Transport Report – February 2017

Chiseldon Parish Council have been trying for a number of months to get a SBC Highways Engineer to look at the proposal to put new bus stops between the Esso Station and Bush House Crossroads. This was looked at in late December but the result is that we cannot place bus stops in this area, as there is no space and safety issues due to the amount of traffic using the A346. The only stops we will be allowed for the Salisbury Reds X5 service will be the pull off type as that outside the Primary School. We are still trying to talk to the Borough Council for a better crossing of the main road.

The spare poles and flags from the Farm Shop will be used on the B4005 from Chiseldon to Wroughton where there are six new bus stops to be put in for the new Stagecoach 81 service to Wroughton.

The Stagecoach Service No9 that operates from Wroughton into Old Town and then into Swindon has reverted back to a twenty minute service, as it was unable to keep to time, running every 15 minutes. This now gives a better connection for Chiseldon residents from the 81 to the 9 and 49 to go to Old Town.

After the Thamesdown Bus Company changes on the 8th January the new bus to serve Badbury Park Estate will be Service 12 and when the roads finished through Badbury Park, new bus stops will be put into Biddlestone Avenue and will give the residents a 30 minute bus service. Until this happens, residents will have to walk out to the two bus stops on Marlborough Road.

There will be a number of changes to the GWR rail services in 2017 with the changes to the new longer trains in the summer. This means the current HST trains that run through Swindon will change over to the Reading Newbury Taunton Line. A change was made in the new timetable with trains leaving Paddington at 11.06 and only taking 57 minutes to get to Pewsey. This train then goes on to Plymouth with connections to Cornwall. This is a named train, known as the Mayflower.

At present GWR railways have a January sale on tickets over 400,000 tickets for sale with examples of Swindon-London for £10 standard, £19 first class. They have to be booked in advance with travel up until March.

On the roads, the Greenbridge roundabout changes are nearly finished. This will then follow on to the White Hart Rounabout on the A419. Junction 16 M4 are now in full swing, but recently we have had a closure, owing to a contractor going through a gas main.

Cllr David Hill

Chiseldon Parish Council