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4 Fore Street, Saltash PL12 6JL

Report to Saltash Town Council: November 1 2018

Company Issues

We had the first formal meeting of our new Board last night. The Town Council was represented for the first time by Councillor Steve Miller. It all felt very different to me - a full complement of Directors, and a lot of new faces.

As indicated to you last time, we are having to devote a lot of time currently to Induction and Team Building. We have also now finalised the appointment of an Admin Manager (part time) who will be based at 4 Fore Street, but will be working flexible hours. She is called Celia Davis and her brief for the next year is to ensure we have a stronger governance, policy and administrative base, ensuring compliance with all regulatory requirements.

We decided to remain a Community Interest Company, for the time being at least, and not to seek charitable status. There are tax and other benefits from changing to be a Charity, but, with a new Board, we decided we needed a longer look at the pros and cons, rather than make a hurried decision. Our Accountants, Blackwell Bate, have been very helpful to Directors over this.

Pop-Up Shop

Town Council Members may be interested in the feedback we have received from the initiators of the craft shop at 5 Fore Street:

We would like to thank you for providing the Seed Funding to set up Saltash Pop Up.

As a result, we have helped almost 40 small local businesses. Many are one-person cottage industries and being a part of the Pop-Up co-operative has provided them with confidence, market data, customer feedback, and advice from other Traders in the pop up.

Some have gained the confidence to go on to bigger and better things; some have decided retail selling is not for them. A number have expanded and now sell at local fairs & markets, online, or through their own outlets.

The Pop-up has helped keep money in the local economy, promoted Fore Street and Saltash, and uses an otherwise empty, deteriorating shop.

The shop has now been open for 26 months, and currently has 20 Traders, all helping to run and man the shop.

All this would never have been possible without the initial help from the CIC.

Julie & I took a step back in March, and since then the shop has been run by Vicki, one of the other Traders. She has recently taken early retirement from teaching and is loving her new career! She has taken over an

established shop, with fixtures & fittings and a loyal clientele, and continues to operate it on the same non-profit basis.

Julie and I would like to donate £550 to the CIC, to be put to good use on a community project which will help to promote Saltash and its numerous voluntary organisations. The project to be agreed on by the CIC board of Directors.

We hope we can find similar opportunities in the future.

Scrapstore

This innovative recycling project has now commenced, currently opening on three days per week, for 4 hours at a time. Children's workshops were held during half-term. There has been an enthusiastic response from the public, with initial takings giving us hope that we can meet our financial targets. Please call in to see for yourselves...and please encourage friends and family to volunteer to help us.

We hope to do as well with the Scrapstore as we did with the Pop-Up Shop!

Saltash Hopper Link

We are about to pilot a new volunteer-led service to bring people from all around the town into Fore Street, and to local supermarkets and garden centre, every Wednesday. There has been plenty of publicity about this, and a leaflet is available giving details, which can be obtained at 4 Fore Street, tel 01752 848348. Information will be on the website later.

Peter Thistlethwaite

Chair

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