

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 Octabads 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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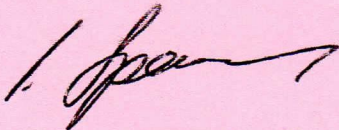
20 October 2022

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>
<u>Income</u>		
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

Excess of Income over Expenditure**1,203.34** **2,939.37****Statement of Movement of Funds****1 Jan 2021 to 31 Jan 2022**

	<u>31.1.2022</u>	<u>31.1.21</u>
Barclays Bank Current Account	✓ 9491.48	8,288.94
Barclays Bank Deposit Account	✓ 8,146.60	8,145.80 ✓
Total	17638.08	16434.74
Total		

INCREASE IN BALANCES HELD **17638.08-16434.74** **1203.34**