

## **The Parish Liaison Meeting, 19<sup>th</sup> June at Riverside, Keynsham**

### **Briefing Note on the Mobile Library Service**

The Council is significantly changing the Library Service in response to feedback from local people about how the wide range of services we offer should be provided in the future.

In April 2012, A three year Library Strategy was agreed by Cabinet, which included retaining all the existing library branches, introducing the Community Library Programme, and withdrawing one mobile library in year 2013-14

A new timetable has been developed by library staff which will enable a fortnightly service to continue to all communities that require it. All weekly stops have been changed to fortnightly and in villages with multiple stops the numbers of stops has been reduced, with the mobile staying longer at the remaining stops.

In addition the following criteria have been used to determine which stops are to be removed:

Stops with no current readers

Stops where readers meet the mobile by driving to it

Stops near the new community libraries/static libraries

Stops which are difficult for the Mobile Library to access or park

The draft timetable designed around the above criteria and subjected to an equalities impact assessment, was posted out to parish councils on 22nd April, closing date for responses 3<sup>rd</sup> June. There has also been a web consultation between 22<sup>nd</sup> April – May 13<sup>th</sup> and copies deposited with all the static libraries. The two mobile libraries have been consulting with all their users during this time.

All comments received were reviewed on Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, and adjustments to the draft timetable made which incorporated the majority of comments received. Travel timings are now being checked before the final timetable is published..

Library staff will speak individually to readers who are affected by these changes to discuss the options available to them: visit the mobile at an alternative stop, have books delivered via the Home Library Service, visit the new community libraries or static libraries perhaps via community transport.

The date for the new timetable to come into effect will be the 29<sup>th</sup> July.