

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE BUS SERVICE INFORMATION – **APPENDIX 4: BLUNHAM AND NORTHILL DISTRICTS**

OVERVIEW

The survey of the parishes in this area was undertaken on 28 July 2010. The Biggleswade and Sandy Bus Timetables and Travel Guide published February 2010 was used to confirm service details.

BLUNHAM

Served by Meridian Line E3 and Ivel Sprinter 112, IS5, IS6, IS7

Timing Points: The Avenue (112, IS6)

Church (E3, IS5, IS6, IS7)

High Street (IS7)

Blunham is well furnished with Bus Stops, unfortunately some the data displayed there are not current. At all the E3 stops the timetable displayed refers to the former operator – Chiltern Travel and the flags to long abandoned art service EB4.

At High Street there is a brick bus shelter (towards Bedford) with post and flag, the latter shows EB4 whilst the timetable case is for Chiltern Travel E3 but displays a current Ivel Sprinter list of routes. At Blunham Church there is a metal shelter with flag showing no service numbers but the timetable case contains the remnants of an E3 timetable operated by Chiltern Travel. There are three stops in Station Road – all refer to “old” E3, the East Beds Dart but have a current Ivel Sprinter list. The stop towards Bedford opposite The Avenue is also provided with a shelter.

There is a sturdy brick built shelter opposite and a post and flag adjacent to Walnut Close but this is believed to be a location not on a bus route.

The impression gained is that either a local supporter or the Parish Council have posted their own Ivel Sprinter laminates at the relevant stops.

HATCH

This hamlet is served by Meridian Line E5 and Ivel Sprinter IS3

There are no timing points.

There is no visible indication suggesting Hatch has any bus services.

ICKWELL

Served by Meridian Line E5, Stagecoach M4 and Ivel Sprinter IS3

Timing point: The Green

A stone bus shelter is provided at the Green (towards Bedford). Some distance away, across an access road, is a Stagecoach flag showing Mars and an M4 timetable – no reference to other operators.

IN Caldecote Road (towards Biggleswade) is a post carrying two flags –one for Stagecoach M4 and one for deceased East Beds Dart EB5. There is an M4 timetable.

MOGGERHANGER

Served by Meridian Line E3 and Stagecoach Mars M3

Timing Point: Guinea

There is a wooden bus shelter opposite the Guinea P.H (towards Bedford) with a Stagecoach Mars flag together with M3 timetable case affixed to the shelter. In the opposite direction a similar arrangement applies but is located beyond the turning to Blunham.

The E3 also serves this point, albeit there being no reference, but in the direction from Bedford has turned into the Blunham road before the stop. There is no suggestion as where this “alternative” stop might be.

NORTHILL

Served by Stagecoach M4, Meridian E5 and Ivel Sprinter IS3

Timing Points: Church (M4, IS3)
Thorncote Road (E5)

No bus service information could be located at the Church which is unusual regarding Stagecoach. In Ickwell road, opposite No.47 (towards Bedford) a stop proclaimed "East Beds Dart stops here" but also contained an M4 timetable on the post.

OLD WARDEN

Served by Meridian Line E6

Timing Point: Main Lodge

There is no visible indication suggesting Old Warden any bus services

TEMPSFORD

Tempsford today is really two villages one on each side of the A1 dual-carriageway, Tempsford Station End is to the east side whilst Tempsford Church End is to the west.

The two Locations are dealt with separately.

Tempsford Station End

Served by Ivel Sprinter 112, IS1A, IS1B, IS2, IS4, IS5, IS7

Timing Point: Old Station

There was no visible information along Station Rd referring to any bus services. It also appeared that no vehicle turns at "Old Station", but rather at the end of the houses some four hundred yards away.

Tempsford Church End

Served by Ivel Sprinter 112, 193, S10, IS1A, IS1B, IS2, IS4, IS5, IS7

Timing Point: Church

Well positioned bus stop with flag outside Church; only reference is to East Beds Dart EB4.

Affixed to post is list of Ivel Sprinter routes dated April 2008 and believed still current.

There are two other timetable locations - one at Station Rd A1 lay-by (RouteS14) and one at Tempsford Hall (S10), the former was deemed unsafe to venture to and the latter suggested "No entry"

UPPER CALDECOTE

Due to the close proximity of the A1 dual-carriageway, Upper Caldecote suffers from the fact that eastbound buses to Biggleswade traverse a totally different route to those in the opposite direction.

Served by Stagecoach M4, Meridian Line E5, E6, Ivel Sprinter IS3

Timing points (eastbound): Hitchin Road (M4)
G&M Growers (M4)
(westbound): Pastures (M4, E5, E6)
Water Lane (IS3)

Stagecoach post and flag showing M4 plus timetable outside G&M Growers

Stagecoach post and flag showing M4 plus timetable at The Green

On Hitchin Rd near Church, Stagecoach flag and M4 timetable

Three stops on Biggleswade Rd (westbound only – see above) all with Stagecoach flags and timetables, except adjacent to Woodlands Nurseries.

Note that The Pastures and Water Lane are adjacent.

No references found for other operators except for flags at the Pastures referring to East Beds Dart