

Community Enterprises PL12

Chair's Report for Saltash town Council, October 2020

We are continuing to manage our enterprises as best we can during the current restrictions, and for some enterprises there is little to report since last month.

Board of Directors; One of our Directors, Peter Dungey will be resigning at our AGM. We have appointed 3 new Directors, Samantha Gardner, David Bremner and Julia Peggs, who will begin as active members of our Board after the AGM. We will then have 11 Directors.

Digital Inclusion; this will be led by one of the new Directors, using the Waitrose funding to support the project. Training will take place in our newly- refurbished Belle Vue office, which will now be called the **Community Support Centre**. This will be a comfortable office/ meeting room, available for free use by any community organisation, provided the organisation is a Group Member of CEPL12.

Citizens Advice offices in the Belle Vue building have now been fully refurbished, and will be formally re-opened by the Mayor at 3pm on Monday 28th September. Visitors are most welcome, and we would be delighted to show the offices off to any Town Councillors (although Covid measures will be in place, restricting numbers). We are very grateful to Saltash Town Council for their support and funding, which will allow Citizens Advice to work more effectively for Saltash residents.

Dementia Voice are continuing to provide any support possible at the moment, and we hope to be able to take some members on Hopper trips very soon.

We are delighted to have received grant funding of £12500 from the Social Enterprise Support Fund to **"get the Hopper Buses hopping again"**, and this will be used to provide free and heavily subsidised trips to those who need them. We are appointing a co-ordinator to lead on this, and liaise with community groups, organisations, schools and clubs to benefit as many residents as we can. We have bought a fogging machine for the buses, and strict COVID rules will be applied, in line with government guidelines.

The **Community Hub** is currently open Tuesday – Saturday. Our volunteers have now made almost 800 masks, & the proceeds will go towards community projects like Digital Inclusion. We now have a stock of "hidden disability" sunflower lanyards & wristbands, for people unable to wear face masks or who need to highlight their disability in certain circumstances.

The Loobrary is making slow progress at present, whilst we concentrate on other, more urgent enterprises.

We are in discussion with Saltash Town Council to take on a lease at **Maurice Huggins Room**, and use it as an environmental hub, in partnership with other local organisations. We would like to use it as a base for a community fridge, amongst other activities. We have funding to support the project.

September 30th is our AGM, so next month's Report will be a full summary of our activities during the last 12 months.

Jo Baskott

Chair, Community Enterprises PL12

25/9/20