

**ALBRIGHTON AND DONINGTON PARISH COUNCILS
MINUTES OF TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
26th January 2015 at 2.00 pm in the Council Office**

Minutes of the Albrighton and Donington Parish Council's Transport Committee held on 26th January 2015 at 2.00 pm in the Albrighton Council Office.

PRESENT: Cllrs. S Pledger (Chair), C Hassall, D Hickman, P Illes, H Kirton.

In attendance: M Ward, Clerk to Albrighton Parish Council.

1. Apologies for absence.

Cllrs. P Harrison (family reasons), K Pledger (work commitments).

Each apology was accepted by the committee.

2. Minutes of previous meeting 7th January 2015.

Cllr. Illes proposed that the minutes of 7th January 2015 were a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr. Hickman and unanimously agreed by the committee.

3. Matters arising.

Cllr. Hassall pointed out that there appeared to be some anomalies with regard to the current Flyer agreement and present practice. After discussion it was agreed that this matter would be reviewed under item 5 of the agenda.

4. Report by Cllrs. P Harrison and H Kirton and Mr M Ward on their exploratory visit to Friendlybus at Broseley and decisions on future actions.

Cllr. Pledger gave a brief background update with regard to the Albrighton Flyer and the negotiations with Friendlybus prior to the visit to Broseley in the previous week.

Cllr. Kirton went through a paper prepared by Friendlybus staff for a meeting on 21st January in response to questions and outstanding issues identified by Albrighton members. There were a number of key items including servicing, safety checks, managing driver payments from a model which relied on volunteers, the expansion of the Albrighton service to include journeys at the weekend and in the evening and the costs of an amalgamation. The Clerk made it clear that an expanded service could not be managed through the council office as there was no time available for increased Flyer administration and some kind of specific administrative support would need to be created if the service was to be further developed. The issue of having the Flyer run by a contractor as against the employment of a Council driver was debated.

After a full discussion of the issues Cllr. Hickman proposed that the committee should recommend to the two Councils that the Albrighton Flyer should continue under the present management and the discussions regarding a possible partnership with Friendlybus should be discontinued. Cllr. Illes seconded the proposal which was unanimously supported by the committee.

Cllr. Pledger then proposed that if the recommendation was accepted by Albrighton and Donington Councils the current agreement should be reviewed and suitably amended and other management concerns should be scrutinised including the need for a second driver and for the current temporary contract to be advertised regarding the permanent position, to take effect from 1st April 2015. The motion was seconded by Cllr. Kirton and unanimously agreed by the committee.

5. Any other business.

Members confirmed their agreement that the current agreement needed to be revised and developed to take account of a possible enhanced service in the future. This would need to be done in advance of the appointment of a permanent contractor or employee to run the Flyer.

6. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting of the transport committee was scheduled for 6th February at 2.00 pm in the Albrighton council office.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.46 pm.

Signed.....Date.....
Chair