

Proposal from Cllr Worth regarding Landulph Link, Sept 2026

Since the 2024 Transport Survey (<https://www.landulph.org/future-details.php?id=38>), Landulph Climate Group has been working with Saltash Red Bus and Cornwall Council to explore improving the bus services to Landulph. In the transport survey 70 of the 91 respondents made suggestions about improvements that would make the bus services more usable. Since then the Wednesday Hopper Shopper has become firmly established and is regularly used by about 15 residents and has been extended to allow passengers to travel to Saltash. In the last year, a monthly Saturday trip to different towns is used by a wider group of about 25 people from the Parish of all ages.

The transport survey, revealed a group of parents and students who travel by car every school day to access public transport in Saltash. Apart from being inconvenient for parents, this reduces the independence of students and adds to the traffic in the lanes. Over the last two years, we have applied for a grant from GWR to support a pilot bus service that could be used by adults and school children on weekdays. This year, GWR, suggested that they could provide funds (up to about £2500) for promotion, marketing and training to support a pilot bus service.

With this in mind, working with parents and young people in the Parish, existing bus users and Saltash Red Bus, we have developed a proposal for a bus service, Landulph Link, to link Landulph with the transport hub of Saltash. This proposal includes training and technology to support a pilot service running every weekday afternoon during term time. This service can be used by adults requiring a quick trip to Saltash to pick up shopping, prescriptions or library books as well as students at school in Saltash or Plymouth connecting with trains and buses. To run for two terms and establish the need and viability of such a service, we estimate we need to raise £4000 (see attached proposal). In addition to anticipated support from GWR, we are requesting support of £1500 from the Parish Council Earmarked Reserve for Community Transport (this currently contains £3500).

Certain services operated by Saltash Red Bus do get limited support from Cornwall Council and we plan to present the Landulph Link model at the upcoming 30th Sept 2026 Cornwall Council Conference in New County Hall, Truro on Rural Bus Services with the aim of increasing that support and additional funding from Government sources. For our aging population, some of whom will unfortunately eventually lose their license to drive, and our desire to attract young families to the Parish, it is essential that it is feasible to enjoy life in the Parish without a car.

Timing is everything with this project, as we now can't obviously hold the start of the September school term. Running in parallel at this time we have Saltash Red Bus willingness to start, our LPC meeting, GWR, Cornwall Bus Conference & eventually the long term funding I see coming from Elbridge Power Community Funding. (Deal one - £50k + £5k at RPI annual increases for 40 years)

Who knows? one day we might have our own Community funded Electric Bus, connected at LMH and an Electric Ferry along the river, all powered by Green Energy from the Parish.

Landulph Link is the start. This is Landulph Parish Council - Making things better.



Landulph Link: Connecting a Rural Community to Public Transport

A pilot to test whether it is practicable to provide a regular public transport link between Landulph and the Saltash to give residents a practical route to transport, school, health and everyday services.

Rationale

Saltash is an excellent integrated transport hub. It sits on the main railway line, with GWR providing local services into Cornwall and Plymouth, as well as longer-distance services to London, Bristol and South Wales. Transport for Cornwall buses connect Saltash with Plymouth, including Derriford Hospital, Callington and onward routes to Launceston, Bude, Liskeard and Looe. Saltash also offers health, education and leisure facilities, and a regular ferry service to Plymouth. Although Landulph is geographically close, the lack of a safe, reliable link to Saltash leaves many residents effectively cut off from the wider public transport network.

This proposal addresses that missing link by piloting a targeted bus service at a time of day when it can support school travel, access to appointments, onward rail and bus connections across Cornwall and beyond, and greater independence for non-drivers.

Work with Saltash Red Bus has already shown local demand for a bus from Landulph. The existing Wednesday morning minibus, driven by volunteers, is regularly used by more than 10 people. While this service is valuable for planned trips, it does not provide sufficient independence for residents or tourists who need flexibility, such as an older non-driver collecting a prescription or a secondary school pupil attending an after-school event. In a 2024 Landulph transport survey, 70 respondents said that changes to bus services would make them more likely to use a bus. The survey received 103 responses from all ages, representing a significant proportion of the Parish's approximately 250 households.

A key challenge for rural bus services is the limited population they serve. This pilot aims to address that challenge by designing a service that works for both young people and older residents, increasing the potential user base. It would also support a wider parish objective: reducing car dependency, easing pressure on narrow single-track roads, and improving conditions for agricultural vehicles, horse riders, cyclists and pedestrians. We are looking for funding to put the systems in place to run a pilot.

Proposal

The proposed pilot therefore focuses on a specific, testable journey pattern: an afternoon link from Cargreen to Saltash and back, designed to connect with existing rail and school transport services while generating evidence about demand, operating requirements and costs:

- The pilot would be operated by Saltash Red Bus and would provide an afternoon service from Cargreen, Landulph and Hatt to Saltash and back.
- This service would arrive in Saltash in time for onward connections, and return from Saltash to connect with train and bus services.
- The pilot would use a membership-based model, with members buying a card of tickets online. This approach would support simple administration, help estimate likely demand, and provide useful data on passenger use during the trial period.
- Usage, ticket sales, passenger feedback and operating issues would be reviewed during the pilot to inform any decision about a longer-term service.

Funding Required

Funding is sought to put in place the systems needed to setup, operate, monitor and evaluate a pilot service. The funding would support:

- **Driver preparation and operational readiness:** training and preparing volunteer drivers for the pilot service.
- **Membership and ticketing:** designing, implementing and trialling a membership scheme, including an online system for members to sign up and buy ticket cards.
- **Passenger communication:** implementing a simple system for passengers to communicate with the driver.
- **Promotion and information:** promoting and marketing the service, including initial trial runs and a simple information website.
- **Monitoring and evaluation:** set up systems to collect usage data, ticket sales information, passenger feedback and operational learning during the pilot.

To set up the systems needed for the pilot, we are seeking funding of £4,000.

Outcomes

By the end of the pilot, we expect to have clear evidence to inform whether and how a longer-term service could operate. The pilot will:

- Demonstrate how an afternoon link between Landulph and Saltash could be operated, including the systems required for ticketing, communication and volunteer driver support.
- Measure demand for a regular service, including usage by different groups such as young people, older residents and other non-drivers.
- Collect passenger feedback and operational learning to understand what works well and what would need to change.
- Establish the operating costs and practical requirements for any future service.
- Assess the potential benefits for access, independence and reduced reliance on private car journeys.

Landulph Parish Council
Clare Tagg V4 21 August 2026

Saltash Red Bus