

I would like to take this opportunity to update the parish council regarding service 54 from Kirkby Fleetham to Northallerton.

As of 29th April 2019 Hodgsons will be operating this service under contract to North Yorkshire County Council, replacing the existing Procters service, and we will be operating to a slightly different timetable to the present. I have attached a copy of the new timetable flyer, of which will be available on board our buses, and also an A4 sized timetable poster if you would like to display this on any community notice boards in your parish. We hope to place notices at the bus stops in due course ahead of us taking over the service to inform passengers of the new times. If you wish, I can send you a copy of the timetable flyer as an image file to place on your parish council website for passenger information.

Our timetable flyers are currently with our printing supplier and we are awaiting delivery. Once these arrive we would be happy to send some to yourselves for distribution, or we could send them to Kirkby Fleetham post office should they be willing to display them on the counter.

We have recently taken phone calls from passengers who use service 54 and have been told by Procters drivers that there will be restrictions on the service. I would like to clarify this to yourselves. As of 29th April we will no longer be able to sell a ticket for any journey in direct competition with Procters service 73 between Northallerton and Bedale, via Ainderby Steeple and Morton on Swale on service 54. Service 54 is a council funded service and it cannot be used in competition with a commercial bus service, i.e. service 73. As such on our journeys to Northallerton we cannot pick up any passengers once we join the A684 from Scruton, though we can stop to drop off any passengers already on board the bus. Likewise on journeys from Northallerton to Kirkby Fleetham we can pick up at all bus stops along the route but we cannot permit alighting until the bus leaves the A684 towards Scruton.

These restrictions should not normally affect any passengers from Kirkby Fleetham, Great Fencote, Little Fencote and Scruton, though it means that we can no longer pick up a passenger in Morton on Swale to travel to Northallerton as an example. Passengers making these short journeys between Morton on Swale and Northallerton should use Procters service 73 instead.

If you would like timetable leaflets sent to yourselves or to Kirkby Fleetham post office I would be most grateful if you could r