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4 Fore Street, Saltash PL12 6JL

Report to Saltash Town Council: February 7 2019

We held a Board meeting this week, which was well attended and productive. We are very pleased to have Councillor Steve Miller as an active member.

Here is a summary of key issues.

CIC Membership

We have issued about 300 new membership cards, with a reminder going out next week to those that have not responded yet. The process, although administratively driven, is bringing us into more direct contact with members: we have been struck firstly by the diversity of members in terms of age and background, etc; and secondly by their interest in, and commitment to, what a not-for-profit agency like ours can do for the community.

It has been very encouraging to enrol this number of people, and to get their feedback.

Saltash Card

We are just about to start a project to re-launch the Saltash Card. We trust this will reinforce the importance of what is on offer in the town in general, but in particular in Fore Street. Although discounts at shops are an important aspect of the Card, we are hoping to have more understanding of the broader benefits of promoting the Card among the non-retail businesses that operate in the town centre. We have a possible volunteer to do the leg-work around the town so that the views of a wider group of stakeholders can be incorporated into the updated vision for the Card.

We are hoping to have the new Card in place, and the formal relaunch announced, at the latest by the time of the May Fair.

Scrapstore

Good progress being made. The store is packed with materials donated, business is picking up, more members are being added, some new volunteers are being recruited, and the craft workshops are very popular with adults as well as children. So far, so good. The pilot period, which ends in March, looks to be proving that the project may be viable as a self-funding enterprise in the long run.

The lease on the premises expires in March, but we are trying to negotiate an extension on similarly favourable terms, but this will now have to be on a month-by-month basis while the landlord seeks a commercial tenant.

Transport

All is going well, though repair costs have been high recently. The new Link service to the town centre, garden centre, etc is currently proving viable and the Transport Team has decided to continue the experiment to the end of March. The routes may be tweaked in the light of experience and passenger feedback.

Buildings

We are planning to undertake maintenance and some refurbishments at 4 Fore Street and 18 Belle Vue Road in the near future. These buildings are key resources for us, and we need them to give a good impression to those people who use them.

Peter Thistlethwaite
Chair

February 1 2019