**David Wheal**

**BSc (Hons) PGCE**

**Clerk to the Parish Council**

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**TRAVEL TOKEN SCHEME**

**DETAILS ON PARTICIPATING TAXI COMPANIES**

Taxi companies that have agreed to take part are listed below – please ensure that on booking you check that the company is still taking travel tokens and that the vehicle that they will send can accommodate your own mobility requirements, for example storing a walker or folding wheelchair.

You will also need to ensure, before you get into the taxi, that it has an Eastleigh Borough Council licence plate attached to the back of the vehicle, and the driver is wearing an identity badge supplied by Eastleigh Borough Council.

Please also make sure that you agree the fare with the taxi company when you make the booking.

Kays Taxis Hackney Vehicle Company 02380 600046

Eastleigh Happy Cabs Private Hire 02380 651111

440 Cars, Eastleigh 02380 440440

You are also able to use the tokens on the One Community Dial-a-Ride-service. To use this service, you will first need to register, for which the telephone number is 023 8090 2450 or 023 8090 2432.

Tokens can also be used for the Bishopstoke and Fair Oak Good Neighbours (voluntary driver’s scheme) – for which the contact telephone number is 02380 600807.

Please note that no change will be given for tokens but you are able to use part tokens and part cash to pay for the trip.

No cash will be given in exchange for tokens that are no longer required – they should instead be returned to the Parish Office (address above).

If there are any queries regarding the above information, please contact Mr David Wheal, the Clerk, using the details at the top of this letter or by emailing tokens@bishopstokepc.org.

**Further Information regarding Taxi Types in Eastleigh Borough:**

**For Safety:**

For your own safety it is important to check that an Eastleigh Borough Council plate is attached to the car and that the driver is wearing a current identity badge. If these are not present, for your own safety the advice is not to get into the car.

Plates on the back of the vehicle will be orange for hackney carriages and green for private hire vehicles. The plate will also display the number of passengers that the vehicle is licensed to carry and will show when the license for that vehicle expires.

The driver’s badge will show the expiry date of his/her license, his/her name and a photograph. It must be displayed in a prominent position.

**The Difference Between a Taxi (hackney carriage) and a Private Hire Car**:

A hackney carriage has a “Taxi” sign on the roof, illuminated when available for hire, and can be hired from a rank, hailed in the street or pre-booked. A private hire car must be pre-booked and will not have a roof sign. All private hire cars will have the words “No Booking No Ride” on the side of the car.

A taxi has a meter which shows the maximum fare at the end of the journey. A fare tariff sheet must be displayed in the vehicle. The driver must take passengers anywhere in the Borough unless there is a good reason not to. Boundary charges are not payable.

A private hire car must work for a Private Hire Operator - Private Hire Operators can charge what they like, or what has been agreed as the amount due between yourself and the operator who took the telephone booking. Therefore, it is always best to agree the cost of the fare before you start the journey. A Private Hire Car Operator can refuse a fare if they choose.