



community enterprises

PL12

Together We Can, Together We Do.

Digital Inclusion Project

During the Coronavirus lockdown, we suspended all our normal activities, and diverted our energies and resources to providing emergency help and support to the neediest members of our community (the over-70s and those with underlying health issues who have been in long-term lockdown). Since March 18th, our Volunteers have given support and help over 2,400 times to elderly or clinically vulnerable residents in the PL12 area. This support has highlighted a need for digital inclusion; it will help these residents to keep in contact with family & friends, reduce loneliness, anxiety and social isolation, and increase confidence. It will give valuable support and skills to the elderly, the clinically vulnerable and disabled, and those living with debilitating conditions like dementia, and will help them to be better prepared and ready for the new normal.

We aim to work in partnership with Cornwall Council, Saltash Town Council, PL12 Parish Councils, and local organisations such as Saltash Age Concern, Saltash Live at Home Scheme, Citizens Advice and Dementia Voice PL12.

Our aims;

- Teach elderly and vulnerable residents to use technology for basic applications, e.g. place an on-line order; order repeat prescriptions online; how digital technology, apps and gadgets can help them be less isolated.
- Hire digital items out to the elderly/vulnerable once they have had the initial training, before making a potentially expensive purchase.
- Hire equipment out on a longer term to the elderly/vulnerable who cannot afford to buy it.
- Help people access grants to purchase equipment or fund broadband setup.

We feel it is important to deliver this project as soon as possible, to better-equip the most vulnerable members of our community for an uncertain future and a potential “second wave”.

We have secured premises for the project, which is currently being refurbished, and are now in the process of applying for funding for furnishings & equipment.

Jo Baskott

Chair, Community Enterprises PL12

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