

Rushton Community Minibus



Report for the RPC meeting on 15 July 2026, prepared by Mike Brightman.

The minibus is in good working order, with no issues, damage or faults reported. Current mileage: 46,634.

NNC Community Transport Grant 2026/27

We have received our annual community transport grant for 2026/27 of £3,450. To maintain this grant in future years, we are required to complete and submit monthly and annual passenger statistics on time, as part of our ongoing partnership.

The subsidy is determined by the number of passengers carried on our registered shopping routes and by our concessionary fare claims. Therefore, maintaining and increasing passenger numbers is crucial for future funding. Any loss or significant reduction of this subsidy would have a considerable effect on our ability to cover running costs in future years.

Section 19 Permit

Our application for a Section 19 permit has been successful. This is an important for the Community Minibus Service, as it allows the Parish Council to provide not-for-profit transport for eligible members of the organisation or for people the organisation exists to support, without the need for a full public service vehicle operator licence.

The permit must be used correctly and should not be treated as interchangeable with the existing Section 22 permit. The Section 19 permit does not allow the minibus to carry the general public in the same way as a registered community bus service. Clear records will therefore be required to show which journeys are operated under Section 19, the purpose of each journey, passenger eligibility, driver details, and any fares or donations received.

Moving Forwards.

The Rushton Community Minibus Service remains an important community asset and continues to provide valuable transport for residents. The vehicle is currently serviceable and the funding has been received for 2026/27, but the future sustainability of the service depends on maintaining passenger numbers, meeting permit and reporting requirements, and strengthening the support arrangements behind the service.

The Parish Council is asked to consider several key matters: the future of the Rothwell route extension, the correct use and management of both the Section 22 and Section 19 permits, the adoption of a formal Constitution for the Community Minibus Service, the need for additional administrative and driver support, and longer-term vehicle replacement planning.

Without these actions, the service may become increasingly difficult to sustain, particularly because current administration and compliance responsibilities are carried by a very small number of people. With appropriate governance, support and planning, the service should be able to continue and may be able to grow to meet future community need.