



Hurstpierpoint & Sayers Common Parish Council
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Briefing Note Bus Shelters

For Council 26th February 2026

The Parish Council was invited to a meeting on 29th January 2026 with West Sussex County Council (WSCC) and other relevant parish councils, designed to help improve the Metrobus Route No. 273 as part of the WSCC Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP). The Parish Council has also been asked to recommend sites for new bus shelters, funded by the BSIP fund and managed by WSCC Highways Team. In attendance were also representatives from Hassocks, Bolney, Slaugham and Ansty & Staplefield Parish Councils.

Background

The Parish Council currently owns five bus shelters at:

London Road (heading north)



London Road (heading south)



War Memorial



Village Garden



Willow Way



Real Time Passenger Information Sign



Bus Service Improvement Funds

WSCC explained that they have access to Bus Service Improvement funds (approx. £140,000) to spend on new bus shelters at existing bus stops. They'd like Parish Council's to identify where we'd like them and they can be our style and design. Metrobus' representative was keen to see customer numbers grow and new bus shelters are proven to encourage more usage as people can wait/sit comfortably for buses in lit, safe, dry/shady shelters.

The style of bus shelter purchased most recently by the Parish Council (in December 2019) now costs £7,995 plus installation and delivery costs of £6,820 and WSCC said real time passenger information signs can cost up to £8,000 per site. So approx. £23,000 per bus stop means there is funding for only six new shelters from this fund. There were further suggestions about residents "adopting" bus shelters to pretty them up with planters or artwork and e.g. adding parish council notice boards in them etc.

Developer Contributions

Where new homes are being built, developers often pay for new bus shelters out of their funds rather than the existing WSCC public funds. This obviously does not apply to everywhere but would certainly apply to Sayers Common in the future. The WSCC colleagues in the meeting said this matter wasn't in their teams remit and another WSCC officer is responsible for Section 106 develop contributions work.

For example, Welbeck are already asking if the Parish Council would accept the ownership and maintenance of two new bus shelters on the London Road verges outside their development at Coombe Farm, and Wates could be approached to replace the London Road bus shelter opposite the LVS School.

Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI)

Recently WSCC has been rolling out electronic signs at bus stops that tell passengers when the bus is due to arrive at the bus stop, allowing passengers to plan their journey more accurately. This is known as real time passenger information. The primary function of the real time passenger information system is to show the bus service number, service destination, and departure time either in minutes or as a timetable time. Details of accurate bus times can also be accessed via the Metrobus App providing an adequate data signal can be found.

There are three real time passenger information signs in the parish at the moment at the Willow Way bus shelter, Village Garden bus shelter. And at a bus stop along Cuckfield Road. There has been a delay with the installation of the real time passenger information sign at the War Memorial, mainly due to the lack of pavement/road side space to site it. A sign that would be fitted inside the bus shelter is now being explored by WSCC. Eventually, it is hoped that the real time passenger information signs would be expanded to every bus shelter.

The current programme for the roll-out can be found on-line here:

[Bus Service Improvement Plan \(BSIP\) map - West Sussex County Council](#)



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Suggested Improvements

The Parish Council has been asked to recommend sites for new bus shelters.

- One suggestion is to replace the bus stop near 65 Wickham Hill (heading north west) which until recently had a bus stop (pictured below in 2018) but which was dismantled and not replaced some six years ago.

Former Bus Shelter at 65 Wickham Hill



- The Willow Way bus shelter was purchased and installed in April 2017. Whilst it is still structurally sound, it would benefit from new panes of "glass" on the windows.
- Finally, to replace the London Road shelter (heading south).

Members are invited to put other suggestions forward.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are asked to AGREE to:

- A. Submit a request to West Sussex County Council for:
- i. A new bus shelter at 65 Wickham Hill (heading north east);
 - ii. Replacement panes to the Willow Way bus shelter; and
 - iii. A replacement bus stop on London Road (heading south), in the same style as the 2019 version, unless it would be paid for by Wates.
- B. Agree to accept the ownership and maintenance of two future Welbeck provided bus shelters on the London Road.