

## **Public Transport Metrobus Service 84**

West Hoathly Parish Council notes that the bus service serving residents in West Hoathly Parish which includes Sharpthorne and West Hoathly, (and also Turners Hill), does not provide, in the opinion of this Council, a sustainable or viable bus service. This bus service currently does not enable:-

a) a bus in the afternoon timed so that commuters can return home. The last bus departs from Crawley at 16:10 and the last bus departs from East Grinstead at 17:10, meaning the service is not suitable for commuting and employment.

b) connection with Crawley Down for medical centre, shops and connecting bus services 281 and 291 towards East Grinstead which would afford half-hourly connectivity from Crawley Down to East Grinstead.

c) setting down and picking up at points of interest along the attractive rural route serving both West Hoathly Parish residents and visitors from Crawley and East Grinstead. There are no bus stops along the route in the zone formerly designated as 'Hail and Ride', meaning that the service between Turners Hill and Saint Hill Green has not been publicised. Metrobus drivers cannot be relied upon to stop to pick-up or drop off at the following locations:-

Legsheath Lane for Weirwood Reservoir;  
Grinstead Lane / Chilling Street for Tyes Cross;  
Eight Acre & Duckyls Cottages for Stonelands;  
Selsfield Common.

**Therefore Council agrees to urge Metrobus, Division Member and West Sussex County Council to engage with this Council and work towards implementing the following changes to provide a viable and sustainable bus service 84.**

- i) To provide an additional later service 84 bus from Crawley and from East Grinstead so that residents have a sustainable bus service.
- ii) To revert Service 84 to its previous route such that all service buses travel to and from Crawley and Three Bridges via A264 Copthorne Common Rd, B2028, Crawley Down War Memorial, Station Road and Grange Road, Turners Hill 'The Crown', Turners Hill Park, West Hoathly-Chapel Row, Sharthorne, Saint Hill Green, Dunnings Road, Hurst Farm Road, Brooklands Way, Railway Approach terminating at East Grinstead King Street and commencing service in the Crawley direction at East Grinstead War Memorial.
- iii) To provide, advertise and promote four additional bus stops at Legsheath Lane for Weirwood Reservoir; Grinstead Lane / Chilling Street for Tyes Cross; 8 Acre & Duckyls Cottages for Stonelands; and at Selsfield Common.

**END.**

## **Informatives**

Tulley's Farm had established a thriving farm shop in Turners Hill Road which has now closed. Service 84 route towards Three Bridges via Crawley Down and Copthorne Common Rd was redirected via Turners Hill Rd towards Worth Corner and Three Bridges. The important connection for both West Hoathly and Turners Hill residents to shops and medical centre at Crawley Down was lost.

In East Grinstead Town it is proposed that the Herontye Drive anticlockwise route is discontinued except for the morning and evening school services. All other services would terminate at King Street. This stopping place is adjacent to public conveniences and town centre cafes where the driver can take a rest break. The bus would then proceed via Cantalupe Rd to East Grinstead War Memorial as the starting point for all services. This was the former route.

The routing of morning and afternoon service 84 in East Grinstead, serving students attending Sackville and Imberhorne schools in East Grinstead would remain unchanged. Sackville school pupils are served by the Lewes Rd bus stop on the A22 near to the Toucan crossing. Imberhorne upper school pupils morning service should follow the same route as service 281 via Whitehall and Brooklands Way, and Gardenwood Road. For the evening pick-up service at Sackville school the bus would follow the War Memorial, Ship Street, Herontye Drive route to pick-up on Lewes Rd and then follow exactly the same route as the morning drop off service to Imberhorne continuing along Imberhorne Lane to Saint Hill Green (missing out Hurst Farm Rd and Dunnings Road) and then onwards towards Sharpthorne.

Cllr. Paul Brown  
19<sup>th</sup> November 2023