



**Brickhill Borough Councillors
Charles Royden & Wendy Rider**

FOCUS SPECIAL

No 10 Bus Route

Dear Resident

We have been contacted by residents concerning the No 10 bus route which is now operating from The Woodlands estate to Bedford Railway station. We are writing to inform you about the service and to seek your involvement in ongoing discussions as to what the service will provide in your road.

We are aware from comments received that there are mixed responses to the service with some people very enthusiastic and others disappointed to see any buses at all in their road. There is also a difference of opinion about the location of bus stops, with some elderly residents wanting more frequent stops and others resentful at having stops outside their homes.

Some residents have voiced concerns that they knew nothing about the proposed bus service. We are sorry for those who have been taken unaware, we have ourselves sought to communicate this information widely and it featured on the front page of our latest FOCUS which was delivered to every home in Brickhill and is featured on our website

www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com

The bus service uses the solo type mini- buses and operates every half hour throughout the day. The funding for the bus comes from a S106 funding agreement with the developers of the Woodlands estate. This provides initial funding for the route, which must become financially viable for it to continue long term. We had originally hoped that the route used by the bus would be that used by the 105 and the 107 which ran for a number of years along Larkway and turned into Dove Road. We are however advised that Dove Road is less suitable for traffic due to the traffic calming measures which have been added, we are investigating this further. The location of bus stops was agreed following consultation between Stagecoach and the Police who consider locations which the public will want to use and road safety issues.

As Borough Councillors we are not qualified to determine bus stop locations, however following residents comments we have made representations to Stagecoach asking them to move some stops, we do not believe that they are in the appropriate locations. We had expected for example that the two existing bus stops in Larkway near to the junction with Brickhill Drive would have been used.

We would like to hear your views on the new service and we will do our very best to seek to represent residents concerns. Specifically we would like to hear from residents who wish to suggest locations for bus stops by their own homes. We had suggested that the stops along Larkway could be by passenger request, however we recognise that for safety and operational reason this is not possible. We therefore have to find locations that will provide reasonable stops for the elderly, avoiding the necessity for long walks. Some residents have already asked for stops to be near their homes, however this is not always possible for safety reasons and the police must be satisfied regarding locations for passengers to get on and off buses.

We would not expect bus stops to attract large crowds, these are positioned for the convenience only of local Brickhill residents who wish to be able to travel into town or commute to the railway station. Please do let us know if you think you have a suitable location near your home.

We will work towards an outcome which satisfies all residents and provides an excellent service with minimum inconvenience for all. We will continue to do our best to keep everybody informed.

Please remember you can always get in touch using our contact details shown below. Or come along to one of our regular surgeries, the next are as follows.

Brickhill Drive Shops Saturday 4 September 10.00am
Avon Drive Shops Saturday 18 September 10.00am
Brickhill Drive Shops Saturday 2 October 10.00am

Yours with our best wishes



Councillor Charles Royden
Borough Councillor for Brickhill
The Vicarage, Calder Rise, Brickhill
Bedford MK41 7UY
01234 309175
Email. charlesroyden@gmail.com



Wendy Rider
Brickhill Borough Councillor
23 Orwell Close, Brickhill, Bedford.
MK41 7BQ 01234 303254
wendyrider41@gmail.com

For more information see our website
www.puttingbrickhillfirst.com