

Cadbury Heath, Hanham & Kingswood Library Users' Group Minutes

Venue	Kingswood Library	Date	26 June 2017
Present	Hugh Soar, Veronica Soar, Joe Diorazio, Steve Hicks, Martin Burton, Julie Barker		
			Action by / when
1.	No apologies were received		
2.	<p>Matters arising from the minutes</p> <p>Veronica asked whether the problems with the speed of the computers are going to be resolved. Martin replied that improvements to the computer system are being worked on this week.</p> <p>Veronica was also very pleased that Cadbury Heath Library had taken part in a customer participation group day at a local surgery.</p> <p>Martin congratulated Julie on her recent marriage.</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as accurate.</p> <p>Steve raised the issue of no Open Access at Hanham Library, expressing his disappointment that it is not going to be installed. Martin explained the reasons (disabled access in the event of a fire would be a problem), saying he took advice from the council's equalities officer. It is not possible to put up a sign advising disabled people to only use the library during staffed hours. Each library has been assessed for Open Access individually.</p> <p>Hugh objected to the term disabled users being used in this instance as it is only wheelchair users who are being referred to.</p> <p>All sorts of possibilities for the disabled exit were considered including installing a door into the youth centre, but a suitable option was not found. A ramp in the car park would be impractical due to the length.</p> <p>Steve queried whether the library service is fully committed to Open Access.</p> <p>It would be good to build on the relationship with the Save Hanham Library group to continue supporting the library and in relation to the role of volunteers.</p> <p>Concerns were expressed about the 'periodic monitoring' of libraries with Open Access. This is actually remote monitoring every 2 hours. Members of the committee were concerned that this would not be adequate. However there will be an emergency phone in the libraries.</p>		
3.	Library Service Review		

	<p>Cadbury Heath Library will be closed for Open Access to be installed 10th-21st July. Kingswood will not get Open Access until the library moves into the Civic Centre.</p> <p>Martin outlined the new structure. Interviews for librarians and library supervisors will be happening soon. Libraries will be losing 30% of their staff.</p> <p>Veronica expressed concern about whether outreach in the community will continue. This will be reviewed in libraries to see what can be done within staffing restraints. The Group Librarians will be responsible for outreach. We will not be able to continue with all our activities in the libraries but maybe volunteers could assist with some of them</p>	
4.	<p>Future of Library User groups</p> <p>Are there better ways of engaging with the community? How do we reach the wider community? It was agreed that the current LUG meetings are not doing this as they are only attended by a few people. Perhaps a bigger, open meeting might be better e.g. talking to parents over coffee and cake after story time? Representatives from parish council could be invited. It was agreed that the format needs revising and the frequency could perhaps be reduced to once a year.</p> <p>Steve asked how we would deal with anything urgent that arose. This could be dealt with in other ways. The new LUG should not be called a meeting- a roadshow instead, maybe?- and comments would need to be recorded. Everyone supported this new proposal.</p>	
5.	<p>Librarian's reports</p> <p>In the light of all the health activities mentioned in the reports Steve asked whether it was possible to obtain some of the national money earmarked for health.</p> <p>Julie talked about the 1-in-1 Mental Health Awareness day held in Kingswood Park.</p> <p>It was noted how much children's work is done by the libraries and Hanham Library has a strong and enthusiastic teenagers group, Bookwurms, which won the blogging award at the Concorde Book Awards.</p>	
6.	<p>Summer Reading Challenge</p> <p>The theme is Animal Agents this year. As children collect stickers the animal detectives discover who the crook is. The prize for reading 6 books is a medallion, a voucher for hiring a DVD or a voucher for Wild Places, an animal park by The Mall.</p>	
7.	<p>Any Other Business.</p> <p>Veronica would like a writing group to take place in Cadbury Heath Library. Martin suggested that this could take place during Cadbury Heath's Open Access hours if Veronica wished to organise it. Alternatively the library could be hired after 7.30.</p> <p>Julie thanked Hugh for chairing the library committee for many years and thanked all the library user group members for their faithful attendance</p>	

8.	Date of next meeting Although the next meeting is scheduled for October this may not take place in the light of the proposals for changes to the Library User Group. Members will be kept informed about what is happening. Martin suggested the next meeting might like to be held at Cadbury Heath Library so that members could see the new Open Access system.	
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