



## Worthing County Local Committee Community Initiative Fund application



**CLC Reference:** 344/W

**Local Councillor:** Bryan Turner

**Status:** Fundraising Stage

Overfunding enabled (refer to 'what we'll deliver' section)

**Project Cost:** £19,521.00 (as found under crowdfunding goal total)

**Project Title:** Disabled visitor facilities

### About:

We provide disabled services & have only minimal toilet facilities and access. We need a mobile DDA compliant wet room + access ramp, Closomat toilet, handrails, alarm etc. There are none locally.

We will create a modern mobile unisex disabled toilet fitted with a wash/dry toilet for max comfort and ease of use, with a comfort height toilet pan with soft closing lid, approved cistern, special basin, long handled lever action mono basin mixer tap to prevent scalding, high visibility grab rails with a toilet roll holder, soap dispenser and hand dryer. We will add a back-support cushion rail and remote easy -flush control, and upgrade the shower to provide full washing facilities. As user safety is paramount, we will include an emergency light in case of emergencies such as a power cut and a red emergency pull cord with 2 rings so usable even if someone has fallen. To make it dementia friendly it will have pastel colours to distinguish the different items, and a sensor light so users don't have to look for a switch. Clear signage will eliminate any confusion. The module will have anti-slip flooring, tiling along with energy efficient lighting.

## **Project Delivery Manager: Freedom Powerchairs**

### **About me:**

Freedom Powerchairs is a registered charity. It started in 2012, taking over from an earlier Not-For-Profit, to provide local facilities to create, maintain and repair mobility aids not available elsewhere. Due to lack of space locally, whilst the office is in Shoreham-By-Sea, the main workshop is now in Bridge Road, Worthing. We provide engineering capacity not available elsewhere, and can undertake the build of anything, especially bespoke powerchairs, but even small handheld aids, or anything else needed, especially broken small parts, using our new 3D printer. We also provide free assessments, signposting, help with grant applications and provide a take away service for unwanted mobility equipment, even if electrical and dead. We aim to solve the mobility problems which other can't, don't or won't.

Website: <http://www.freedompowerchairs.org.uk>

### **Why we're pitching for a pledge:**

This is a facility not otherwise available in Worthing and delivered at less than 1/2 the cost if the Council provided it.

### **What we'll deliver:**

- Create full mobile disabled toilet and baby changing facility
- Fully DDA compliant and safe disabled toilet
- Create comfortable, clean, hygienic and visually useable disabled toilet
- Provide disabled toilet and baby changing facility for our visitors & volunteers
- Make this mobile so we can provide this at local events

### **How any extra funds raised from overfunding will be spent:**

- Enhancing access and parking

### **Why it's a great idea:**

We have more people visiting our workshops and we cannot currently accommodate those with disabilities, be they clients, or volunteers. We must be able to offer proper toilet facilities which enable people to maintain their dignity and make them feel like they are welcome at our centre. We know that there are people who do not use our centre, despite it being a potential line to community and support, because our facilities are not good enough. We must change that. For many of our visitors, particularly the frail, elderly and with dementia, it can be hard to locate and use a toilet safely. We also want to be wheelchair, carer & family friendly. A brand new disabled toilet with a stoma and baby changing facility that is dementia friendly for the elderly and the wider community would mean a clean, safe, comfortable & convenient facility that users should be entitled to. It will be environmentally friendly; accessible to all throughout the normal day, and available for events at weekends.

**Steps to get it done:**

- Lay base
- Install cabin
- Fit out

How we will do this:

1. Consulting with builders, constructors and ordering items from suppliers;
2. Receiving items needed;
3. Complete installation of fully compliant disabled toilet, wet room and stoma and baby changing facility.

This is a unique project to provide a badly missed facility. There are only 2 such in Worthing, both to the South and East, (inaccessible to WAVs, due to a height barrier), whereas we are on the northern side of the Town Centre. Even the local hospitals and public buildings lack this public facility. Being mobile, we can make it available for events in Adur, which has none. Our concept also achieves the necessary specification at under 1/2 the budget for a fixed installation! Independent solar power and water storage make this a very versatile solution. Otherwise, it will be generally accessible to the community during normal business hours.