

Questionnaire to assess Demand and Viability for Bodmin Community Bus

Background to the questionnaire

A very generous offer of help from Andy Lyle of Concern Wadebridge has given us an opportunity to run a Community Bus in Bodmin for a trial period of six months. When the trial period is completed satisfactorily and demand is proven to be sufficient to sustain costs, we can review the best way forward but the goal is to have at least one Community Bus for use by residents of Bodmin and the outlying parishes.

For the purposes of the trial period there are two possible choices of buses of different sizes that could be used. The one we use will depend on the results of this demand assessment exercise.

The bus will be a community asset that can be hired for a fee to cover costs. It is important to note that there will be a charge for all trips. This is required to cover the costs of the bus but charges will be kept to a minimum. This will be a community service not a profit-making service. However, without sponsorship, the bus has to be maintained and administered so there are costs that need to be met. The more the bus is utilised the lower we can keep the hire charge. So, until we can determine the probable usage we cannot know the precise cost.

The bus will be available for hire by anyone within the Bodmin and outlying parishes area for any non profit-making purpose. So schools, sports clubs, churches, voluntary organisations of all kinds and even individuals will be able to hire the bus on a regular or one-off basis, subject to availability.

But first we have to assess whether there is sufficient demand to sustain a bus so I would be very grateful if you would complete the following questions in full and return to me at carol.randall2013@gmail.com. If you have any questions you can email or call me on 07921 279930.

Your Name

Your email address

Your phone number

Organisation you are representing (if applicable)

Please make a mark in the check box next to which of the two statements below is applicable for your organisation

Currently we have no transport needs

OR

We have unmet transport needs and would be interested to use a suitable and affordable bus

If you have unmet transport needs please complete the questions below with as much detail as you can. By completing the questionnaire you are not making any kind of commitment but we do need to have as much reliable information as possible to assess demand so please bear this in mind and complete it as fully as you are able.

If you think you might have needs for more than one trip please complete a questionnaire for each trip.

Please give the following details of the trip/s you/your organisation would be interested to use the bus for.

1. Purpose of trip

2. Approximate departure point

3. Approximate destination

- 4. Timings – start and end time including any waiting time**

- 5. How many passengers would be carried on the trip and give brief description of passengers e.g. 13 elderly members of Age Concern Bodmin, 1 with wheelchair. *(It is especially important to note if any passengers have any special needs e.g. need wheelchair access)***

- 6. Frequency of trip i.e. once a week, month etc. Can also be occasional/seasonal for a special event but need to know approximate demand.**

- 7. Do you have your own driver or would you need a driver to be supplied?**

- Please note that anyone driving the bus will have to have D1 category on their license and they will be vetted to ensure that they are suitable to drive.***

- 8. Please add any additional information here**

Shout out for volunteer drivers

We are also looking for volunteer drivers so if you are interested to learn more about being a volunteer driver please do contact me. Similarly, if you know of someone else who might be interested please ask them to contact me