

Save Our Buses Task Force: Good News Announcement

Friday 6th December 2024

We are thrilled to share the news that our applications for Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) Funding for services 73 and 73A have been successful! Serving 15 villages, these services are vital for ensuring our young people can get to their places of education as well as enabling people to get to work, shopping etc.

The service originally due to end 27th December will now continue. Initially it will follow the existing timetable.

A revised timetable, that closely reflects the needs of our communities will come into effect in 2025, after allowing for the required notice period to the Traffic Commissioner. This new timetable has been developed by close collaboration with the Task Force and the bus company and will amongst other benefits provide a later service from Bury St Edmunds for working people.

The award by Suffolk County Council is for a one-year contract. SCC is currently awaiting the terms and conditions for a further allocation of BSIP funding from which to support the service for a second year at the end of which time, hopefully, the service will be commercially viable.

This achievement is thanks to the collective efforts of our dedicated Save Our Buses Task Force, initiated by Suffolk County Cllr Joanna Spicer MBE, Chaired by Cllr Karen Witton and comprising Parish Council and Community representatives, District and County Councillors together with Peter Nathanail of Simonds (Vectare) and Suffolk County Council.

Thank you for your continued support. However, there is much work to be done to ensure the future viability of the services beyond the 2 year period and we look forward to sharing further updates soon! The Task Force will continue to work closely with the bus company and SCC to achieve our longer-term goal of a financially viable bus service for us all. In the meanwhile, please do use the services and **Support our Buses.**

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Karen Witton, Chair
Suffolk County Councillor Joanna Spicer MBE

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