

EASTBOURNE SHOPMOBILITY

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2023

We had to call an Extraordinary General Meeting on 7 September 2023 as funds were running perilously low and closure looked imminent. Since then, funding requests were gradually being met and we started January 2024 with sufficient funds to cover costs for the next 2 years. Further fund raising will have to be looked at during the coming year.

Our chairman Barbara Goodall had to stand down due to ill health, our treasurer Michael Willis also resigned. Fred Connell, the office manager, took voluntary redundancy due to health problems and a wish to retire. A challenging end to the year! We had a new operations manager, Brian Orford, and a new chairman, Margaret Jordan. Christine Purkess valiantly combined the positions of secretary and treasurer, putting in a huge effort to prepare the end of year accounts for audit.

This was very much a learning curve for all three, but gradually things settled down. Our team of volunteers supported us throughout this time, and are still all with us, which is wonderful.

Generally it has been a difficult time for all Shopmobility centres, following on from the covid lockdowns and several across the country have closed down. In Eastbourne customer numbers are very slow to pick up, people wary to start coming out again. With the closure of shops around the town there is less inclination to come down, and we have also lost some holiday trade due to hotels being used to house immigrants. However, we are hopeful that things will improve during the coming year, as we look at ways to attract more customers.

Margaret Jordan

22.10.2024

M.R. Jordan

22/10/24



Treasurer's report for Financial Year 2023

Once again, the year end figures show a loss as usage of the scooters continues to drop. Shopping habits for those with disabilities have changed and customers continue to shop online rather than venturing out. This now appears to be a constant trend and does not spell longevity for the Eastbourne scheme or any others still remaining around the country.

An Emergency General Meeting was held to discuss possible closure of the charity, with permission granted to the Trustees that this decision could be made as and when it was considered necessary. However, in the meantime, the Trustees decided to approach the National Lottery to see if any funding might be available. This was led by Margaret Jordan and Shopmobility was granted £9159 to use for certain projects (including £4K towards staffing costs) and within a strict timescale (8.9.2024). Other donations total £6300. Without this additional funding, the loss would have been considerably more than the recorded £5981.54

With the reduced usage, it was decided that the charity could no longer afford two members of staff and in the autumn, Fred Connell accepted redundancy. Brian Orford is now the Operations Manager.

Once again, the scheme relies heavily on the very willing volunteers and we are extremely grateful to them.

Just prior to year end, Mike Willis, the long term treasurer decided to retire and the Trustees would like to thank him for all the tremendous work he has put into the scheme since it started. Christine Purkess took over in a temporary role but as yet, no permanent replacement has been found. Brian Orford is now managing the accounts on a daily basis.

My thanks go, too, to Julie Aris our Auditor for examining the accounts and to Fiona at AFH Payroll for managing payroll.

Christine Purkess
16.10.2024

M.R. Jordan.
22/10/24



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Eastbourne Shopmobility

On accounts for the year
ended

31st December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1097487

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date:

1st June 2024

Name:

Julie Aris

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Practitioner of the Institute of Internal Auditors

Address:

20 Linkway, Westham, Pevensey, East Sussex BN24 5JB

Disclosure

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.		Report to the trustees	
On accounts for the year ended		Responsible and	
Set out on pages		examiner's statement	
Signature		Address	
Name		Relevant professional qualification (s) or body (s)	
Position of the Institute of Internal Auditors		Address	

Revised Figures

Income

Balances B/F 1/1/2023

HSBC	1,031.99	
Transact	25,222.37	
Petty Cash	500.00	
		26,754.36

Sale of goods

Donations	15,692.35
Hire charges	7,440.50
Membership	285.00
Lottery	121.50
Radar keys	640.00
Sale scooters etc	813.00
Misc	706.70

25,699.05

Expenditure

Printing etc	278.19
Second hand scooters	300.00
Radar keys	552.00
Postage	67.50
Staff welfare	93.17
Staff wages	23,388.42
Insurances	2,037.20
Telephone	773.93
HR Advice Expenses	1,140.00
Sale items	30.00
Cleaning	32.98
Payroll Admin	386.40
Accounts Examiner	300.00
Misc	299.81
R&M	2,000.99

31,680.59

Balances C/F 31/12/2022

Metro	10661.41
Transact	10306.13
Petty Cash	235.02
	21,202.56

Opening balance	26,754.36
Income	25,699.05
Expenditure	31,680.59
Transact increase	727.31
Difference in Petty Cash	13.80
Petty Cash 6/1/23 not shown	257.95
Cash withdrawal 21/3/23	20.00
Closing balance	21,208.38
Variance	5.82

Transact opening bal 1/1/23	25,222.37
Total withdrawals	15,615.49
	9,606.88

Transact balance 31/12/23	10,306.13
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Increase in valuation	699.25
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Net loss for year	- 5,981.54
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Independent Examiner's Comments

- Cash withdrawal of £257.95 on 6/1/23. Supporting petty cash vouchers not included in expenditure.
- Cash withdrawal of £20.00 on 21/3/23. No details shown.
- Payment to AFH Payroll on 25/1/23 shown as £95.00 on spreadsheet. Invoice and bank statement show £27.60.
- Variances on entries for wages on spreadsheet and bank statements -
Voucher 59 £625.30 on spreadsheet, £625.20 on bank statement.
Voucher 72 £606.40 on spreadsheet, £606.60 on bank statement.
Voucher 87 £625.30 on spreadsheet, £625.20 on bank statement.
- Voucher 97, cheque 65, £480.00 on invoice and bank statement, £4.80 on cheque stub.
- Petty cash 13/4/23. Receipts for Staff Welfare total £17.25, shown as £18.25 on summary.
- Petty cash 29/6/23. Receipts total £405.50, not £409.00 as shown.
- Income from Lottery not shown on spreadsheet -
£12.50 8/8/23
£9.00 5/9/23
£10.00 8/11/23
- Transfers from Transact should not be shown as income as this distorts profit/loss figure for the year.
- Transact closing balance shown as £10,334.19. Total on statement £10,306.13.