Agenda item 5.8

Dear All At Newton-St-Cyres Parish Council,
How many people do you speak to on a daily basis?
Imagine if that answer was none…

I think you'll agree, no one deserves for that to be their answer, no one deserves to feel isolated and alone.
At Mid Devon Mobility our charity is on a quest to help minimise the amount of elderly, disabled and vulnerable people in Mid Devon who feel disconnected and isolated from their community - and we need your help!

We provide a number of services which are aimed at increasing the independence, mobility, wellbeing and peace of mind of older, rurally isolated and disabled people in Mid Devon; helping to combat the problems of loneliness and isolation and enabling access to local shops & services, social clubs, day care facilities, health appointments and other essential amenities. We are not simply a transport provider but often the means to enable people to remain in their own homes.

Currently the residents of **Newton-St-Cyres** can benefit from on our Ring and Ride route, which operates on a weekly rota. This is a door-to-door service with our fully trained driver who will help people on and off the bus, operating the electric tail-lift if required. They are also able to benefit from our Community Car Scheme and Accessible Vehicle Service to get to essential appointments and facilities.
We currently have 16 members from the **Newton-St-Cyres** area.

Throughout this financial year our charity really wants to increase its members in the more rurally isolated areas of our community, so we are seeking financial funding support from our local parish councils to enable us to co-ordinate and provide additional publicity and advisement by way of leaflet drops and informative talks.

We would welcome the opportunity to hold a short presentation at one of your meetings, or if you know of a local group in your parish we may be able to attend to inform people in more detail of the services we provide, we'd be more than happy to do so.

We believe transport is integral to our lives: we are in constant movement and the nature of this movement constitutes our lives. Losing one's mobility or ability to drive due to age, an illness or disability dramatically changes the pattern of movement with the associated repercussions in every area of life. Even relatively small journeys become insurmountable obstacles. It is important for people to remember that whilst so many of us have the luxury of being able to go where we want when we want, that privilege doesn't exist for many others in our society. They are our friends, our family and our neighbours and it is these people that our organisation exists to help.

We would be hugely grateful to your Parish Council if you would kindly consider providing our charity with financial support for the next financial year to help us to continue to provide our services to the elderly, disabled and rurally isolated people of your community. And to increase awareness of our charity to potential new members in your local area. Any assistance you feel your parish could provide would be very much appreciated.

Please find attached a copy of our Annual Impact Report. Feel free to contact me if you require any further information.
I look forward to hearing from you.
Yours sincerely

Hayley Hillman
Business Development Manager Mid Devon Mobility (formerly Tiverton & District Community Transport Association)