	1322	1352		1452	1522	1552	1622	1652	1722	1752
Broadmead	1324	1354		1454	1524	1554	1624	1654	1724	1754
Dicketts Road	1325	1355		1455	1525	1555	1625	1655	1725	1755
Cotswold Family Centre	1326	1356		1456	1526	1556	1626	1656	1726	1756
Neston, Pool Green / Church Rise	1328	1358	Break	1458	1528	1558	1628	1658	1728	1758
Basil Hill, MOD Main Gate	1331	1401		1501	1531	1601	1631	1701	1731	1801
Westwells, bus shelter	1332	1402		1502	1532	1602	1632	1702	1732	1802
Upper Potley, Curlcroft Road	1333	1403		1503	1533	1603	1633	1703	1733	1803
Katherine Park, Freestone Way	1337	1407		1507	1537	1607	1637	1707	1737	1807
West Park Road	1341	1411		1511	1541	1611	1641	1711	1741	1811
Beechfield Road	1343	1413		1513	1543	1613	1643	1713	1743	1813
Corsham, Newlands Road	1346	1416		1516	1546	1616	1646	1716	1746	1816

Key

NS - indicates a journey that will not run on Saturdays

