



North Wales Co-Production 'Meet-up' 3, Session 3 Report

'Re-enabling Rural Communities: Co-Production to Drive Change'

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Event co-organised and led by Pam Luckock and Fran O'Hara,
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Llandderfel Case Study Workshop Feedback

The following report contains the analysis of suggestions and comments made following a workshop at a meeting on Co-Production, on how to provide transport to a village where the scheduled bus service has been terminated. The case study presented was that for Llandderfel, using published comments from the community and the bus operator, and the demographics as provided by the Local Authority statistics. The discussion question was:

'Your village has lost its bus service, how do you solve access issues?'

1 Establishing the reasons to provide a transport service

1.1 Consult with the local residents: This was felt to be the most important issue, to discover what they wanted, and whether transport was the only problem, or whether there were other concerns that could be dealt with at the same time. It was also felt that the community could well come up with the most suitable solution

Recommendation: That the Local Authority, together with interested parties such as the local County Councillor, parish councillors, residents, CTA Wales and possible transport providers, be brought together to discuss the future travel requirements.

1.2 Establish the need: A scoping exercise should be carried out to establish how regularly any transport solution would be necessary, the demographics of the users and the times and destinations that were most important to them.

Recommendation: That the Local Authority and Regional Transport Consortium commission a piece of work to assess the transport needs of the population, including current and potential usage.

2 Potential solutions

2.1 Partnership working: It was felt that the village should try to identify other communities that had similar difficulties to explore the opportunities of working together. Also, there might well be under-utilised vehicles in other organisations which could be brought in to help, or there might be a way of organising services to come into the village, rather than the residents having to travel.

Recommendation: The local community, with help from the Local Authority and councillors investigate the possibility of working in partnership with other communities and organisations.

2.2 Transport options: A number of options was proposed, including car sharing, setting up a village community transport operation, private travel companies (buses and taxis) and sharing the vehicles used for other purposes, such as transport to education.

Recommendation: That the wider partners together with whoever has been commissioned to assess the need, be involved in investigating all possible means of solving the problem, dependent on times, destinations and frequency.

3 Finance

This particular element was less discussed than the others, and is reliant on the potential use of any transport solution proposed.

Recommendation: That part of the scoping exercise encompasses cost and potential funding opportunities.

4 Other

Comments were made that need to be considered in the overall discussions:

- Time banking
- How many local people would be willing to volunteer or car share?
- Get rid of red pens
- Community enablement
- Permit options
- What exactly would the bus company do with the funding they are asking for in order to make the unsafe, safe.
- BUT how do we ensure drivers are safe to drive others?

Llandderfel Case Study Flipcharts Data

Flipchart 1 - Potentials to explore

1. RVS transport scheme
2. Wheels to Work
3. New taxi, local service – employment
4. Use other business transport i.e. postman, delivery vans, can they be roped into “Co-Production”?
5. Transport sharing to school, work, shopping/Utilising School Transport?/ Any links with college – they have buses not in use all the time
6. Minibus for 2/3 villagers
7. Bring back the use of trains through Highland Railway
8. Car sharing
9. Is there a local Dial a Ride/CT provider in the area?
10. Time-banking scenario/sharing cars
11. Demand Responsive Travel for the wider area, including cross border
12. Befriending service to include transport by volunteers, preferably with a paid co-ordinator, to take individuals from the village to the bus stop
13. Train
14. Would community-led solution be preferable, i.e a CT scheme?
15. What about transport needs the bus did nothing to meet?
16. Explore possibilities to “piggy back” existing transport
17. Any interest to set up a community transport scheme?
18. Nationalised bus service
19. Another commercial company be approached
20. Own community bus
21. Car sharing scheme
22. Look at grass roots transport eg of Monmouth community transport

Flipchart 2

- Dial a Ride within the community
- Car sharing – local co-operative because sufficient private car ownership?
- Bike grants for work – Sustrans
- LA vehicles in downtime
- Integrate driving or car share into a time-bank
- Electronic “dating” website for car share

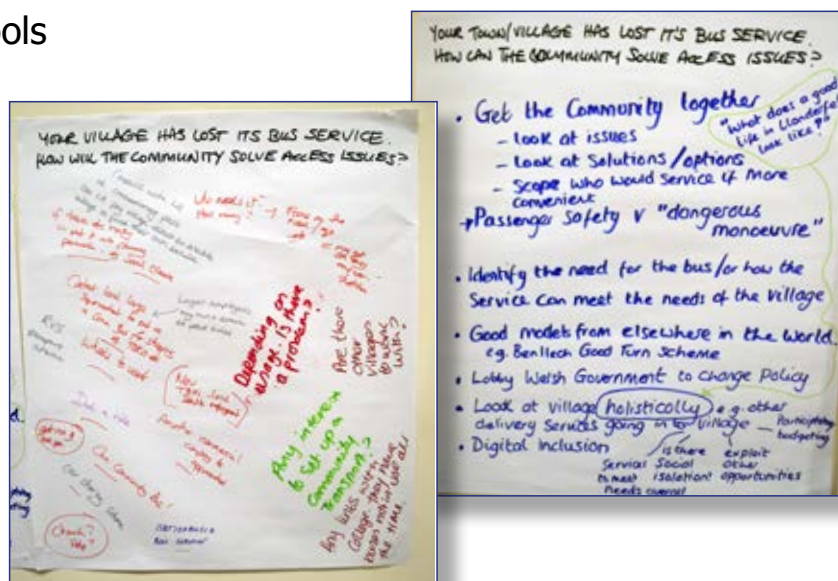
Flipchart 4

- What funding available?
- Government subsidies for local firms, eg taxis
- Lobby Welsh Government to change policies (funding cuts)
- Consult with LA regarding concessionary pass. Can LA pay village direct to enable village to fund their own service?
- Use current subsidy to fund a social enterprise
- Raise funds locally to buy a bus/car/minibus – could the “unemployed” become drivers?

Flipchart 4

- Internet access – how good is it?
- Pub? Add a shop to the premises
- Consider bringing services TO the village
- Using social media to tell others of intended journeys/needs
- Go Cymru concept
- Good models from elsewhere in the world, e.g. Benllech Good Turn Scheme
- If Tesco, etc moving in, put it into planning permission eg Social clause
- Contact large supermarket to put on a community bus for shopping
- Larger employers may run a service at peak times
- Church help?
- Could the Traffic Commissioner help?
- Bus Users UK campaign for better transport with a passenger focus and fair fares for all
- Work with CTA
- Work with the schools
- Use social media

Each table group captured their ideas on flipchart sheets



Flipchart 5

- Time banking
- How many local people would be willing to volunteer or car share?
- Get rid of red pens
- Community enablement
- Permit options
- What exactly would the bus company do with the funding they are asking for in order to make the unsafe, safe.
- BUT how do we ensure drivers are safe to drive others?

Flipchart 6

- Consult local residents as to when would be an optimum time to run the bus service so that the bus companies are operating on a "Full Bus" service, rather than half full
- Get the community together to look at issues, look at solutions/ options, scope who would service if more convenient > passenger safety v "dangerous manoeuvre"
- Community meeting held in the village to encourage discussion and ideas
- Ask community for their own solutions

Flipchart 7

Establish the need/ Ask community what they need Identify the need for the bus, or how the service can meet the needs of the village/Who needs it?/ How many?/Depending on usage, is there a problem?/ Survey villagers to identify numbers currently using the service/Need further information about how many people need the transport when/Focus on the need – age, etc = may get an easy answer short-term/Households with no car – find out which categories to identify need for this/ Establish the number of users/Mapping journeys – why? What for? How many times a week?

Flipchart 8

Talk to other villages who don't have a bus service/Look at the wider area/Liaise/share with neighbouring villages/Look at the village holistically - What does a good life in the village look like? – other delivery services going there, participatory budgeting, is there social services to meet isolation, exploit other opportunities, overall needs/Are there other villages to work with?