

# Public Transport Project Group – links

GMPRG Website



# Public Transport – as at 2019

#### **RESOURCES**

- GMPRG leadership and communication with other stakeholders
  (Councils, service providers, village associations etc) where appropriate.
- Volunteers to form project group to plan how to meet these objectives.
- Integrate with local village associations, schools (including PTAs), councils and other volunteers to move things forward.



#### Public Transport- Progress since 2019 AGM

- ARRIVA WILL NOT IMPROVE THE LOCAL BUS SERVICE they have actually reduced it further
- This area needs regular peak time commuter services and occasional daytime services
- Advised by an expert in local bus services, we are now aware of the complexity, expense and liability of running any sort of RELIABLE local bus service without substantial investment and properly licensed drivers. Proper transport business experience needed
- We have looked at several community bus services but have yet to find a business model that suits the peak/off peak mix for this area
- We also considered integration with other bus service providers, car share, taxi services
- We considered a survey of residents to establish evidence of demand
- We wanted to include the environmental benefits of integrated public transport
- Then the Pandemic ...... Public transport goes into turmoil so group suspended



**Public Transport** 

# What next for this group?



# **Public Transport**

#### March 2021 from Gov.uk so it must be right

#### Prime Minister launches £3 billion bus revolution

- Prime Minister Boris Johnson today (15 March 2021) unveils the most ambitious shake-up of the bus sector in a generation, which will see lower, simpler flat fares in towns and cities, turn-up-and-go services on main routes, and new flexible services to reconnect communities.
- The Government's new bus strategy, backed by £3 billion of investment, will see passengers across England benefiting from more frequent, more reliable, easier to use and understand, better coordinated and cheaper bus services.
- Levelling up services across the country will encourage more people to use the bus, rather than the car, as we build back better from the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.



# **Public Transport – Council Survey**



#### Introduction

- As required in the National Bus Strategy (*Bus Back Better*) published in March 2021, Buckinghamshire Council is currently drawing up a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP). The BSIP outlines the ambitions of both the Council and local bus operators on how bus services can be improved in order to attract more passengers and reduce local car journeys. This in turn will help to inform the creation of an Enhanced Partnership between the Council and bus operators.
- Buckinghamshire Council is undertaking a survey with both bus users and the wider community to determine which measures for improving bus services to prioritise. Please take the survey to ensure that your priorities are reflected in the BSIP when this is published in October 2021.



## **Public Transport**

### **MY CONCLUSIONS**

- Public Transport Goalposts have not just moved, they have been totally reconfigured
- Most periods of change present opportunities for improvement
- Way forward needs central and/or local government guidance and initiatives
- Community Board is keen to keep a broader Transport sub-group going, including public transport
- GMPRG could/should be represented there
- Does anyone else have any suggestions?