

FRESHFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Village Hub Bus Stop

11 October 2021

Introduction

The September meeting generated these actions:

- To clarify the exact size of the hoggin area with the contractors, keeping any disturbance of the wildflower area to a minimum.
- To discuss the details of relocating the bus stop with the ~~bus company~~. B&NES Public Transport Officer & Highways Engineer.
- To review whether to use bollards or stones in the wildflower area to prevent vehicles from driving over this land.
- To ask B&NES whether the Parish Council can take on ownership of this land.
- To relocate the bin slightly further away from the bus stop area.
- To communicate the current situation with the proposed bus stop and wildflower area with residents of Freshford.

This paper sets out the proposals to address these concerns.

1 Area

The quoted area is **3.8m** “Long” and **4m** “wide”. The grass area is currently **4m** wide and **2.6m** long. Greentrees has confirmed that the 4m is from the wall to the kerb (“wide”) and 3.8m is the “length” of the bus stop from the entrance to galleries to end of the hoggin area.

The wildflowers may have planted into the area intended for the bus-stop in the design of 16/5/2021. In order to reduce the loss of wildflowers whilst providing sufficient space for the bus-stop, I propose that the length of the bus stop is reduced from **3.8m** to **3.0m**. I have asked for a revised quotation on this basis. I will forward the estimate when it arrives.

2 Bench

We also require provision of a new bench since this is not provided in the quotation from Greentrees.

I have received a quotation from Memorial Benches UK for a 3 Seat Heavy Sandhurst Bench 1.5m for £485. This includes delivery charge. If we required a wood carving in the top rail this would be an additional £60.

3 Hard-standing/Paving

The estimate from Greentrees included leaving the existing concrete base for the bench. It was suggested at the September meeting that this is replaced with paving stones. I am happy to progress this suggestion, since on inspection, the quality of the hard-standing is poor and leaves a gap behind the bench.

4 **Bollards or Stones**

Greentrees has updated their estimate to include 8 bollards, fixed underground with concrete. The estimate was provided for £3,868.24. See (1) above)

I suggest we await a response to John's email of 1 October 2021 to Stefan Chiffers asking if the stones would be acceptable to him, as Highways Engineer. As this is B&NES land, I would have thought as a public body, we have to follow the clear direction of the highway authority and the owner of the land which is to provide bollards.

5 **Bus Stop Re-location**

At a site meeting with the B&NES Traffic Engineer Stefan Chiffers and the Public Transport Office Lucy Travis, it was agreed that the bus stop flag can be moved to the existing pole opposite The Galleries. A timetable panel will also be added. This stop will be used in both directions. The existing bus stop, 50m further up Freshford Lane, will be removed.

To summarise, B&NES has decided that there will not be a new pole erected on the site of the Village Hub Bus Stop.

I also asked for B&NES to consider, the re-instatement of the bus stop on Rosemary Lane, next to Abbey Cottage. The sign fell down & has been removed.

The bus company LIBRA will be informed.

6 **Land Ownership**

John Adler is investigating this option, as he has experience of the matter.

7 **Communications** - discussed with John Adler in advance of the meeting.

8 **Rubbish Bin**

I met with Barry Brown, officer responsible for siting and maintenance of rubbish bins in Freshford. At that meeting he agreed to replace the open-topped rubbish bin at the new Village Hub Bus Stop with a larger (free) closed bin to the other side the of Galleries entrance.

Julian Carpenter

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