

Review of bus services in North West Wiltshire

Service 31 (Malmesbury – Swindon) – info sheet

Summary of proposed change

The current hourly service frequency is maintained between Malmesbury and Swindon. However, buses will run via Cowbridge (main road) instead of Milbourne and Lea (alternative services to Milbourne will be provided by extending some journeys of the Malmesbury town service; alternative services to Lea will be provided by diverting the Malmesbury – Cirencester service 93)

Commentary on current service

Service 31 provides an important strategic link between Malmesbury and Swindon, and is also the main public transport service for the villages along the route including Brinkworth and Little Somerford. It also serves the New Road and Noremarsch Road areas of Royal Wootton Bassett that have no other bus service. It currently provides a regular hourly service between approx 0700 and 1900 on Mondays to Saturdays.

It is generally well used, carrying around 94,000 passenger journeys a year. The diversion via Milbourne and Lea is however relatively poorly used, generating only around 22 single passenger trips a day. The service also experiences timekeeping problems due to the length of the route and these impact on other bus services with which it connects in Malmesbury.

Explanation of proposed changes

A regular hourly service will be maintained between Malmesbury and Swindon in view of its importance as a strategic link, operating at broadly similar times. However, the diversion via Milbourne and Lea village will be withdrawn in view of the relatively poor use, and because this will allow an improvement to timekeeping while still allowing the service to be run by a single vehicle. It is hoped that the reduction in journey time will also make the service more attractive for long distance passengers. It will also provide a new link from Cowbridge (main road stop) to Royal Wootton Bassett and Swindon, in response to requests received. These improvements are intended to make the service as a whole more sustainable and affordable. It is proposed that Milbourne will be provided with a service into Malmesbury by extending some journeys on the town service, operating around 7 times a day. Lea village will be served by diverting the Malmesbury – Cirencester service (93), providing around 5 journeys a day into Malmesbury and the opportunity to travel to Cirencester.

Proposed timetable

The proposed timetable for service 31 is shown overleaf. A summary is also given of the replacement services proposed for Milbourne and Lea.

The aim of the review of services is to make the bus network more sustainable in the long term, and to provide cost-effective services that meet the needs of existing users at an affordable cost to the council. We believe that the proposed changes meet these objectives, but if you have other suggestions about how this might be achieved we would be pleased to receive them.

Similar information sheets are available for each of the bus services affected by the North West Wiltshire review. A consultation on the proposals is under way and will close on 7 October 2013. Details of other services and 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.

Bus Service 31 - linking Malmesbury, Brinkworth, Royal Wootton Bassett and Swindon

Proposed timetable from April 2014 for consultation

Mondays to Saturdays

	--	--	NS ▲	0740	0855	0955	1055	1155	1255	1355	▲	1455	1555	1655	1755	NS
Swindon Bus Station	--	--	0740	0855	0955	1055	1155	1255	1355	1455	1555	1655	1755	1850		
Royal Wootton Bassett, New Rd	--	--	0759	0914	1014	1114	1214	1314	1414	1514	1614	1714	1814	1909		
Royal Wootton Bassett, High St.	--	--	0803	0918	1018	1118	1218	1318	1418	1518	1618	1718	1818	1913		
Brinkworth, Three Crowns	--	--	0811	0926	1026	1126	1226	1326	1426	1526	1626	1726	R	R		
Little Somerford, bus shelter	--	--	0817	0932	1032	1132	1232	1332	1432	1532	1632	1732	R	R		
Malmesbury, Cowbridge	--	--	0821	0936	1036	1136	1236	1336	1436	1536	1636	1736	R	R		
Malmesbury, Gloucester Rd, Co-op	--	--	0829	0944	1044	1144	1244	1344	1444	1544	1644	1744	R	R		
Malmesbury, Corn Gastons	--	--	0831	0946	1046	1146	1246	1346	1446	1546	1646	1746	R	R		
Malmesbury, Cross Hayes	--	--	0837	0952	1052	1152	1252	1352	1452	1552	1652	1752	R	R		
				↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓				
Malmesbury, Cross Hayes	NS			1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1700	1800	--	--		
Malmesbury, Cowbridge	0654	0739	0904	1004	1104	1204	1304	1404	1504	1604	1704	1804	--	--		
Little Somerford, bus shelter	0658	0743	0908	1008	1108	1208	1308	1408	1508	1608	1708	1808	--	--		
Brinkworth, Three Crowns	0704	0749	0914	1014	1114	1214	1314	1414	1514	1614	1714	1814	--	--		
Royal Wootton Bassett, High St	0713	0758	0923	1023	1123	1223	1323	1423	1523	1623	1723	1823	--	--		
Royal Wootton Bassett, New Rd	0716	0801	0926	1026	1126	1226	1326	1426	1526	1626	1726	1826	--	--		
Swindon Bus Station	0735	0825	0946	1046	1146	1246	1346	1446	1546	1646	1746	1846	--	--		

KEY: NS - Not Saturdays ▲ - Also calls at Malmesbury School R - Calls at this point if required to set down passengers

Buses to Milbourne

Proposed timetable from April 2014 for consultation

Mondays to Saturdays

Service Number	93	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Malmesbury, Cross Hayes	--	--	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1700
Milbourne, Monks Park	0727	0918	1018	1118	1218	1318	1418	1518	1618	1718
Malmesbury, Cross Hayes	0732	0927	1027	1127	1227	1327	1427	1527	1627	1727

Buses to Lea village

Proposed timetable from April 2014 for consultation

Mondays to Saturdays

Service Number	93	93	93	93	93	Service Number	93	93	93	93
Cirencester, Market Place	0755	0820	1000	1200	1400	Malmesbury, Cross Hayes	1100	1300	1600	1800
Lea, Church	0829	0908	1041	1241	1441	Lea, Church	1109	1309	1609	1809
Malmesbury, Cross Hayes	0845	0917	1050	1250	1455	Cirencester, Market Place	1151	1351	1651	R

KEY: R - Calls at this point if required to set down passengers

NS - Not Saturdays