

Blueworks Taxis Ltd and Friends of X112X70

As many of you know, it is a constant battle for funding to keep the X12, 11, X70 and X7 rural bus services going and we have had to overcome many obstacles on our journey.

The most recent difficulty has been in keeping a positive balance of £12k in the bank to ensure we can keep the necessary operator licences to run the services. On a recent visit by a Transport Official, we had fallen below that amount and as a result they are ending the current operator licences on the evening of 21st December 2018.

What does this mean for the future of the service?

Well, as always, we have Plan B and a Plan C.

For the longer term, there is an application in process for Section 22 permits to allow The Friends of X112X70 to continue the service. However, we do not expect this to be approved before the New Year.

In the short term, Phil at Blueworks has an alternative licence arrangement which will allow us to continue the services using the 8 seat taxi vehicles. We will issue a limited timetable for the rest of December and first week of January for all routes. Once you have the timetable, please let everyone you know who uses the bus services of the short-term arrangements.

We understand that not everyone likes to use the taxi vehicles, but right now, this is the ONLY option to continue the service and while it is not ideal, it is better than no service. We need your support now, more than ever.

We ask you all to bear with us as we negotiate our way through yet another minefield of bureaucracy and would assure you that we are doing our utmost to keep the services running for our rural communities.

We still need regular funds, so please donate what you can, when you can. Many of you donate on the bus/taxi itself and this is an important source of additional funding for us, so please continue to do this if you can.

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