

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1100208

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
for
Lowestoft Shopmobility

CUNNINGHAMS
Number Sixty One
Alexandra Road
Lowestoft
Suffolk
NR32 1PL

Lowestoft Shopmobility

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 3
Independent Examiner's Report	4
Receipts and Payments Account	5
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	8 to 9
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	10

Lowestoft Shopmobility
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

To promote the welfare and independence of persons with impaired mobility in the town of Lowestoft and in the Waveney District by:

(a) Providing for hire or loan electric and manual wheelchairs and scooters to enable access to the shops, businesses and places of interest in Lowestoft and its environs.

(b) Promoting ease of access to local facilities through provision of direct services and through working with other groups and organisations to improve local built and attitudinal environment.

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.

Lowestoft Shopmobility

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Since our beginnings in 1996, we have had 23,454 hires, with 687 last year reducing to 586 this year. The reduction of 101 has been caused by two things:-

First of all, we lost our Outreach service in Southwold, when David and Penny Balls who ran the Boating Lake Café decided to retire. We were so grateful for all the help they have given us over the years and realise that they have truly earned their retirement. This Outreach regularly resulted in £3,000 profit for Lowestoft Shopmobility. Unfortunately, the new people who took over the Boating Lake Café decided that they could not take on the Outreach service at all. We do still have a few customers who stay in Southwold, but they have to either pick up the scooters from us in Lowestoft or pay for us to transport them to Southwold for them. The days of loaning out wheelchairs or scooters for day use has finished. We tried many places to see if they would take over the service, but no-one was willing.

Then after Christmas 2024, Pakefield Holiday Park (which used to be Pontins) closed to visitors. We had many visitors to this holiday venue, and we had scooters going out on a weekly basis from Easter to October and beyond. Again, this service used to generate an income of around £3,000 profit for Lowestoft Shopmobility. The reason given for this closure was that Sizewell were taking it on to house the workers who will be moving into the area to build their facility. We don't know now whether this is going to happen, as the venue remains closed. Sizewell did promise that if any firms or charities were impacted by their development, they would receive a grant, but even though we discussed this with them, they refused to help us saying we were outside their area. Some of the customers which used to go there have changed to other holiday venues in the area, but we have lost the majority.

We know that we now do more for visitors to the town than for local people. This all helps tourism in the town and adds to the local economy, but it is different than the support of local people with disabilities which was our original aim. Our local membership has reduced as well, and we now only have 13 people locally who regularly use our service. We would not want to change anything though, as we get such lovely comments in our annual User survey from visitors who use our service. 50% of them say they would not come to Lowestoft for a holiday if it was not for our service.

Using a mobility scooter or a powered wheelchair to get out and about helps people in so many ways. It increases their independence and overcomes feelings of isolation. It helps both physically and mentally. It enables them to do things which other people take for granted, like doing their own shopping, visiting the Bank or the Post Office, going to the hairdressers or having a coffee and cake with friends. We are the only place in town where someone can hire a wheelchair or a scooter, so if someone breaks a leg or has had an operation and is finding it difficult to get about, even just because of advancing years, they can come to us. In March 2025 we had 35 mobility scooters, 4 powered wheelchairs and 19 manual wheelchairs.

We were sorry to lose one of our long-standing trustees in July 2024, as Moya Armes had been on the committee since Lowestoft Shopmobility began in 1996 and we thank her very much for all the time she has given to the charity. We have had the addition of three new trustees since July 2024 as you can see from the list on the next page.

We are members of Shopmobility UK who give us their accreditation and support us with a monthly newsletter. They publicised the "Scootsafe Day" which we held in March last year and which we are going to do again on the 11th of July this year, with the help of East Suffolk Communities Team, the Police, Disability Advice North East Suffolk, the Waveney Disability Forum and "Freedom" who service all of our scooters and wheelchairs for us. We will try again to educate local people about the rules and regulations of using a mobility scooter in Lowestoft town centre by handing out flyers to explain this, as we are concerned that there may be more accidents in the future.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The financial statements show an overall surplus for the year of £2,575 (2024: surplus of £15,526).

The charity's unrestricted reserves as at 31st March 2025 were £63,488 (2024: £60,913) and restricted reserves were £nil (2024: £nil).

Lowestoft Shopmobility

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity dated 20 August 2003.

The trustees elected to the management committee are elected for three years. One third of the members of the committee shall retire annually. The management committee may co-opt members onto the committee for one year.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1100208

Principal address

15 Station Square
Lowestoft
Suffolk
NR32 1BA

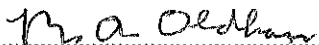
Trustees

Mrs M Oldham M.B.E (Chairperson)
Mr L Oldham (Vice Chairman)
Mr H Abdullah (Treasurer)
Mr J Perring (Joint Secretary)
Mrs B Perring (Joint Secretary)
Mrs M Armes (resigned 30.7.24)
Mr M Webber (appointed 30.7.24)
Mrs S Chapman (appointed 30.7.24)
Cllr T Gandy (appointed 12.3.25)

Independent Examiner

Ms Rachel Garnham
CUNNINGHAMS
Number Sixty One
Alexandra Road
Lowestoft
Suffolk
NR32 1PL

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ...24th JUNE...2025 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Mrs M Oldham M.B.E - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Lowestoft Shopmobility

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Lowestoft Shopmobility

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Lowestoft Shopmobility (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Ms Rachel Garnham
CUNNINGHAMS
Number Sixty One
Alexandra Road
Lowestoft
Suffolk
NR32 1PL

Date: 25 / 6 / 2025

Lowestoft Shopmobility

Receipts and Payments Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
RECEIPTS					
Grants and donations		1,363	-	1,363	13,614
Operating activities	2	46,105	-	46,105	46,543
Investment income	3	<u>2,130</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,130</u>	<u>1,993</u>
Total		<u>49,598</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>49,598</u>	<u>62,150</u>
PAYMENTS					
Charitable activities					
Charitable activities		<u>47,023</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,023</u>	<u>46,624</u>
NET INCOME		2,575	-	2,575	15,526
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>60,913</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,913</u>	<u>45,387</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>63,488</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,488</u>	<u>60,913</u>

The following grants were received:

	£	£
Kirkley Poor's Land Trust	1,000	

The notes form part of these financial statements

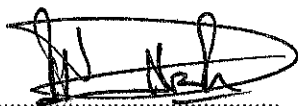
Lowestoft Shopmobility

Statement of Assets and Liabilities
31 March 2025

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Assets retained for charity's own use		
Laptop computer, extra screen and printer		
Photocopier		
Cash drawer and safe		
Key safe		
Office equipment		
35 mobility scooters		
4 powerchairs		
19 manual wheelchairs		
5 Rollators		
2 Tri-walkers		
CASH FUNDS:		
COIF account	45,115	42,986
Barclays current account	18,373	17,927
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	<u>63,488</u>	<u>60,913</u>
OTHER ASSETS		
Shop stock	3,644	3,921
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>67,132</u>	<u>64,834</u>
LIABILITIES		
Independent examiners fee	635	605
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>635</u>	<u>605</u>

All assets and liabilities relate to unrestricted funds.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 24 JUNE.....2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr H Abdullah - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Lowestoft Shopmobility

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP. The financial statements have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis.

TAXATION

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Hire of vehicles and wheelchairs	40,130	39,059
Sale of disability goods	5,975	7,029
Utilities refund	<u>-</u>	<u>455</u>
	<u>46,105</u>	<u>46,543</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Bank interest	<u>2,130</u>	<u>1,993</u>

Lowestoft Shopmobility

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

5. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	60,913	2,575	63,488
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>60,913</u>	<u>2,575</u>	<u>63,488</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	49,598	(47,023)	2,575
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>49,598</u>	<u>(47,023)</u>	<u>2,575</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	45,161	15,752	60,913
Restricted funds			
Lowestoft Town Council	225	(225)	-
Central England Co-op	<u>1</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	226	(226)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>45,387</u>	<u>15,526</u>	<u>60,913</u>

Lowestoft Shopmobility

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

5. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	60,150	(44,398)	15,752
Restricted funds			
Lowestoft Town Council	-	(225)	(225)
Central England Co-op	-	(1)	(1)
Suffolk Community Foundation - David and Jill Simpson Fund	<u>2,000</u>	<u>(2,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>(2,226)</u>	<u>(226)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>62,150</u>	<u>(46,624)</u>	<u>15,526</u>

Description, nature and purpose of fund:

Lowestoft Town Council

Towards the costs of advertising material.

Central England Co-op

Towards the costs of equipment.

Suffolk Community Foundation - David & Jill Samson Fund

In respect of coping with increasing core costs.

6. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Lowestoft Shopmobility

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations		
Donations	363	10,614
Grants	<u>1,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
	1,363	13,614
Operating activities		
Hire of vehicles and wheelchairs	40,130	39,059
Sale of disability goods	5,975	7,029
Utilities refund	<u>-</u>	<u>455</u>
	46,105	46,543
Investment income		
Bank interest	<u>2,130</u>	<u>1,993</u>
Total incoming resources	49,598	62,150
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	19,805	16,151
Insurance	1,379	1,336
Utilities	1,067	1,711
Scooter repairs and transport	13,585	13,363
Goods for resale	2,221	2,835
Property expenses	5,900	6,183
Equipment purchases	<u>-</u>	<u>1,635</u>
	43,957	43,214
Support costs		
Management and administration		
Office costs and telephone	1,073	2,133
Sundries	236	394
Independent examination fee	605	576
Subscriptions	50	50
Card processing charges	<u>1,102</u>	<u>257</u>
	3,066	3,410
Total resources expended	<u>47,023</u>	<u>46,624</u>
Net income	<u><u>2,575</u></u>	<u><u>15,526</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements