

*'Your Parish Council'*

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## **BLISLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Community Transport for Blisland Parish**

You might recall that some 63% of those that responded to the Blisland Neighbourhood Development Plan Survey were in favour of having a Community Minibus in Blisland; this is something that the Parish Council are keen to take forward; co-incidentally the Parish has received a letter from Carol Randall, a Bodmin resident, about the possible provision of a Bodmin based Community Bus; this is reproduced immediately below.

#### **Assessing Demand for a Bodmin- based Community Bus**

As you probably already know, there is a desperate need in Bodmin and its outlying parishes for more affordable community transport.

There are many people who don't come into Bodmin town to visit shops and activities as much as they would like because of the absence of accessible and affordable transport. There are also groups, schools and clubs who would organise more activities if such transport was available.

I would like to acknowledge the wonderful work already being done by the unsung volunteer car drivers such as those working with Poppy at Neighbours Together in Mount and Warleggan and Nola at Age Concern Bodmin. But more help is needed.

Social isolation and loneliness is a blight on the lives of too many people and getting out and about can be life-changing. I have been exploring how we might get a minibus of some kind to help solve this problem.

Barry Cornelius from the Lanivet Community Hall and Andy Lyle from Concern Wadebridge are helping me with this. A very generous offer of help from Andy Lyle has given us an opportunity to run a Community Bus in Bodmin for a trial period of six months.

But first we have to assess whether there is sufficient demand to sustain a bus. If you, or your organisation, have an unmet transport need and may be interested to use the bus in the trial period please do contact me on [carol.randall2013@gmail.com](mailto:carol.randall2013@gmail.com) .

If you would like to see more information about what is being explored in terms of a Bodmin-based minibus you can visit <https://willowkernow.com/bodmin-community-bus> . There is also a questionnaire on this page designed to help assess the potential demand so please do complete it and return to me.

I am also keen to hear from anyone interested to be a volunteer driver or sponsor or just to support this

initiative. If people don't get involved at this early stage the bus won't happen so, please share this post and get as many people involved as possible.

I am Carol Randall, a Bodmin resident who is trying to make something positive happen. Just to make it clear that I don't represent any organisation.

The Neighbourhood Plan and the Community Minibus will be discussed at the Parish Council Meeting on the 14th of November. The Council meets in the Village Hall at 7pm on the second Thursday of each month. At the start of each meeting there is an opportunity for members of the public to speak on local matters of concern.

We are keen to reach as many households in the parish by email as possible and you might recall that you signed up for email updates concerning the Blisland Neighbourhood Development Plan or that you were on the historical list that the Parish Council previously used to communicate to Parishioners. We are conscious of the protection of your personal data; if you would prefer not to receive the emails from the Parish all you need do is to click the link at the bottom of this email and you will automatically be deleted from the address list; you can only be reinstated on the list if you do this yourself, the Parish Council cannot reinstate you if you have indicated that you want to 'Unsubscribe' and not receive further emails going forward.

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***Our website & email address is:***

<https://www.blislandparishcouncil.co.uk/>

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