

Bus Service from Newmarket Road Park and Ride via Abbey ward to Addenbrookes

Jonathan Barker of Marshalls is in discussions with Stagecoach about a bus service from the Newmarket Road Park and Ride Site to Addenbrookes Hospital which would go along the Newmarket Road, down Barnwell Road and along Perne Road to Addenbrookes. The value of such a bus service is twofold: it will allow those who work at Addenbrookes and who come into the Cambridge from the East to use the Newmarket Road Park and Ride to get to the hospital; secondly it will provide a much needed direct bus route to Addenbrookes for the residents of the Barnwell area of the city.

The Councillors of Abbey ward have for some time been campaigning for a direct bus service to Addenbrookes from the Barnwell area and have collected over 1,000 signatories on a petition for such a service. There seems little doubt therefore that such a bus service would be both welcome and used.

Stagecoach have agreed to run a bus for a three month trial period on the above route if such a trial can be funded – the cost is estimated as £50,000. Marshalls have agreed to find some of the funding and hope that Addenbrookes and Stagecoach itself will also be willing to provide some funds.

It would clearly help the trial become a reality if the East Area Committee were able to help with an offer of some finding from with the resources available to it. The purpose of this brief paper, therefore, is to ask whether or not the Committee feels that supporting such a trial would be an appropriate use of 106 development funds. There is no doubt that a direct bus service to Addenbrookes as described as above would be of great benefit to the local community.

Cllr Joan Whitehead
Abbey Ward.