

Kenton Road -Earley Day Centre Committee meeting Jan 2022

Report of the meeting I attended -

The chairman Pauline Allen reported that the centre had been slowly returning to normal up until December and the Christmas fair had been a success and raised £ 512. However, there was a real drop in donations and gifts from local businesses – from sending out 15 letters only 3 answered. It was disappointing that they received nothing from Asda which had previously been very supportive.

The treasurer reported that thanks to two donations in wills, the Xmas fair and the creative selling of model railway items on the web the bank balance stood at £8,465. In addition, the group has savings of £30,000. However, they have growing concerns over the high cost of insurance, heating and a problem with subsidence at the front of the property which could prove to be very costly. They are looking into finding a suitable surveyor to look at the problem. The centre is let out to other organizations for income but due to Covid there have been cancellations. They offer a chiropody service once a month and the chiropodist gives back £2 for each client.

The centre needs some updating – particularly in regard to the chairs, basins and taps which are all 40 years old. The chairs are beginning to sag and are therefore too low – not good for the elderly! They are going to apply for a grant from ETC to help with this. Other items need replacing – curtains and Tea urn.

They are starting to make plans for further social activities for their members eg – a fish and chip lunch. They are also planning to start seated exercises on a regular basis in addition to their usual activities (quizzes, knit and natter, art, jigsaws etc.) Looking to the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee they plan to have an afternoon tea party to celebrate the event.

The committee is very dedicated and run the centre frugally and with great care for their members. They are currently starting to update their list of regular members as clearly during the pandemic members have not been attending.

Cll Anne Bassett