

**REPORT TO GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF SHEVINGTON PARISH
COUNCIL MARCH 3RD 2016**

WITHDRAWAL OF SUBSIDY FOR BUS SERVICES IN LANCASHIRE

Lancashire County Council have decided to withdraw all subsidies for bus services as part of their budget cuts. This effects some services in Shevington Parish's area.. They are:-

Service 3A- Ormskirk to Wrightington Hospital.

Hourly service serving Mill Lane and Miles Lane..

Service 113 Preston(via Wrightington Hospital)

Four evening journeys in each direction. serving Shevington Moor(Last service 17.45 from Wigan and 18.30 to Wigan)

Service 206- Wrightington Hospital to Wigan(via Roby Mill)

Tuesday and Friday journeys serving Miles Lane and Mill Lane.

Service 635-Wigan to Wrightington Hospital

Daytime journeys extended from Shevington Vale/Appley Bridge to Wrightington Hospital and evening and Sunday journeys.

Lancashire County Council are carrying out a consultation on these proposals by way of a questionnaire asking about the use of subsidised services.

<http://www3.lancashire.gov.uk/corporate/consultation/responses/response.asp?ID=283>

I have also contacted Transport for Greater Manchester(TfGM)and asked them for their views on the changes. A copy of their response is attached to this report.

Transport for Greater Manchester and Lancashire have previously shared the cost of cross boundary subsidised services. The exceptions are services 3A and 206 which are solely Lancashire contracts.

In the case of the evening service on 113 TfGM take the view that most of the service in Wigan(between Wigan and Standish(Pepper Lane))is already paralleled by an existing service and have decided not to subsidise the service. This will leave Old Pepper Lane, Pepper Lane and Shevington Moor not served in the evening.

Service 635 daytime extensions to Wrightington Hospital and the evening and Sunday service will now be wholly funded by TfGM. In addition there have been a number of requests for a route revision in Shevington Vale in the evening and on Sundays (presumably to serve Back Lane, Hullet Close and Back Lane) which are being investigated.

A disturbing development highlighted in TfGM 's response is the diversion of certain 635

Appendix A

evening journeys away from the centre of Shevington. Only the 7.00pm and 11.00pm journeys from Wigan and the equivalent return journeys will operate through the centre of the village. This is because of the disturbances which involved buses being hit by missiles. This will leave Broad i'th Lane, Gathurst Lane, New Miles Lane and a large stretch of Miles lane unserved between these hours. I have asked TfGM to confirm those areas that will not be served and the diversion route of the affected services. I will report their response at the meeting.

Better news is the fact that TfGM do not intend to make any changes to 640/641 in April.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To inform Lancashire County that they regret the further erosion of cross boundary services.
2. To thank TfGM for taking up the total funding of supported services on route 635.
3. That TfGM keep the Parish Council informed of evening and Sunday routing developments on route 635.
4. To regret the diversion of evening services between Wigan and Wrightington Hospital away from the centre of Shevington. This will inconvenience passengers in a large part of the parish.. The parish and other agencies like TfGM should work together to resolve the issues that have led to the withdrawal of services through Shevington centre.

Barry King
February 27th 2016