

## **Thornbury Library Users Group**

### **Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on Wednesday 14 June 2017 at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Benj Emmerson (Chair), Kate Hand, Leigh Allen, Ann Lewis, John Abraham (Operations Manager) and Rebecca Furness (Librarian), John and Delia Poulton, Rod Williams

**1. Public session:** None

**2. Apologies:** Clare Fardell, Cindy Titcomb Sue Lloyd, Karen Carrington,

**3. Correspondence:** None

#### **4. Matters arising from minutes of the meeting 29 March 2017:**

The delayed strategy document for English Library authorities for 2016-2021 the Library Ambition Report was published by DCMS December 2016. South Gloucestershire Library Service will look at implementing the 7 objectives from autumn 2017.

Karen Bradley, is the current Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. The “Libraries Minister” Rob Wilson, served as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport from July 2016 until June 2017 when he lost his seat for Reading East in the general election. The new minister is John Glenn (**added in by John after the meeting**).

#### **5. Library Service review update and consultation plans**

Staff consultation on the HR aspects of the Library Service Review ended on in the middle of May and hundreds of comments were received. This all now goes forward in preparation of the Director’s decision report due later this month. If all goes to plan the next stage is interviewing for the managers’ posts and then fitting in all the library assistants to the posts available in the new structure.

**Open Access:** Libraries will be closed to install Open Access – dates will be confirmed week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> June but it is envisaged that each library involved will be closed for a fortnight. **(Since the meeting Thornbury’s temporary closure dates are confirmed as 9-22 August inclusive).**

To use Open Access, library members need to undertake a short induction session, which details services available, emergency procedures and how to report faults. Once a member of public has had an Open Access induction in one branch we recommend they have the inductions in other branches they wish to use so that they are aware of local procedures and emergency exits. Discussed use of public computers and extending time during Open Access.

**Replacement of the mobile** our first community library collection has now started at Marshfield Community Centre running in tandem with the mobile library and has a collection of 400 volumes that will be refreshed regularly. Local volunteers have received training in data protection and use of mobile circulation software to issue, return and renew books and all is going well. Meanwhile, several councillors have shown an interest in buying into a fortnightly morning mobile service from North Somerset.

**Chipping Sodbury Library** a service level agreement is being drawn up to take up the proposal to run the library with volunteers led by a local management board.

#### **6. Future of Library User Groups:**

With the changes to staffing and the library service in October 2017 there is a need to examine the format, frequency and purpose of the Library User Group meetings. All library user groups will be consulted and ideas summarised. As libraries will be arranged in four geographic clusters each led by a librarian:

- Bradley Stoke Library, Filton Library, Patchway Library
- Thornbury Library, Winterbourne Library, Yate Library
- Downend Library, Emersons Green Library, Staple Hill Library
- Cadbury Heath Library, Hanham Library, Kingswood Library

There needs to be some discussion around format and frequency to make the best use of staff time and to increase participation and raise profile of the service

Discussion points:

Benj raised suggested that it might be first helpful to ask what the purpose of the LUG is, to then find a future format which best fits the purpose within the constraints of the new service model from 1 October. Benj also asked if there was a plan for a LUG Chair's meeting (the last one took place more than a year ago).

## **7. Librarian's report**

Rebecca presented her Librarians' report, highlighting how usage is evolving. Most notable is the growth in WiFi usage and the increase in children attending activities during school holidays. The library space will be slightly re-arranged in the coming months once the One Stop Shop has withdrawn from the building (last day of operations 30 June 2017). Discussed statistics which are attached to these minutes.

## **8. AOB**

The proposals from Bristol have been published regarding their library savings.

See link for information on the consultation which is open for 12 weeks, closing on Tuesday 5 September 2017:

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/council-spending-performance/your-neighbourhood-consultation-2017>

The main point to note being that there is a proposal to reduce the number of service points from 27 to 10, which would see our library service providing more staffed hours in comparison.

**7. Date of next meeting/ AGM:** pencilled in date of Wednesday 11 October 7pm at Thornbury Library.

**We plan to contact you before Open Access goes live to try out this new service and for the necessary changes to be made to your membership your card to allow entry via the main entrance.**