

Minutes of 2nd meeting on 13
September 2022 at the White House.

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE BUS USERS GROUP
SPONSORED BY LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL
THE WHITE HOUSE
LEIGHTON BUZZARD LU7 1HD

Present:

Cllr Victoria Harvey (“VH”), Leighton-Linslade Town Council and Central Beds Council
(Chair)

Cllr Steve Owen (“SO”), Leighton-Linslade Town Council (Notes)

Mr J Sharp (“JS”), Leighton Buzzard Society (Central Bedfordshire Enhanced Partnership
Stakeholder Forum [“CBSF”] representative)

Nine members of the public (Apologies received from SM).

1. HM The Queen:

A one-minute silence was held as a mark of respect following the death of HM The Queen.

2. Minutes of previous meeting on 14 July 2022:

The minutes as circulated were approved subject to the following corrections:

- a) In minute 4h) amend S70 to read F70/77.
- b) In minute 4i) amend 150 to read F70/77.

3. Matters arising:

- 3.1 Timetables: there is no CBC comprehensive bus timetable but there is an Arriva one. It was agreed that printed timetables are desirable as many passengers don't have online access. Bus-stop timetables need to be in larger print and located lower.
- 3.2 The service 36C now stops in the High Street following representations from JS.
- 3.3 Bus operators need to publicise changes better and also update bus-stop information.
- 3.4 Tilsworth residents had not been informed about the recent bus strike.
- 3.5 The F70/77 service had been diverted through MK/Coffee Hall following withdrawal of the local MK/Coffee Hall service. This has inconvenienced Leighton passengers.
Agreed: to ask JS to raise the need for better liaison between bus operators and CBC to the CBSF.

4. Bus Services:

- 4.1 VH stated that CBC were commencing a review of bus services in Leighton.
Agreed: SO to circulate to the Group a synopsis of Adrian Harvey (CBC) presentation to Planning & Transport Committee on 11 May 2022.
- 4.2 Easier access to hospitals is needed, e.g. the 150 service no longer stops at MK hospital.
Agreed: to ask Planning & Transport Committee to support a letter to the Department of Transport on this point.
- 4.3 Various improvements to bus services were suggested and discussed including
 - More regular, more frequent Sunday services, eg 150 service hourly.
 - Integrated ticketing for multi-service travel
 - F70 service should become a fast direct service to the MK Point

- The 36 service should revert to the previous 36A and 36C service, i.e. clockwise and anticlockwise round Linslade (more people would then use)
- F70/77 should revert to using Hockliffe Road and Stanbridge Road
- Buzzer Buses should fill in gaps in local services (like Dial a Ride)
- The Heath Road bus stop is missing a timetable
- The Derwent Road bus stop displays incorrect information.

Agreed: SO to circulate members of the Group with a Questionnaire asking for suggestions for improvements.

Agreed: to ask Planning & Transport Committee to press CBC for action to keep bus stops clear for buses to swing in.

5. Next Steps –

It was agreed to

- Ask Arriva to attend a future meeting, to discuss the 150 service as a first step.
- Hold the Next Meeting on Tuesday 1 November, 10 am at the White House.#

[Note 1: in preparing the meeting Notes it was apparent that the Group did not agree how some of the agreed actions would be followed up, e.g. asking Arriva to attend our meeting.]

[Note 2: subsequent to the meeting, JS has commented that CBSF may not be meeting quarterly or at all, as intended in the CBC Public Transport policy document. This is being followed-up.]

Steve Owen

10 October 2022