

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – JOBS, ECONOMY AND
TRANSPORT**

21 October 2014

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

PETITION CONCERNING BUS SERVICES IN CLOWNE VILLAGE

(1) **Purpose of the Report** To report on the meeting held with Clowne residents following their previous submission of a petition regarding bus services in the village.

(2) **Information and Analysis**

Background

At the meeting of 18 June 2013, the Cabinet Member received a petition from residents of Clowne who had a number of concerns about the bus services in the village (Minute No 1/13 refers). They requested a meeting with the Council and Stagecoach bus company to resolve these matters.

The matter was considered by the Cabinet Member at a meeting on 29 May 2014 (Minute No 93/14 refers) when it was noted that a meeting was being arranged in line with the petitioners' request.

The meeting was subsequently held at Clowne Community Centre on 23 July 2014.

Current Situation

Councillor Anne Western, Leader of the Council, Mike Ashworth, Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment and Janet Pickersgill, Senior Transport Officer from Derbyshire County Council, Dave Skepper, Commercial Director Stagecoach East Midlands and John Young, Acting Commercial Director Stagecoach Yorkshire attended the meeting along with a number of Clowne residents, including the lead petitioner.

The meeting was a lively debate with all parties being able to put their opinions across on a variety of issues. This enabled them to gain a better perspective on each other's position regarding local bus services in the area.

The main topics of discussion were:

Public

- How Clowne had developed recently, including the arrival of Tesco, Aldi and Wilko stores. Future planned housing developments and potential associated Section 106 funds were also raised.
- An aspiration to reinstate Service 85 (Chesterfield to Clowne via the Royal Hospital, Shuttlewood and Stanfree) to have a direct service to the Chesterfield Royal Hospital.
- Lincolnshire InterConnect and how the innovative scheme had delivered transport solutions in Lincolnshire (this scheme is based on bus services operating on a spine route between urban centres with smaller vehicles providing feeder service and connections at rural interchange points).
- Previous timing alterations to Service 77 (Chesterfield - Clowne – Worksop), and the impact on Gold Card users in Clowne.
- Possible Department for Transport (DfT) funding and the need to be innovative. Clowne residents want to do something; they realise times have changed and a regular bus service is no longer viable.

Conclusions

A number of actions were agreed at the meeting:

- The representatives from Clowne will form a group and approach the Bolsover Partnership about its public transport group and about forming a bus users forum for the area.
- The group will consider the use of Section 106 funds and any DfT funding streams.
- Stagecoach will review the Service 77 timetable to see if the Clowne departure times can be made more conducive to Gold Card use.

The local Member, Councillor Anne Western, and the officers attending the meeting felt that there were constructive steps towards developing a better understanding of public transport issues in the area and the opportunities that may be available. It is recommended that the lead petitioner should now be contacted to confirm the actions taken and the outcomes of the meeting.

(3) **Financial Considerations** There are no cost implications associated with this report.

(4) **Transport Considerations** As set out in the report. It is considered that the actions outlined above should not have any detrimental impact on equalities, race discrimination and crime and disorder.

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health and property considerations.

(5) **Key Decision** No.

Public

(6) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(7) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details – Janet Pickersgill, extension 36734.

(9) OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS That:

- 9.1 The Cabinet Member notes the discussions that have taken place and the progress in developing a better understanding of the issues and opportunities that may be available for public transport in the Clowne area.
- 9.2 The local Member and lead petitioner be provided with a summary confirming the actions taken and the outcomes of the meeting.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment