

# Rushton Community Minibus



*Report for RPC Meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> September prepared by Mike Brightman. Agenda Item 50/25*

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The Minibus is in good working order with no issues, damage or faults. Current Mileage 42411.

## **Minibus Accessibility**

As previously reported about the difficulties that some of our passengers have in boarding and aligning the minibus, a number of solutions were discussed. It was agreed to look at fold out steps with handrails providing evenly spaced multiple steps. The search and discussions are ongoing.

## **Moving Forward**

We have now temporary extended our Friday Shopping trip to pick up passenger from Rothwell. We have now completed our fourth week. It was slow start, but the passenger numbers are building up. The Rothwell Wellbeing Officer is the central contact for the Rothwell residents for the booking of seats and obtaining the passenger details including their concessionary fare passes.

We will be running this as an experimental service with the options to make ongoing changes or withdraw the service if it is not beneficial to the operation of the Rushton Community Minibus. If this service is successful, we will require Rothwell TC to source volunteer drivers who will join our regular drivers and the costs for the MiDAS training and obtain their advanced DBS which will be provided by Rothwell TC.

Working with several groups on this project has also benefited our other minibus community and private hires services.

## **MiDAS Training**

Dates for the retraining of 5 drives has been agreed for October. The total cost for this training is approximately £960.00

## **Service and MOT Testing**

The minibus annual service will be carried out on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September along with its 8-week safety check.

The minibus has been booked for its MOT test at High Cross Motors in Irthlingborough as usual. MOT expires 30<sup>th</sup> October.