

Mobile Library Service Update

Cheshire West and Chester Council's new mobile library vehicle went into service on 24 July 2023. The new vehicle, which replaces the existing mobile library is fully electric and therefore much cleaner and greener. We believe our new mobile library is the first electric mobile library in the country and will contribute to the Council's aim to be carbon neutral by 2030. The new vehicle is fully accessible and includes a hearing loop. It also has other sustainable features including solar panels and LED lighting. Other improvements include an awning for summer activities and onboard Wi-Fi and digital access for customers. You can view the new vehicle at <https://youtu.be/7YGVDMvp-GU>

Following the close of the consultation on 2 October 2022, the following work was undertaken.

1. A further review of the proposed stops was undertaken. Proposals for all the new stops were well received and these have been added to the routes implemented with the introduction of the new vehicle in July 2023. These stops are:
 - Eaton Drays Coffee Shop,
 - Backford Five Village Hall,
 - Tattenhall Gifford Lea.
2. There was concern about the withdrawal of Backford Church stop as residents felt there would be a safety issue in crossing the A41 to the proposed new stop at Backford Five Village Hall. There was limited or no usage of the Backford Church stop but given that the pandemic affected service and usage, we included it in the finalised routes. This will be reviewed in January 2024. If the stop is being used, we will maintain it, but if there is no usage, it will be withdrawn. Proposals to withdraw the following stops were implemented with the introduction of the new electric vehicle in July 2023:
 - Guilden Sutton Hare Lane,
 - Hartford Booth Road,
 - Saughall Chapel Close,
 - Burwardsley Post office.
3. Time and date changes proposed for some stops in the consultation were implemented with the introduction of the new electric vehicle in July 2023.
4. The stop at Comberbach Village Hall has been renamed Spinner and Bergamot as this is where the mobile stops in Comberbach. The stop at Far East Takeaway has been renamed Fiddlers Lane as this is where the mobile stops in Saughall.
5. The proposal to enhance some stops by adding in activities with partner support was well received. As a result, we have now introduced activity at

Elton Community Centre in partnership with the Community Centre and we are exploring this possibility with other partners and organisations who are willing to work with us to deliver enhanced provision at other stops.

6. We have made improvements to the ways we promote the service to residents, partners and organisations. We continue to promote the service online and have provided flyers and posters with route and stop information to customers and identified local organisations and partners for each of the stops.
7. We will monitor and review routes every 6 months. The next review is due January 2024.

New routes can be viewed at [Mobile library service | Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)