MONDAY WARM HUB REPORT FOR MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL

Thursday 7th March 2024

Attendance:

The Hub has now met on a fortnightly basis on 7 occasions. Numbers attending have largely increased week on week. The last session, held at half term and themed to attract families, did not attract so many people and no local children came along. The best attended session so far has been the Stars and Bats talk by Doug Owen, with 30 people.

Feedback:

We circulated a short survey to attendees at the midway stage and received responses from 57% of the people in attendance. We agreed with our funders at East Suffolk Council to carry this out to assess the success of the Hub as socially inclusive. The feedback was very positive, and we received ideas about future events, should a similar project run again next winter. The Hub was described as welcoming and purposeful. It has drawn on the talents of local people who have led workshops. People who attend are quite evenly spread in terms of how long they have lived in the villages: from 6 months to 50 years. The theme of meeting old and making new friends is constant.

Funding:

The Hub has received three quarters (£375) of the Grant allocated by East Suffolk Council; we are awaiting notification that the final quarter (£125) is on its way. Claire Diggins has completed an account of expenditure so far, which accompanies this document. It is not possible to predict what final expenditure will be; it is not expected that it will exceed the £500 Grant. If it does it will draw on the (so far unused) £150 contribution to the Hub, which the Parish Council agreed at its November Meeting.

Future Sessions:

There are four more sessions. 4th and 18th March; 8th and 22nd April.

Claire Diggins, Gerda Gibbs, Julia Griffiths, Jenni Livingstone, Sue Read, Doug Owens.