

DIDCOT VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

England & Wales · Charity number 1183404

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-05-14

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Didcot Volunteer Drivers
rear of Didcot Methodist Church
Didcot
Oxfordshire
OX11 8RQ

Phone 01235816709

Email info@didcotvolunteerdrivers.org.uk

Website didcotvolunteerdrivers.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROVIDE TRANSPORT FACILITIES IN THE TOWN OF DIDCOT AND THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES FOR PERSONS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, ILL-HEALTH, DISABILITY, FINANCIAL OR OTHER DISADVANTAGE OR THOSE LIVING IN ISOLATED AREAS WHERE THERE ARE NO ADEQUATE OR SAFE PUBLIC TRANSPORT FACILITIES.

Activities: Didcot Volunteer Drivers operates a transport scheme for those local people who are unable to use or have no access to public transport. Bookings for healthcare appointments are made by phone to our office. Volunteer drivers use their own vehicles to pick up clients from home and drive them to and from their appointments.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Disability
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- Oxfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-01-31	£17,633	£11,087	-	-
2024-01-31	£11,795	£9,433	-	-
2023-01-31	£11,273	£9,194	-	-
2022-01-31	£7,393	£6,190	-	-
2021-01-31	£15,935	£12,995	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Susan Scane	Chair	2022-07-05
Christopher Holmes		2024-10-16
Helen Cooper		2020-09-08
Ian Snowdon		2021-06-26
MARGARET ANN ABBOTT		2019-11-18
MARGARET MARY EWEN		2019-11-18
Miroslava Jacqueline Oldham BA BSc		2019-11-18

DIDCOT VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1183404

Accounts

AGM Report for year 1 Feb 2024 – 31 Jan 2025

The Management Committee has continued meetings in person during 2024/5, and met on 3 occasions in the accounting year, February, May, and October 2024. The AGM was again held as part of the October meeting. Under the new constitution this only requires attendance of the Trustees.

The only changes to the membership of the DVD Committee this year was the resignation of Margaret Ewen as Secretary, although she has remained as a Trustee. Chris Holmes agreed to become the Secretary, and also became a Trustee.

The current Trustees are:

Chair - Sue Scane

Secretary – Chris Holmes

Treasurer - Helen Cooper

Members – Margaret Abbott

- Margaret Ewen
- Chris Holmes
- Jacqui Oldham
- Cllr Ian Snowdon. SODC Co-opted member

Organiser – Tony Cooper

Deputy Organiser - Bill Major

Minutes of all meetings are available on request.

During the year we had a number of changes both in the Office and for Drivers.

We were pleased to welcome Alan Wagner to our drivers, and sad to see Daniel Chow leave, although pleased for him that he'd got a full time job.

2024/25 has again been a busy year for drives, although we have continued to be able to provide drivers for almost all of them. (98.5%) We only had to cancel 5 drives because we were unable to find a driver.

The nature of drives has been restricted to only medical related appointments, with requests for shopping no longer being accepted.

Our client numbers have remained very stable compared to the previous year. With 183 of our registered clients using our services at least once in the year, compared to 185 last year. In total, the number of jobs completed was down slightly to 398 from 441.

A list of DVD journeys 2024-2025 is attached to this email.

We have continued to be supported this year by Community First Oxfordshire for Octabads and advice; advisors at CTA and Age UK; Volunteer Link Up for their DBS service.

FUNDING - the audited year end accounts are attached.

The grant funding from Oxfordshire County Council became due for renewal, and we were successful in our application for a further 2 year period to 30 September 2026. Unlike previous years, when the grant had been paid annually, this year we received the full sum of £12,000, but will need to manage this across the period, which crosses 3 financial years. This money continues to pay the salary of our part-time organiser and deputy.

In addition, we applied for, and were successful in receiving a £500 grant from Didcot and Wallingford Rotary, for the provision of a new mobile phone, and a wheelchair which folds up and is light enough for our drivers to manage.

We had discussions about raising the requested levels of donation for registration, but have again left this at £6 per year, although we recognise with increasing rents and utility costs this may need to rise in the future.

All of the Trustees would like to thank you for your time and help throughout this year.

Take good care.

Best wishes,

Sue

NB. There are 6 attached documents.

Didcot Volunteer Drivers

Receipts and Payments - YE 31.01.25

	<u>2024/2025</u>	<u>2023/2024</u>		
<u>Income</u>				
Grants	12500.00	5000.00	OCC Grant	
Donations	569.55	2688.70		
Registrations	4203.00	3958.40	Oct 24 - Jan 25	4 x 518.00
Interest	325.58	132.90	Feb 25 - Jan 26	12 x 518.00
Other	35.10	15.00	Feb 26 - Sep 26	8 x 518.00
Total	17633.23	11795.00		
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Salary	6216.00	6158.66		
Telephone	710.14	542.98		
Insurance	622.65	555.49		
Rent	1250.00	1250.00		
Hire Charges	12.20	46.70		
Disbursements to Drive	63.00	35.85		
Postage & Stationery	1057.74	588.02		
Office	0.00	0.00		
Membership Fees	75.50	94.95		
Donation	0.00	0.00		
Computer Equipment	388.80	87.74		
Covid	0.00	0.00		
Other	690.54	72.59		
Total	11086.57	9432.98		
Excess of Income over Expenditure	6546.66	2362.02		

Statement of Movement of Funds

01.02.24 to 31.01.25

	<u>31.01.25</u>	<u>31.01.24</u>
Barclays Current	398.60	605.52
Barclays Deposit	28226.54	21472.96
Total	28625.14	22078.48
Increase in	-206.92	-10956.48
Increase in	6753.58	13318.50
Total	6546.66	2362.02

DIDCOT VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1183404

Accounts

AGM Report for year 1 Feb 2022 – 31 Jan 2023

The Management Committee has been able to resume meetings in person during 2022, and met on 4 occasions in the accounting year, April, July, October 2022 and January 2023. However, the AGM was delayed until the October meeting. Under the new constitution this only requires attendance of the Trustees.

There were some changes to the membership of the DVD Committee, with Sue Scane joining the committee in April 2022 as a Trustee. Georgie Elliot resigned from the Committee and ceased to be a Trustee from the April meeting. Margaret Abbott had indicated previously that she wished to stand down as chairman, although she remained so until the AGM in October when Sue took over that role. Margaret remains a Trustee. Tony Semmens also stood down as Treasurer following the AGM, a role taken on by Helen Cooper. Tony also remains a Trustee.

The current Trustees are:

Chair - Sue Scane

Deputy Chair and Secretary - Margaret Ewen

Treasurer - Helen Cooper

Members – Margaret Abbott

- Jacqui Oldham

- Tony Semmens

- Cllr Ian Snowdon. SODC Co-opted members

Organiser – Tony Cooper

Deputy Organiser - Bill Major

Minutes of all meetings are available on request.

In 2022 we had a change in Organiser, as June Little found that the role took more time than she had anticipated. We were grateful for Tony Cooper taking on the role. He has since done a lot of work on TransManger, as well as, with Helen cleaning up the data for registrations, to make our records more up to date.

We also said goodbye to driver Rhiannon Lovell who had taken on a new job, and no longer had time available. Also, Ken Sparrowhawk who had new commitments. Our sincere thanks go to all ex-drivers.

A very warm welcome to Patsy Parr who joined us as an office volunteer during the year.

2022 was a much more stable year than 2020 or 2021, with hospital and medical appointments returning to a more normal pattern. However, April saw particular problems with cancellation of appointments, so thanks go particularly to those in the office who had to deal with every changing appointments. A shortage of drivers returning at this stage also meant we had some drives we were unable to fulfil. A list of DVD journeys 2022-2023 is attached to this email.

We have continued to be supported this year by Community First Oxfordshire for Octabadges and advice; advisors at CTA and Age UK; Volunteer Link Up for their DBS service.

FUNDING - the audited year end accounts are attached.

Margaret Abbott had again secured in 2021 a further 3 years of grant funding from Oxfordshire County Council. This money paid the salary of our part-time organiser. In order to receive this OCC funding DVD has to have a Safeguarding Policy and Procedure in place. Whilst these were circulated last year, please take time to read these attachments again, as they are relevant to all volunteers and are a useful reminder.

Our sincere thanks go to The Newbury Building Society, who awarded us a Community Grant of £2,000 in October. We were able to use these funds to improve the telephone system which had been causing problems for some time.

Whilst we hadn't asked for donations from our clients In January 2021, the DVD committee decided that we would resume our practise of asking for a donation in 2022. It seemed fair as the service was returning to normal.

Remember your feedback is essential.

Please let us know about:-

- Those who are not able to get in and out of a car and those who need to be accompanied.
- If you have a car accident/ client trips & falls [must be recorded.]
- Difficulties encountered which you don't consider part of the job.
- Please let Tony or Bill know so that problems can be included in client notes.
- Any steps we could take to make your volunteering easier/safer?

Our lives have been turned upside down for the past few years although they are now getting back to something like normal. Now that the constitution no longer requires an AGM for all the membership, we are still trying to arrange a get-together so that we can all meet up for a chat and to get to know our new volunteers. We hope to get a date out to you soon for this event.

All of the Trustees would like to thank you for your time and help throughout this year.

Take good care.

Best wishes,

Sue

Mobile: 07717 862439
Landline 01235 424054
Email: spero594@gmail.com

7 Spa Street
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The Treasurer
Didcot Volunteer Drivers
Methodist Church
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OX11 8RQ

29 February 2024

DIDCOT VOLUNTEER DRIVERS
Audit of Accounts - Year ended 31st January 2024

I have examined the summary accounts of the Didcot Volunteer Drivers as at 31st January 2024 together with the books and records supplied to me. In my opinion the summary shows a true and fair view of the receipts and payments for the period and of the state of affairs as at 31st January.

I confirm the accounts show a surplus of income and expenditure for the year amounting to £2,362.02, and Total Funds as at the 31st January of £22,078.48.

Yours sincerely



Chris Spearing (FCA retired)

Didcot Volunteer Drivers
Receipts and Payments - YE 31.01.24

	<u>2023/2024</u>	<u>2022/2023</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Grants	5000.00	4750.00
Donations	2688.70	2803.20
Registrations	3958.40	3711.50
Interest	132.90	7.86
Other	15.00	
Total	11795.00	11272.56

Expenditure

Salary	6158.66	5439.30
Telephone	542.98	674.45
Insurance	555.49	505.19
Rent	1250.00	1000.00
Hire Charges	46.70	81.60
Disbursements to Drivers	35.85	18.00
Postage & Stationery	588.02	748.23
Office	0.00	90.44
Membership Fees	94.95	38.00
Donation	0.00	250.00
Computer Equipment	87.74	325.02
Covid	0.00	23.95
Other	72.59	
Total	9432.98	9194.18

Excess of Income over Expenditure	2362.02	2078.38
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Statement of Movement of Funds
01.02.23 to 31.01.24

	<u>31.01.24</u>	<u>31.01.23</u>
Barclays Current Account	605.52	11562.00
Barclays Deposit Account	21472.96	8154.46
Total	22078.48	19716.46
Increase in balances held	-10956.48	2070.52
Increase in balances held	13318.50	7.86
Total	2362.02	2078.38

DIDCOT VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1183404

Accounts

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All of the Trustees would like to thank you for your time and help throughout this year.

Take good care.

Best wishes,

Sue

NB. There are 6 attached documents.

Didcot Volunteer Drivers
Receipts and Payments - YE 31.01.23

	<u>2022/2023</u>	<u>2021/2022</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Grants	4750.00	6502.25
Donations	2803.20	890.10
Registrations	3711.50	
Interest	7.86	0.80
Total	11272.56	7393.15
 <u>Expenditure</u>		
Salary	5439.30	3556.80
Telephone	674.45	542.90
Insurance	505.19	500.92
Rent	1000.00	1000.00
Hire Charges	81.60	
Disbursements to Drivers	18.00	88.70
Postage & Stationery	748.23	
Office	90.44	45.32
Membership Fees	38.00	
Donation	250.00	
Computer Equipmemt	325.02	364.27
Covid	23.95	90.90
Total	9194.18	6189.81
 Excess of Income over Expenditure	 2078.38	 1203.34

Statement of Movement of Funds
01.02.22 to 31.01.23

	<u>31.01.23</u>	<u>31.01.22</u>
Barclays Current Account	11562.00	9491.48
Barclays Deposit Account	8154.46	8146.60
Total	19716.46	17638.08
 Increase in balances held	 2070.52	
Increase in balances held	7.86	
Total	2078.38	1203.34

DIDCOT VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1183404

Accounts

Report for Didcot Volunteer Drivers AGM – from February 1st 2021 ending January 31st 2022

The Management Committee.

Members of the DVD Committee at year end:

Trustees:

Margaret Abbott – chair

Jacqui Oldham – deputy chair

Margaret Ewen – deputy chair and secretary

Tony Semmens – treasurer

Helen Cooper – trustee

Georgie Elliott – trustee until resignation in October.

Cllr Ian Snowdon. SODC - trustee

Co-opted members:

Phil McGettigan – Organiser until resignation 10th September 2021

Bill Major – Deputy Organiser.

DVD Year

- In January 2021 UK was in Tier 4 lockdown. We held the next three committee meetings remotely and met in person for the first time, after Covid, on 27th September 2021 and January 11th 2022. All minutes for remote and live meetings are available by request from the secretary.
- March – DVD asked to join Didcot Community Partnership to help with transport but the committee felt unable to take on more clients due to lack of drivers.
- July – no face coverings required by UK govt. Hospitals continued with face masks. DVD left choice to drivers.
- August – ANPR becomes operational in OUH hospitals. This led to several drivers receiving notice of fines. It took some time to get them all cancelled.
- September – Phil resigned as Organiser. Unable to fill position until April 1st 2022.

Volunteers

- We said goodbye to drivers, Rhiannon and Ambrose who returned to work. Steven left for personal reasons and may return. Jeremy joined during his furlough and continues to help on one day per week now he's back at work.
- A very warm welcome to Gillian and Diana, new drivers and thanks to Jill who trained to join our office staff whilst continuing to drive.

Publicity

March – detailed half page in Didcot Herald

June – David Johnston MP visited the office

August – Round and About- appeal for drivers

Thanks

- Huge thanks to Bill for traffic and road closure reports, rota support in the months without an Organiser and his sensitive handling of driver and office staff problems.
- Helen's help was invaluable when compiling the new address list for the main fundraiser, Registration, in January. We are all so grateful that she has continued to update and correct data entry of client details.
- We appreciated Cllr Snowdon's help, advice and encouragement throughout the year. He joined DVD as a trustee and gave us much needed publicity on Radio Oxford.
- Special thanks to Tony C who has continued patiently to improve TransManager with regular updates.
- I can't thank Margaret enough for her support and encouragement when hard decisions had to be made and for her reams of beautifully written minutes.
- These organisations have supported us throughout this recovery year.
- Thank you to Community First Oxfordshire for Octabadges and advice.
- Thank you to advisors at: CTA and Age UK,
- Thank you to Volunteer Link Up for their DBS service
- Thank you to our funders as listed below.

Funding

- In December, Didcot First, who have supported our charity for many years through the BACAS awards, contacted DVD and suggested they could help with running costs as a one-time offer. We were overwhelmed to receive their cheque for £5000 in January. This amount covered the salaries for our Organiser and Deputy Organiser. OCC did not pay the grant money until the end of November.
- Grant from Age UK to cover PPE in January
- Grant application to OCC for 3 years salary for Organiser and Deputy Organiser beginning September 2021. DVD Safeguarding policy written to qualify for this grant.

The audited year end accounts and Treasurer's report .

Clients

- DVD's client list has grown steadily from the previous year as NHS tried to catch up with missed appointments
- 3rd party problems often associated with Dementia sufferers who are unable to make their own appointments. Letters go out to Care agencies and Care homes to make DVD's rules of service clear.
- Mr D. fell whilst walking in to shop and suffered facial injuries. Driver took him to Abingdon hospital from where he was sent by ambulance to the JR. Driver took him

home later. DVD told Mr D that he must use a walker if he wanted to use our service. Driver felt the need for some first aid training.

- Mrs B. declared she had natural immunity and so would not have the Covid vaccine. A letter was sent to her explaining our difficulties. A driver agreed to take her if she was fully masked and sitting in the rear of the car. This issue came up again and drivers were asked for their opinions. Changes will be made to protect our drivers. However not all our clients will disclose their vaccine status.
- Inebriated client-was told must be sober or DVD unable to help.

A list of DVD single journeys is attached to this email for your information.

Didcot Methodist Church

- DMC asked if they would be able to use our Internet connection and the committee refused.
- DMC asked for an increase in rent and we agreed to give them £250 extra as a one off payment. Their finance committee have however added this as one sum – the rent.

A Difficult Year.

Recruitment of staff and volunteers has been problematical this year. Our experience seems to reflect that of many other volunteer charities. Phil, DVD's organiser resigned in September and we were unable to find a replacement until January. In February June, also resigned as the job was too demanding for the time she was able to give. The upside of this – we now have two fully trained ex-organisers who have generously decided to volunteer in the office each week. In view of these experiences and the difficulties with volunteer cover for this role it was decided to increase the hours and the salary for any future employees. DVD can cover extra costs as the job was not filled for several months.

Usually DVD's AGM is usually a good opportunity to meet other volunteers and put a face to that voice on the phone. Sadly that did not happen again and we were unable to organise any meaningful face to face training.

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Email: spero594@gmail.com

7 Spa Street
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The Treasurer
Didcot Volunteer Centre
Methodist Church
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OX11 8RQ

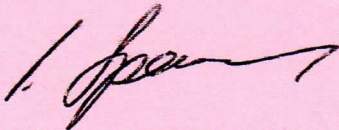
20 October 2022

DIDCOT VOLUNTEER DRIVERS
Audit of Accounts - Year ended 31st January 2022

I have examined the summary accounts of the Didcot Volunteer Drivers as at 31st January 2022 together with the books and records supplied to me. In my opinion the summary shows a true and fair view of the receipts and payments for the period and of the state of affairs as at 31st January.

I confirm the accounts show a surplus of income and expenditure for the year amounting to £1,203.34, and Total Funds as at the 31st January of £17,638.08.

Yours sincerely



Chris Spearing (FCA retired)

DIDCOT VOLUNTEER DRIVERS
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31/1/2022

	<u>2021/2022</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	
income			
Grants	✓ 6,502.25	4,500.00	
Donations	✓ 890.10	7,380.88	
Registration		3,659.00	
Interest	✓ 0.80	4.21	
can cheques		77.99	
Refund		312.50	
Total	✓ 7393.15	15,934.58	
Expenditure			
Salary & Income Tax	✓ 3,556.80	4,680.00	
Telephones	✓ 542.90	623.00	
Insurance	✓ 500.92	496.11	
Rent	✓ 1,000.00	1,000.00	
Disbursements to Drivers	✓ 88.70	47.00	
Postage & Stationery		372.57	
Office Equipment	✓ 45.32	179.05	
Membership Fees		10.00	
Disabled Badges		120.00	
Computer Equipment	✓ 364.27	1454.17	
Seat Covers			
Printing		166.07	
AGM		43.60	
Returned Cheques		62.00	
Signs		2,491.97	
Pam Page		50.00	
Mike Page		50.00	
Office Refurb		622.22	
Covid 19	✓ 90.90	514.95	
Bank Charges		12.50	
Total	✓ 6189.81	12,995.21	
<u>Excess of Income over Expenditure</u>	<u>1,203.34</u>	<u>2,939.37</u>	
Statement of Movement of Funds			
<u>1 Jan 2021 to 31 Jan 2022</u>			
	<u>31.1.2022</u>	<u>31.1.21</u>	
Barclays Bank Current Account	8 9491.48	8,288.94	
Barclays Bank Deposit Account	✓ 8,146.60	8,145.80 ✓	
Total	17638.08	16434.74	
Total			
<u>INCREASE IN BALANCES HELD</u>	<u>17638.08-11</u>	<u>16434.74</u>	1203.34

DIDCOT VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

England & Wales - Charity number 1183404

Accounts

DIDCOT VOLUNTEER DRIVERS
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31/1/2021

	<u>2020/21</u>
<u>Income</u>	
Grants	4,500.00
Donations	7,380.88
Registration	3,659.00
Reimbursements for Drivers	0.00
Interest	4.21
can cheques	77.99
Refund	312.50
Total	15,934.58

Expenditure

Salary & Income Tax	4,680.00
Telephones	623.00
Insurance	496.11
Rent	1,000.00
Disbursements to Drivers	47.00
Postage & Stationery	372.57
Office Equipment	179.05
Membership Fees	10.00
Disabled Badges	120.00
Computer Equipment	1454.17
Computer Software	
Printing	166.07
AGM	43.60
Recruiting	
Constitution	
Training	
Donation	
Returned Cheques	62.00
Signs	2,491.97
Pam Page	50.00
Mike Page	50.00
Office Refurb	622.22
Covid 19	514.95
Bank Charges	12.50
Total	12,995.21

Excess of Income over Expenditure **2,939.37**

Statement of Movement of Funds
1 Jan 2019 to 31 Jan 2020

	<u>31.1.21</u>
Barclays Bank Current Account	8,288.94
Barclays Bank Deposit Account	8,145.80
Total	16434.74
Total	

The Management Committee has not met in person since the last AGM on February 11th 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

However as we had updated the constitution for Didcot Volunteer Drivers we were able to hold meetings electronically.

Trustee Members of the DVD Committee at present:

Trustees:

Margaret Abbott – chair

Jacqui Oldham – deputy chair

Margaret Ewen – deputy chair and secretary

Tony Semmens – treasurer

Helen Cooper – member

Georgie Elliott – member

Member

Cllr Ian Snowdon. SODC

Co-opted members:

Phil McGettigan – Organiser

Bill Major – Deputy Organiser.

The Committee held meetings in April, July, October 2020 and January 2021 using Google Meet. There are copies of all the meeting minutes in the office or I can send electronic copies. All are available on request.

In 2020 we said goodbye to drivers, Keith, Paul and Ian Watson who moved out of the area.

Bob and Ann decided to retire and sadly, Mike, a driver from 1989- 2016 passed away in October.

Our sincere thanks go to all ex-drivers, particularly Bob, who drove regularly throughout the first lockdown.

A very warm welcome to those who joined us in 2020 as drivers, Jill , Rhiannon, Taflyn, Graham, and Chris, our new office volunteer.

Throughout the year we've had many inquiries from those in the community wishing to help us out in the short term but unfortunately they were not able to commit further.

This is an outline of the most important events of the DVD year.

If you would prefer a hard copy please ask.

Please email me if you need further clarification on any issue.

- In March 2020 at the beginning of Lockdown1 we took a risk assessment to decide whether DVD would have to close.
- Following detailed Safeguarding advice from the Community Transport Association it was decided that whilst there was a need, our service would continue with new rules and precautions in place.
- Fortunately a stalwart group of 8 drivers managed to fulfil the small number of requests for medical appointments.
- Our wonderful group of Office volunteers Helen, Margaret E., Etta, Glenda and Georgie ably supported by Organiser Phil, kept the office open. We were not busy as most appointments had been cancelled and we were able to use the mobile to contact our oldest and most isolated clients to ask if they needed extra help. Following these calls we organised prescription collection and shopping for the few who required this service.
- Thanks to the generosity of the members of Didcot Community Gospel Choir who donated the proceeds of their Christmas concert 2019 to us we were able to pay for the design and manufacture of magnetic car plaques with our new logo.
- It was very quiet during this time and so we arranged to redecorate the office and fit new carpet. Many grateful thanks to Cllr Snowdon and Cllr Hewardine who awarded DVD grant funding, part of the Councillor Community Grants Scheme, to pay these costs.
- With the remaining money given by the SODC councillors we ordered an office sign with our new logo and later purchased a new desktop and laptop computer so that we could update our operating system to Windows 10.
- A Big Thank You to Bill for arranging to have our new DVD leaflets, car plaques and sign printed as well as contacting a carpet fitter.
- Thank you to all those who returned to volunteering during the summer so that we could meet increased demand as the hospitals tried to catch up with delayed appointments.
- During the summer, when I was struggling to check the "final" version of our computer dispatch program TransManager Tony C volunteered to manage this project. As a result of his professional expertise DVD was able to start using version 129 on September 1st 2020. Tony has generously agreed to continue as technical advisor for the program and has now obtained the source code from Mark, the program developer. Version 129 is based on feedback from the office operators and works more intuitively than the previous versions. Later in the year Tony was kind enough to set up and check the new computers.
- Huge thanks to client Elizabeth Roberts and organiser Phil for highlighting DVD on Radio Oxford's Breakfast time programme.
- Didcot moved into Tier 4 at Christmas and again many appointments were cancelled.

These organisations have supported us throughout this very difficult year.

- Thank you to Community First Oxfordshire for Octabadges and advice.
- Thank you to advisors at: CTA and Age UK,
- Thank you to Volunteer Link Up for their DBS service

FUNDING.- the audited year end accounts are attached.

- **2020** was the final year of 6 years of grant funding from Oxfordshire County Council. The money paid the salary of our part-time organiser for 6 hours each week. The grant application procedure has changed and further funding is not certain so I sought other sources of funding. DVD will apply for OCC funding, starting June 2021. I will keep you informed. In order to be considered DVD has to have a **Safeguarding Policy and Procedure** in place. **Please take time to read this attachment** as it is relevant to all volunteers.
- In December, Didcot First, who have supported our charity for many years through the BACAS awards, contacted DVD and suggested they could help with running costs as a one-time offer. We were overwhelmed to receive their cheque for £5000 in January.
- Our sincere thanks go to Didcot Town Council, who are no longer able to award grants for salaries but gave a grant to pay rental and telephone/internet costs for one year.
- DVD is grateful to Didcot & Wallingford Rotary and Age UK who contributed to our PPE bills
- In January 2021 the DVD committee decided not to contact our existing clients in February to ask for a donation. It seemed unfair to ask them when so few had been able to use our service and it would have given them another problem during lockdown. Letters of registration are still going out to new clients but without a donation request.
- Our AGM is usually a good opportunity to meet other volunteers and put a face to that voice on the phone. I'm sorry that we couldn't do that this year. We have missed all of you who have been shielding and unable to volunteer and look forward to welcoming you back when you feel safe again. We are still in lockdown until April but thank you all for your continuing support. At least, for the time being, drivers do not have to struggle with heavy traffic and parking problems! Our lives have been turned upside down this year but if at all possible we'll try to arrange a get-together so that we can all meet up for a chat and to get to know our new volunteers.

Thank you for your time and help throughout this year.

Take good care.

Didcot Volunteer Drivers trustees