

Wilton Link Management Committee report March 2021

Introduction

The last Committee meeting of the Wilton Link took place on 26 Feb 2020. As a result of lockdown and the restrictions imposed as a consequence the Covid 19 pandemic it has not been possible to meet since this date. However, the Wilton Link has continued to support its clients. The demand for transport has significantly reduced but the Link has endeavoured to support its clients in other ways. This report sets out how clients were supported in 2020 and gives a budgetary update for the year. Prior to drafting the report enquiries were made with Wiltshire Community First and the Charities Commission who confirmed that given the current situation, a report would suffice in place of the normal committee meetings.

Matters arising from meeting of 26 Feb 2020

The need to make arrangements for a summer outing were cancelled due to the pandemic. Arrangements were made to hold the AGM on 27 May 20 but subsequently cancelled.

Activity in 2020

During 2020 the following support was provided to clients:

178 Health related journeys were made (ie visits to hospital etc.)
181 other journeys were made
52 pick ups for prescriptions were made
1,360 hours of volunteers time were recorded

Drivers miles for 2020 were 5856 down from 18,822 in 2019.

In addition to the above the following support was provide

Between March 20 and September 20 a bread run was provide. This involved weekly orders of bread and cakes being collated each week and a collection from Reeve on Friday morning. All orders were delivered to the home addresses of clients

Periodically all clients were contacted by phone by a Committee member to ascertain if they were well and if they needed anything.

A list of books was drawn up and supplied to all clients who were then able to place an order for a loan. Books were delivered to the home addresses of clients

A newsletter was circulated to all clients during the summer of 2020 to make them aware of the support provided by Link and to encourage them to contact the Link line if help were needed.

Requests for prescriptions were received and collected. A number of these requests were from persons outside the Link area but were met nonetheless.

Any request for transport was actioned wherever possible.

Budget report 2020

During 2020 the Link received total income of £7,370.78. This includes payment for bread from Reeve (£705.90)

The major item of income was Gift Aid tax relief of £4,428.32 which was mainly due to an application by the treasurer to recover gift aid on small donations for the previous 4 years.

The total expenditure for 2020 was £5,007.17

The main item of expenditure was drivers reimbursements of £2,922.25 (down from £8,448.80 in 2019)

The balance at the end of 2020 was a surplus of £2,363.61

The balance including monies placed with Shawbrook Bank at the end of 2020 was £12,199.38. This compares to a balance of £9,835.77 at the end of 2019.

Link support in 2021

We continue to provide support to our clients as best we can. The number of volunteers who are able to help has significantly reduced (to 6) . We are still able to meet most of the requests from clients for transport although not always. It is our hope that as restrictions relax and the impact of the vaccine roll out are clear that we can return to something like normal service.

Treasurer

After 5 years in post our Treasurer, April Slack, has decided to stand down. During her time in the post April has successfully applied for thousands of pound of tax relief from HMRC and we are very grateful to her for all her hard work. Anyone wishing to join the Committee and help us with this important role should contact Roger Williams. Until a replacement is found Roger will look after our finances and we would ask that all expenses sheets be dropped off at his home address.

Stephen Long

Secretary Wilton

Roger Williams

Chairman