

Item 10 – Bus Service to Doctors Surgery

Request from CW&C Cllr Mike Jones

The Council is asked to consider the principle of a bus stop near the surgery – is this supported by the community as a whole?

Noting these are very early – the point of sending the note to the PC is to ensure we capture the pros and cons to support any decision and ensure we protect key areas. With the development at Newton by Tattenhall I would not want to see any reduction of services, indeed I hope the development will support an improvement in services

Information from CW&C

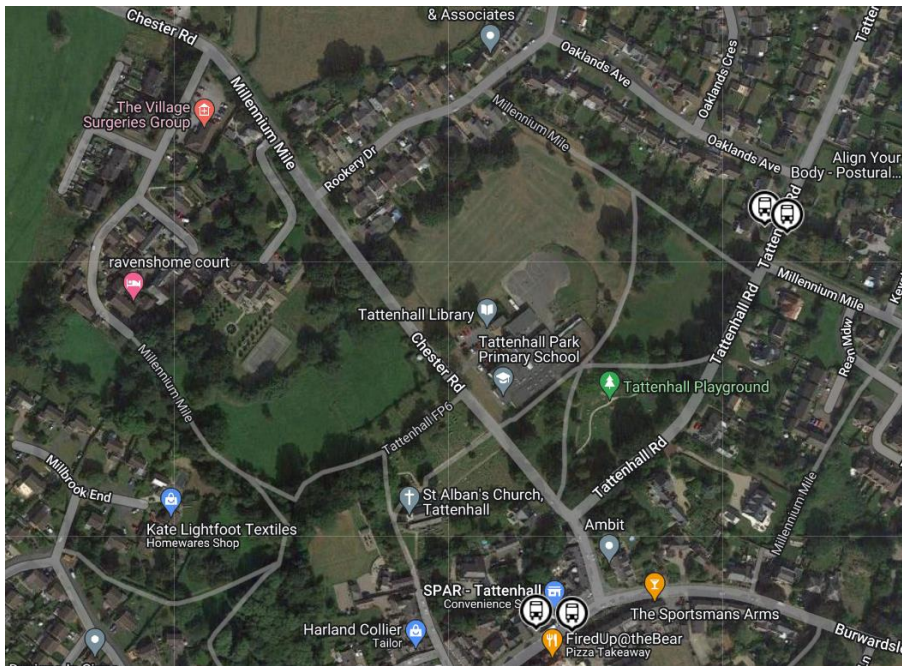
We have given your proposal some consideration and are also seeking advice on whether any section 106 monies may be available to improve public transport in the area. Our initial thoughts are as follows:

The doctor's surgery is located on Ravensholme Lane, off Chester Road and is approximately 400 metres from the junction with Tattenhall Road (marked on the maps below as 'The Village Surgeries Group'). The nearest bus stops for service 41 are on the High Street, approximately 525 metres away. However, the current bus route along Tattenhall Road reaches a greater residential population than would be possible if the service operated via Chester Road rather than Newton Crossroads, as illustrated by the second map image below. I shall discuss the options with the bus company as the service between Tattenhall and Chester is operated on a commercial basis and not supported by the Authority.

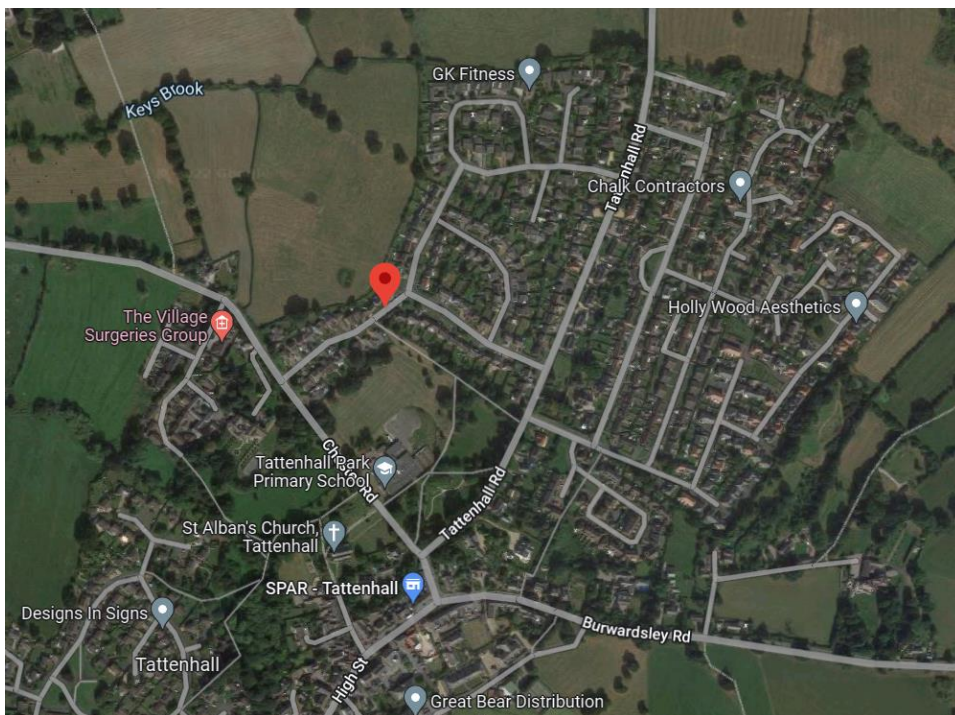
It seems to me that there may be an option to divert the service via Rookery Drive and Oaklands Avenue, but I would be concerned that the pair of stops at Park Avenue would then be omitted. This would, however, bring customers closer to the surgery. Bus stops would need to be sited on Rookery Drive.

Another option which the company may wish to consider is to operate along Chester Road from the Tattenhall Road junction, into Ravensholme Lane and carry out a reverse turn manoeuvre into Grakle Croft. Returning along Chester Road to the Tattenhall Road junction and resuming normal route. Estimated additional time required 4 minutes. The issue here is Grakle Croft does not appear to be adopted and as it is the vicinity of the doctor's surgery it may not always be clear enough to allow bus access due to parked cars. Bus stops could probably be sited on Ravensholme Lane.

Map illustrating position of surgery and current bus route/stops:



Map illustrating the wider population distribution in Tattenhall:



It would also be prudent to conduct some market research, possibly through the surgery, to assess the level of demand so that the bus operator can make a valued judgement on the benefit of a diversion.