

Policy & Resources Committee

Date: Tuesday 15 February 2022
Title: Report - External Organisations

a) Barns Centre (Cllrs Deacock and Dodds)

At the January meeting of the Barns Trustees the reports indicated that the Barns was recovering both in use and future bookings from COVID restrictions. It has a reduced income over the time since March 2020 but this has been supplemented by government grants paid via SODC and the Furlough scheme.

A special meeting of the Barns Governing Trustees and the Holding Trustees was held last week to consider an issue of the Church paying for use of the Barns, raised by the Vicar. Without going into details of this issue, it does raise a matter which must be settled before the new or renewed lease is agreed next year.

The issue has been settled for now, given the difficult circumstances, but I think that a long cool appraisal needs to be undertaken.

b) Citizens Advice (Cllr Austin)

Verbal update to be given by Tricia Hook at the P&R meeting.

c) Health Hub (including Community Hub Pilot) (Cllr Champken-Woods)

Nothing to report.

d) NALC (Cllr Dyer)

NALC continue their work on behalf of town and parish councils, though none of their current campaigns appear to be directly relevant or of specific interest to Thame. I do note, however, that they are continuing to urge the government to make permanent the provision for councils at all levels to be allowed to hold remote meetings.

e) Red Kite Family Centre (Cllr Emery)

See attached report.

f) Thame Business Forum (Cllr Dyer)

The Business Forum was finally able to reconvene, after nearly two years in limbo, at a well-attended meeting on 30 November which largely concentrated on their experiences and challenges resulting from both Covid and Brexit. The next meeting is scheduled for 8th February, hosted by Rhubarb Solutions, where the main agenda items will be how local businesses and Lord Williams's School can work together to recruit students into apprenticeship roles.

g) Thame Senior Friendship Centre (Cllr Midwinter)

The Senior Friendship Centre is very much appreciated by our members and carers and is very well attended on Fridays. Numbers are down very slightly on Tuesday and Wednesday, but I am sure that will be not be the situation for very long.

h) Thame & District Housing Association (Cllr Emery)

Nothing to report.

i) Thame Youth Memorial Trust (Cllr Tipping)

Nothing new to report since last report.

j) Thame Youth Projects Group (Cllr Tipping)

The New Prospective youth building has received great support through council meetings for pushing ahead with plans/ designs to be requested by architects for the build on southern road rec.

Charity Fundraising- The Mayor's film night at Thame Theatre was a great success raising £1,000.

There was also a successful charity day at the Town Hall with tombolas, a photo booth and many cakes.

k) 21st Century Thame (Cllr Fickling)

Nothing received at 15/02/22

l) Welfare Trust (Cllr Champken-Woods)

Nothing to report.