



**South
Derbyshire
District Council**

Overview and Scrutiny

REVIEW OF THE SHOPMOBILITY SCHEME

7



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District Council**

Introduction:

The review of the Shopmobility Scheme was requested by Councillor Jean Mead. The primary reason for the review was to examine the opening hours of Shopmobility and gain an overview of its operations. The Council fund Shopmobility in the region of ££9,500 per annum and therefore have an active interest in its operations.

Summary of Recommendations:

That members discuss with a view to sign posting the scheme on where help in the community may be available to the three identified needs of the Shopmobility Scheme.

1. Additional funding
2. Help with a website design
3. Help with publicity

Terms of Reference:

To establish a Working Group consisting of: -

Councillor Ann Hood
Councillor Jean Mead
The Director of Community Services – Mark E Alflat

The group to scrutinise the opening hours of Shopmobility and gain an understanding of its operations.

The Chair of Shopmobility Councillor Joan Lane and Pat Turner, Secretary of Shopmobility to be invited to the group meeting.

Timetable of Meetings

One meeting took place on the 8th December 2009 at the Council Offices.

Summary of meeting

Shopmobility receive £9,500 per year funding from SDDC. Their opening hours are 10.00a.m. - 4.00p.m. Monday to Friday (closed Wednesdays). They are currently experimenting with opening between 10.00a.m. - 1.00p.m. Saturday mornings. This, however, involves extra costs with heating and lighting.

Effectively, Shopmobility have an unsecured revenue funding gap of between £3 - £5,000 per year. It was pointed out by Shopmobility that East Staffordshire Borough Council have taken over the full running of their Shopmobility scheme using Council staff.



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The premises are run down which is reflected in the £3,000 per year rent. It is known that the owners of the Shopmobility premises wish to redevelop the row of shops at some stage in the future. The current lease expires in 2012 but there is a break clause for either party.

Various alternative venues have been looked at but, due to both the cost of retail rental and the logistical issue of storage, these have been difficult to find.

Shopmobility have 4 new electric scooters and 7 old ones which they are looking to sell on. They also make wheelchairs available of which they have 15, however these will shortly require replacing.

No charge is made for the use of the scooters or wheelchairs but donations are asked for. The scheme is publicised through Doctors surgeries but additional help with publicity is required. They do hold fundraising events which bring in moderate amounts. The current reserves they hold are £6,000.

In summary, the 3 issues which Shopmobility require help on are:-

1. Premises
2. Money
3. Publicity (including website development)

Details of any site visits:

N/A

Documentary evidence considered:

Swadlincote Shopmobility Contact Log (attached Appendix A)



| SWADLINCOTE SHOPMOBILITY CONTACT LOG | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------|--------------|
| DATE | VISITS | PHONE CALLS | SHOPMOBILITY | LOAN SCHEME | ENQUIRY | DONATION BOX |
| July | 54 | 31 | 37 | 9 | 39 | £82.50 |
| Aug | 74 | 14 | 41 | 13 | 32 | £53.39 |
| Sep | 88 | 26 | 48 | 20 | 54 | £114.13 |
| Oct | 45 | 16 | 28 | 16 | 21 | £116.14 |
| Nov | 32 | 10 | 16 | 5 | 22 | £24.57 |
| Dec | 22 | 5 | 13 | 3 | 11 | £24.00 |
| Jan-07 | 45 | 9 | 27 | 5 | 25 | £96.49 |
| Feb-07 | 43 | 12 | 25 | 4 | 25 | £57.12 |
| Mar-07 | 45 | 21 | 27 | 3 | 36 | £86.04 |
| Apr-07 | 44 | 13 | 24 | 6 | 34 | £88.41 |
| May-07 | 50 | 15 | 25 | 8 | 34 | £65.77 |
| Jun-07 | 47 | 7 | 37 | 10 | 14 | £50.60 |
| Jul-07 | 51 | 13 | 39 | 25 | 14 | £98.07 |
| Aug-07 | 38 | 5 | 30 | 14 | 5 | £94.78 |
| Sep-07 | 46 | 5 | 37 | 13 | 7 | £29.50 |
| Oct-07 | 76 | 9 | 56 | 16 | 19 | £146.34 |
| Nov-07 | 59 | 8 | 57 | 18 | 15 | £87.52 |
| Dec-07 | 36 | 7 | 28 | 11 | 4 | £115.03 |
| Jan-08 | 49 | 11 | 43 | 9 | 16 | £61.52 |
| Feb-08 | 69 | 12 | 59 | 20 | 25 | £125.08 |
| Mar-08 | 45 | 5 | 35 | 14 | 7 | £108.97 |
| Apr-08 | 35 | 12 | 32 | 4 | 7 | £110.93 |
| May-08 | 35 | 6 | 27 | 10 | 11 | £29.81 |
| Jun-08 | 40 | 7 | 28 | 17 | 11 | £140.10 |
| Jul-08 | 61 | 3 | 48 | 13 | 7 | £103.94 |
| Aug-08 | 58 | 7 | 41 | 17 | 8 | £187.54 |

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|--------|----|----|----|----|----|---------|
| Sep-08 | 42 | 3 | 29 | 13 | 4 | £105.07 |
| Oct-08 | 37 | 2 | 32 | 5 | 2 | £97.17 |
| Nov-08 | 36 | 8 | 26 | 9 | 8 | £94.20 |
| Dec-08 | 45 | 7 | 37 | 8 | 7 | £108.72 |
| Jan-09 | 44 | 5 | 39 | 5 | 5 | £78.05 |
| Feb-09 | 32 | 4 | 27 | 5 | 6 | £110.64 |
| Mar-09 | 36 | 3 | 35 | 1 | 4 | £92.67 |
| Apr-09 | 39 | 11 | 26 | 11 | 11 | £47.35 |
| May-09 | 27 | 4 | 23 | 4 | 4 | £115.18 |
| Jun-09 | 58 | 8 | 42 | 16 | 8 | £161.46 |
| Jul-09 | 58 | 7 | 48 | 10 | 7 | £102.60 |
| Aug-09 | 51 | 10 | 35 | 16 | 12 | £230.56 |
| Sep-09 | 72 | 7 | 50 | 20 | 13 | £202.01 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | |

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