

Full Council Budget Consultation Responses

Dear LCC,

Am writing as an interested party in the proposals to close the booking office at Clitheroe.

Rail station booking offices have real potential to operate as businesses beyond the limited scope of rail ticketing. Aside from supporting customers in making sustainable travel choices and promoting rail, there are numerous examples of rail stations with low service frequencies and footfall being successful commercial ventures and a public service.

Gobowen station in Wales, Chester le Street in Durham and Eaglescliffe are all examples of rail stations that do so much more and fulfil local needs. Many MerseyRail stations have an M2GO on them that is a small shop, helping make the stations make attractive, raise ridership and provide a public/commercial service. I would suggest members may visit these stations before making any decision.

It is vital we retain these services if we are to promote rail travel as a sustainable alternative and get cars off our congested roads, especially into small towns like Clitheroe.

As a stakeholder in promoting rail we would welcome the opportunity to discuss a possible venture, in relation to retaining this facility and expanding its usefulness to the community.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

General Manager

Town Hall
Market Square, Settle
North Yorkshire
BD24 9EJ



The Settle-Carlisle Railway Development Company Limited
Tel: 01729 825888 | Mobile: 07443 647956
Email: drew@settle-carlisle.co.uk
Web: www.settle-carlisle.co.uk | Social Media:  



From: [REDACTED] Bretherton PC [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 December 2017 18:27
To: Modern Gov Enquiries <moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk>
Subject: Fw: Lancashire County Council Budget Consultation

The next Parish Council meeting is not until early Feb, would we still be able to submit comments-you are not really giving much of a consultation period, taking into account Xmas and New Year.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Clerk to Bretherton Parish Council

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] - Parish Clerk [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 January 2018 10:42
To: Modern Gov Enquiries <moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Lancashire County Council Budget Consultation

Whittingham Parish Council considered your email below and the links too 3 months of cabinet papers which they found very time consuming to digest.

Consequently I have been asked to request a more user friendly briefing sheet itemising the proposed cuts or alterations to key services.

[REDACTED]
Clerk to the Parish Council
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] (NHS EAST LANCASHIRE CCG) [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2018 08:56
To: Modern Gov Enquiries <moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] (NHS EAST LANCASHIRE CCG) [REDACTED]
(NHS EAST LANCASHIRE CCG) [REDACTED]
Subject: Lancashire County Council Budget Consultation

In response to your request for feedback regarding the budget consultation, Senior Managers at East Lancashire CCG felt it would have been better if the decisions and implications had been summarised for partner organisations for clarity as it was difficult to locate them in the meeting papers.

Kind Regards

#let's my name is...



NHS East Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group

Room 115 | Walshaw House | Regent Street | Nelson | BB9 8AS | (for Sat Nav BB9 8SQ)



CHATBURN PARISH COUNCIL

www.chatburnvillage.org.uk

15 January 2018

Budget Consultation Responses
Democratic Services
PO Box 78
County Hall
Preston
PR1 8XJ

Lancashire County Council's proposed budget savings for 2018/19 Proposed Closure of Clitheroe Railway Interchange Station

Chatburn Parish Council is strongly opposed to the above closure and submits the following observations for your consideration:

1. The adjacent Platform Gallery is owned by Ribble Valley Borough Council who assist with the maintenance, cleaning and staffing of the Interchange. It may be possible to come to some arrangement with the Borough Council to retain the Interchange.
2. The Interchange is used extensively by local people and tourists visiting the Ribble Valley who enjoy the benefits of the facility to purchase tickets together with detailed travel information unavailable from ticket machines.
3. Currently the use of rail transport is growing and the infrastructure being improved to accommodate rolling stock.

It would appear that the closure of the Interchange will result in a reduction of service by those using trains and buses.

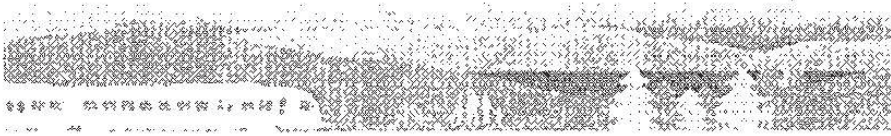
Chatburn Parish Council supports Ribble Valley Rail's proposal to keep the Clitheroe Railway Interchange Station open until all options have been discussed.

Yours sincerely



Clerk

Community Rail Cumbria



Community Rail Cumbria - Helping to build the future of Cumbrian Railways

Community Rail Cumbria • Parkhouse Building • Kingmoor Park • Carlisle • Cumbria • CA6 4SJ
Tel: 07767 007 101 Email: dawn.mcgough@cumbria.gov.uk

Email: moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk

12 January 2018

Dear Sir

Carnforth Station Booking Office

At the recent meeting of the Furness Line Community Rail Partnership (FLCRP), held at Carnforth Station, deep concern was expressed regarding the proposal "CMTY027 – Information Centres" contained in the LCC Budget Consultation 2018/19 which would see the closure of the ticket booking office and information centre at Carnforth station.

Carnforth station was rescued from dereliction with well over £1 million investment in its restoration by Network Rail, Lancashire County Council, Lancaster City Council and the Carnforth Station & Railway Trust to bring it into community use. Subsequently, the award winning Heritage Centre has become a thriving tourist attraction in its own right employing up to 12 members of staff, several volunteers and welcoming visitors from all over the world.

The booking office, hosted in the Gateway Building, and temporarily closed for renovation works, normally offers essential face-to-face services helping the local community and visitors with their travel planning needs and train ticket sales. Most importantly, the staffed facility generates income for both the county council and for the train operators.

The station buildings also host several other small profitable businesses offering employment opportunities and contributing to the overall success of the local economy. Together, the set-up at the station has developed into a wholly sustainable venture enabling Carnforth to remain a vibrant destination and interchange location.

The booking office is currently leased from the Heritage Centre Trust providing the Trust with a vital core income stream. Should the Trust lose this income source there is a genuine risk to the future viability of the Heritage Centre. The small businesses also lease space from the Trust but the income generated is insufficient to support the Trust on its

own. Additional income could be sought but squeezing modestly profitable local enterprises who have suffered significant losses whilst the Gateway Building has been closed may force closure or relocation. If the Trust ceases to be viable the buildings will be returned to the control of Network Rail. Recent experience demonstrates that Network Rail is seeking commercial rents from unused station property which would be difficult to achieve in Carnforth.

Carnforth station is included in the designation of the Furness Line CRP and this partnership works closely with the Bentham Line CRP as trains from both lines meet at Carnforth. Over the years, the CRPs have worked closely together to support and promote this prosperous venture involving the ticket booking office, the Heritage Centre and several small businesses at the station. Truly, the loss of the booking office will have a devastating effect on the station and the community as a whole.

The Furness Line CRP would also like to emphasise that the train operating company Northern, is due to introduce the Northern Connect service in 12 months' time. This initiative will see new train services along the Furness line providing a direct service between Barrow and Manchester International Airport - a much welcomed development offering ease of travel for thousands of commuters and visitors with the potential to unlock vital economic growth in the area. However, these services are planned to stop at staffed stations only. Clearly, if there is no staffed booking office and quite possibly no Heritage Centre, there is a risk that the Northern Connect services may not stop at Carnforth, considerably disadvantaging the local community.

The Furness Line CRP urges Lancashire County Council to reconsider the proposal to close the Carnforth booking office and would welcome the opportunity to consider alternative solutions which could enable the sustainability of Carnforth station and its community as a whole.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of the Chairman of the Furness Line Community Rail Partnership.

Chairman, Furness Line Community Rail Partnership



Budget Consultation Responses
Democratic Services
PO Box 78
County Hall
Preston
PR1 8XJ

16th January 2018

Ref: Updates Medium Term Financial Strategy (2018/19-2021/22)
Item CMTY027 – Information Centres

Community Rail Lancashire Ltd is strongly opposed to the proposed closure of the award winning Interchange at Clitheroe. Since its opening in 2000 the Interchange has provided the travelling public from Clitheroe and the surrounding with assistance in planning and booking journeys and the sale of tickets to the regular users who travel daily to work and places of study.

Community Rail Lancashire Ltd are requesting a hold on the closure decision to enable interested parties to put together a business plan, which will ensure the retention of Clitheroe Interchange for rail and bus passengers.


Vice-Chair Community Rail Lancashire Ltd.

Response 8

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 January 2018 15:02
To: Modern Gov Enquiries <moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk>
Subject: Budget Consultation

Brindle Cuerden and Hoghton Parish Councils have no comments to make on the proposals .

[REDACTED]

Clerk

Leeds-Morecambe Community

Rail Partnership Co. Ltd.
Bentham Station Building
Station Road

Bentham
Lancaster

Telephone: 015242 98940

Email: the.bentham.line@gmail.com

Website: leedslancastermorecambecrp.co.uk

Facebook: The Bentham Line

Twitter: @thebenthamline



Budget Consultation Responses, Democratic Services,
PO Box 78,
County Hall, Preston, PR1 8XJ

16th January 2018

Dear Sir,

Carnforth Information and Ticket Office

The Leeds-Morecambe Community Rail Partnership (LMCRP) has been saddened and concerned to read of the possibility of the permanent closure of the Carnforth Station office in Lancashire County Council's Cabinet documents for December 2017 and in the local press.

Your report correctly identifies that older people and those with disabilities, in particular, prefer the professional support, like that offered at Carnforth, with their travel information and ticket requests. However, this is the case for many travellers of all ages.

The Partnership was established in 2006, as a not-for-profit company on co-operative lines, to develop community interest in the Bentham Line and help to secure the line's development and future. Carnforth is one of the higher-patronage stations on the Bentham Line (and Furness Line).

The LMCRP wishes to offer its support in developing a means of maintaining a travel information and ticketing services at Carnforth station.

At this stage of your consultation, we would wish to register our interest in the services and would be pleased to discuss with Lancashire County Council representatives the possibility of the Partnership becoming involved in the operation of, and maintaining, the much-valued personal services provided at Carnforth.

The Partnership looks forward to your response.

Yours faithfully,



Chairman
Leeds-Morecambe Community Rail Partnership Co. Ltd.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 January 2018 16:24
To: Modern Gov Enquiries <moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Lancashire County Council Budget Consultation

To Lancashire County Council

Wheelton Parish Council have reviewed the information highlighted below but raise the comment that the information was so difficult to find they felt that there was a question as to whether the council really wanted parish councils to respond.

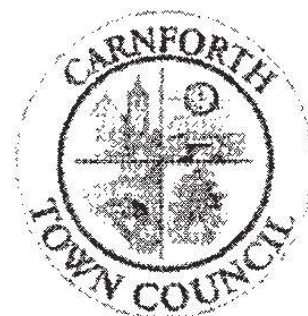
Best regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Clerk to Wheelton Parish Council

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Email: clerk@camforthtowncouncil.org



18th January 2018

Budget Consultation Responses, Democratic Services,
PO Box 78,
County Hall, Preston
PR1 8XJ

Dear Sir,

Lancashire County Council Budget Proposals 2018/2019: Response

Camforth Town Council views with concern Lancashire County Council's proposal to close the transport information centre at Camforth Station as part of its revenue budget savings for 2018/2019.

Whilst the Town Council notes that there is an intention on the part of Lancashire County Council to consult further on this proposal should it decide to proceed with the savings, we wish to make our position regarding the matter clear from the start.

We are opposed to the proposed closure for the following reasons:

1. We believe the transport information centre is an important amenity for Camforth and its hinterland, not only for local residents but also for a growing number of visitors to the area. The impact of the centre's temporary closure recently during the on-going extensive refurbishment of the main station building has received (and continues to receive) widespread adverse public comment locally. At a time when the economic development of the town and surrounding area, particularly through tourism, is experiencing numerous significant challenges, the permanent closure of the centre would merely compound difficulties and set back economic development further.
2. This proposal also runs counter to the ambitions set out in the Morecambe Bay Economic Plan, recently published by the Coastal Communities Alliance. This plan recognised the importance of developing tourism in the area and the key role of transport hubs and associated infrastructure supporting such tourism.
3. We also believe that the closure of the Camforth centre would have a disproportionate adverse effect on elderly and disabled residents and visitors who greatly value the personal service the centre has hitherto been able to offer. It should be noted that our elderly population is growing apace with a new retirement complex about to open near to the centre of the town. The idea that the future of travel planning and ticket purchasing should be entirely "on line" does not resonate with many sections of our community, particularly the elderly and those people who do not have access to a computer or other internet enabling device.

4. It is our view that the closure of the information centre in Carnforth is likely to have a bigger impact on the local community than the closure of similar centres in Preston and Morecambe. Whilst these other closures would be equally regrettable, there are other public facilities in both towns, eg. public libraries, in relatively close proximity and with extensive opening hours from which a similar service could feasibly be provided. Carnforth Library is currently open 27 hours a week and is closed on Sundays, a busy day for visitors.

We would urge the County Council to reconsider its proposal to close the Camforth transport information centre. Camforth Town Council would be willing to take part in discussions with representatives of the County Council, the Camforth Station Trust, the Camforth Chamber of Commerce and the rail providers and indeed any other interested parties to find a viable and long-term outcome that will benefit all parties but particularly the residents of Camforth and the surrounding area.

Yours sincerely

Clerk
on behalf of Carnforth Town Council

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 22 January 2018 20:25

To: Modern Gov Enquiries <moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk>

Subject: Response

Please see comments from Brindle Parish Councillor [REDACTED]

CMTY018 – Conservation and Collection Team: much more detail is required on the process of transfer of the museums service to 'third parties'.

IMPACT (p.17) - Reference is made to 'third parties' in relation to transferring museum collections. Are these likely to be predominantly private sector? Are they likely to involve large service providers like ATOS? As the Carillion example shows, such contracts often involve enormous costs for services and enormous liabilities to the purchaser (essentially taxpayers). My experience is that local government likes to use large service providers because they see them as having a track record of delivery and because it is easier than using lots of smaller organisations. If third sector organisations are involved, by what process will they be recruited?

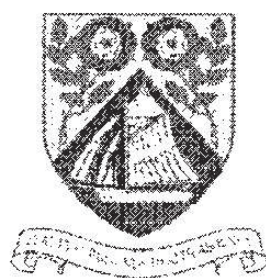
ACTIONS (p.17) – What 'contracts' are envisaged? What oversight will there be? How transparent will the process of tendering be? Will organisations be contracted to provide a museum service that can distribute shares or will the revenue be used entirely for a social purpose? What safeguards will there be in the event that museum items are damaged or disappear?

ASC005 – Advocacy Services: this should NOT be cut.

EQUALITY ACT 2010 - The Report clearly indicates that the proposal to cut the Advocacy service is contrary to the requirements of the Equality Act 2010. The Advocacy Service is most relevant to people with protected characteristics under the Act. This is particularly true in relation to disability. Even those who use the Service and do not have protected characteristics are very vulnerable because they are accessing the adult health and social care services. The elderly, especially those with dementia or extensive co-morbidities, are likely to need to use the Service. The Office of National Statistics data shows that such people are often multiply deprived with poor health, housing, income, literacy etc. They really need a single point of contact Service.

RISK – The LCC Impact statement on p. 46 (q. 3) clearly shows that removing this Service will have a negative effect on Service users. The demands for this Service are likely to increase as austerity bites further and BREXIT is implemented. The forecast from a majority of reputable economists is that post-BREXIT, there will be more unemployment, a lowering of the UK standard of living and poorer public services. As Piketty showed, in times of recession, inequality increases and the poorest get poorer. These are the users for the Advocacy Service and, if our welfare state means anything, they should be protected.

[REDACTED]
Clerk - Brindle Parish Council.



Morecambe Town Council
Morecambe Town Hall
Marine Road
Morecambe
LA4 5AF.

Contact: [REDACTED]
Telephone: 01524 422929
Email: clerk@morecambe.gov.uk
Our Ref:
Your ref:

Budget Consultation Responses,
Democratic Services,
PO Box 78,
County Hall,
Preston
PR1 8XJ

19th January 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Lancashire County Council Budget Consultation 2018/19

Thank you for giving the Town Council the opportunity of responding to the County Council's consultation regarding the its budget proposals for 2018/19.

The Town Council met on 18th January, and asked me to forward the following comments for consideration.

In making the comments below, the Town Council does appreciate how difficult it is for all tiers of Local Government to set a balanced budget that meets the needs of the whole electorate. However, the Town Council remains concerned about the following issues:

- Following the appointment of a new Chief Executive on a salary that Town Councillors believe to average more than £1,000 per day whilst there are proposals to cut frontline services to vulnerable people e.g. social care does not seem appropriate and fair to the many residents across Lancashire who need care etc.
- Whilst the Town Council welcomes libraries being kept open, the budget proposes a significant reduction in expenditure on books and e-books which will further undermine the quality of service offered by the libraries;
- The Town Council welcomes the continuation of bus services at the proposed levels, but believes the value of this service is being severely undermined by the proposal to reduce funding for the provision of timetables in bus shelters. This severely reduces the quality of service to many people. Not everyone has access to the internet e.g. elderly people who rely on their local service;
- The proposed reduction in the budget for disabled transport is not acceptable given the level of need in Morecambe and throughout the County. The proposal to double the charge to NOW card holders using the bus before 9.30 a.m. seems disproportionate. Many NOW card holders are vulnerable people on low incomes, and sometimes cannot avoid using an early service e.g. to attend a hospital or doctors' appointment. The Town Council also understands that you may be proposing to make an initial charge for a

NOW Card, which again would be an attack on elderly, vulnerable and needy people across the County.

- The proposal to reduce Social Care by a total of £45m causes the Town Council grave concern, given the demographics of not only Morecambe but the whole County and would urge you to reconsider these proposals which again will undermine vulnerable and elderly persons across Lancashire.

The Town Council trusts that the County Council will consider these comments in finalising its budget for 2018/19.

Yours sincerely,



Town Clerk

Response 14

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 January 2018 11:10
To: oliver.starkie@lancashire.gov.uk; Modern Gov Enquiries <moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk>
Cc: Mynott, Josh <Josh.Mynott@lancashire.gov.uk>
Subject: Proposals for Closure of Clitheroe Information Office at Clitheroe Interchange

Dear Oliver,

Further to the decision taken by Lancashire County Council at the meeting of its Cabinet on 7th December 2018 in connection with the proposed closure of the Clitheroe Interchange Information Office I understand that the decision includes for a period of formal consultation details of which are to be published. On behalf of the Council, and in response to the initial decision taken I would like to advise that Ribble Valley Borough Council has concerns regarding the proposed closure and its impact on public transport in the Borough and our Members will be considering the matter in further detail.

I understand that consultation details will be issued shortly ahead of any final decision and that the Council will have an opportunity to respond. I also understand that there is a standard period (which ends today), following the decision when stakeholders can raise concerns. The purpose of this e mail is to notify you of the Council's concerns in response to that decision and to confirm that the Council will be responding to the formal consultation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss or clarify any matters at this stage.

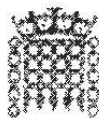
[REDACTED]

Chief Executive's Service
Ribble Valley Borough Council

[REDACTED]

THE RT HON LINDSAY HOYLE MP
Deputy Speaker, Chairman of Ways and Means

London Office
Tel: 020 7234 3513



Constituency Office
Tel: 01257 271555

lindsayhoyle@parliament.uk

@LindsayHoyle MP

Our Ref: MG

HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

16th January 2018

Ms Angie Ridgwell
Interim Chief Executive
Lancashire County Council
PO Box 100
County Hall
Preston
PR1 0LD

Dear Ms Ridgwell,

Re: Dial a Ride Funding

I understand that the full council will be meeting on Thursday 18th January in order to discuss the budget.

I am writing regarding the essential funding provided to Central Lancashire by Dial a Ride the county council. I believe that a proposal is being tabled showing cuts of £75,000 for 2018/19 and £100,000 for 2019/20. This is against a total annual figure of just over £500,000 for the LCT Consortium, of which Central Lancashire Dial a Ride is a part.

If approved, these cuts will be devastating to the the level of service offered in our community. The service currently provides a vital life line to older people and disabled constituents who rely on this transport. Any cuts to the funding for this service will be hugely damaging to the lives of many people.

I am writing – along with Chorley's Labour County Councillors - ahead of the full council meeting and I trust you can place my objections to these cuts on the record. I appreciate that LCC must balance the needs of everyone in these difficult times, but if the cuts go ahead as proposed, some of the most vulnerable residents of Chorley will be affected.

Yours sincerely

Rt Hon Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP
County Councillors Berry, Holgate, Khan and Snape

Member of Parliament for Chorley

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 23 January 2018 19:56

To: Modern Gov Enquiries <moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk>

Subject: Budget Consultation

I apologise for the delay in responding to your budget consultation and hope we are not too late to submit some comments. Grimsargh Parish Council support your budget and in particular the charging for pre-planning advice, the environmental advice and the way forward on the S106 public rights of way. I hope you can take these comments into account.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
Clerk to Grimsargh Parish Council

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 05 January 2018 14:09

To: Modern Gov Enquiries <moderngov@lancashire.gov.uk>

Subject: From Yealand Conyers parish Council

We have read your budget report and understand the reasons for having to make savings across all services. We ask that existing bus services are protected so that we do not lose any more public services in the area. The condition of some of the road services, especially those on the cycle routes give grave concerns because of the number of potholes. We would urge you not to forget the rural communities.