

Dear Councillors of Shobrooke Parish Council,

Mid Devon Mobility – Still Striving to Keep Our Isolated Communities Connected

Our charity strongly believes no-one deserves to feel isolated and alone at any point in their lives, but with the dreaded Covid19 still on the horizon we believe, and I'm sure you'll agree, that it is even more prevalent & more vital than ever that we do what we can to help reduce the amount of people within our communities feeling this way...

Mid Devon Mobility's Mission statement is *"Increasing the independence, mobility and peace of mind of older, disabled and isolated people in our communities"* and the pandemic couldn't have played any more havoc with our mission. Our charity's ethos is focused around taking down the barriers faced by marginalised people due to poor access, the Pandemic and the challenges it has brought for our community has meant that it is the more 'vulnerable' marginalised people that have found this period the most difficult. We have strived for over 30 years to make sure people living in our community were not left isolated and lonely and COVID 19 certainly put this to the test! At the start of the Pandemic we adapted our services to ensure our vulnerable community were still looked after throughout the difficult months. We set up and launched a Shopping & Prescription Delivery Service, Telephone Befriending Service and Ipad Connection Service. These services have been a lifeline to the elderly, disabled people of our community, many of whom do not have any family or friends nearby to help them.

Once restrictions were lifted, alongside our 'adapted service' we again began to provide our usual services (including: Ring & Ride, Community Car, Community Hub, Day Trip Club, Shop & Leisure Mobility, Wheelchair Accessible Transport, School Transport), although due to restriction rulings these had to be offered at reduced rates and numbers, as well as putting in place Covid19 safety measures. As you can imagine, all these limitations & measures hugely damaged our charity's revenue and we have had to really adapt to survive through these difficult times.

Our charity has been there for the vulnerable people of our community for over 30 years, and we will hopefully continue to do so for many more years, we will not give up without a fight! It is through generous donations from generous people that we, as a charity, are able to continue to provide our services to the people of your parish.

I can confirm that we currently have 23 members on our system from the Shobrooke parish. We would welcome the opportunity to hold a short presentation at one of your meetings (either face-to-face or via Zoom) to help increase this number further - 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 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 'normal' services as well as our 'Covid19 adapted services' to the elderly, disabled and rurally isolated people of our community.

I have attached a leaflet providing a little more detail of each of our services. Please let me know if you would like any hard copies or posters to display in your parish, or pdf version to put in your newsletters.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Hayley Hillman

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Business Development Manager

Mid Devon Mobility (formally TDCTA)



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