

RUSTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

PRESS RELEASE

Compass Travel and Rustington Parish Council are very pleased to announce that with effect from 4 September 2017, the No. 12 bus service, which was withdrawn in April 2017, will be reinstated.

This is being done in response to many requests from members of the public, and with financial support from Rustington Parish Council, Rustington Chamber of Trade and Commerce and Store Property Investments Limited.

The service will initially operate from Monday to Friday between 10:00 and 15:00 hours. The route will, in the main, follow the original No. 12 route, serving Rustington Sainsbury's Superstore and Rustington Village Centre, with the addition of the new Manor Retail Park and Worthing Road, Rustington. The service will then continue to Littlehampton, serving the Swimming and Leisure Centre, Littlehampton Railway Station and the Tesco Superstore at Broadpiece, Littlehampton.

The service is initially operating on a six month trial basis – and its future will depend on it being well used and on sufficient funding being forthcoming from other parties. As well as standard fares, free travel is available with the Older Persons Bus Pass.

Compass Travel Managing Director, Chris Chatfield, said "We are very pleased to be working in partnership with Rustington Parish Council to bring back this popular bus route. We are obviously hoping it can continue to run long-term, so would encourage everyone to use it as much as possible.

Rustington Parish Council Chairman, Jamie Bennett, said "I am proud to be part of a progressive Council, which works with other organisations to ensure that when vital services are cut, as a Parish it can manage to retain them by some other means. I do hope that we are able to persuade the major retailers benefiting from this bus service to commit financially to ensure that the No. 12 route can continue after the six month trial period. It is also most important that the service is well-used by members of the public, as this will help to ensure its retention. I would particularly like to acknowledge the sterling

work and effort made by the Council's previous Chairman, Councillor Mrs Alison Cooper, in striving to ensure the reinstatement of this bus service, for which the Council is most grateful."

The timetable for the new No.12 bus service can be found on the Compass Travel website: www.compass-travel.co.uk

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For further information regarding this Press Release please contact Carole Ward, Clerk of the Council, Rustington Parish Council on 01903 786420 or email: caroleward@rustingtonpc.org