

# Manager's Report February 2021



## Commercial Hiring

Please see Centre Administrator's report

### Income:

		2020/21		
	2019/20	Total	Invoiced amount	Value of cancelled bookings
<b>Oct</b>	3782.50	3927.70	3387.70	540.00
<b>Nov</b>	3223.75	2834.25	1446.75	1387.50
<b>Dec</b>	1628.33	2330.25	1352.25	978.00
<b>Jan</b>	3513.10	1005.50	60.00	945.50

Income had built up well with regular large bookings from Slimming World (£600+/mth), NHS Oxygen clinic, Wells Maths Tuition. All of these will not return after Covid.

Larger groups will not be able to return quickly so other sources of trading income are being sought in order to diversify and sustain income going forward.

## Grant funding

### Government Covid lockdown grants received:

07 May 2020	WAVERLEY B C	25,000.00
25 Nov 2020	WAVERLEY B C - Lockdown 2 grant	2,000.00
18 Jan 2021	WAVERLEY B C - LRSG Tier 4	714.00
21 Jan 2021	WAVERLEY B C - LRSG for Jan 21	3,000.00
22 Jan 2021	WAVERLEY B C - LRSG (Open) Dec 20	1,200.00
25 Jan 2021	WAVERLEY B C - Closed business lockdown payment Jan 21	6,000.00
<b>Total Government Grant COVID 19</b>		<b>37,914.00</b>

To date we have received £21350.00 in restricted grant funding and £7300.00 in unrestricted funding. In addition we have received £4995.00 in restricted donations and £1869.00 in unrestricted donations. See Excel income statement for more detail.

## Gift Aid

We have confirmation from HMRC that we are now recognised as a charity for tax purposes and can now begin to claim gift aid. I have been asking personal donors this year to complete a gift aid form and we will also be able to claim on the small cash donations given through the garden and fridge.

## Social Impact

Social media continues to increase our reach into the wider community and many other groups are now following our output which has increased networking and working together with other organisations. The Community Fridge and Swap Shop have really increased our impact into the community and we have increased our offering as new challenges have presented themselves: providing cooked meals for home schooling families, Christmas treats, February raffle, emergency food parcels for NHS staff having to isolate at short notice, treats and meals for NHS staff.

I did a short interview on BBC Radio Surrey Tuesday 16 Feb about the Fridge and family lunches – see Community Cupboard and Fridge report for more information.

**Hale Community Centre projects:****Girlz Club**

There have been issues with keeping this going since Emma has no longer been involved. Liz and Ruth have run a couple of Zoom sessions but these are not well attended. We would normally have arranged to go into Hale Academy to speak to the Year 6s by now to encourage a new set of girls to attend after Easter for the transitional term but this is not possible so we do not have any way of contacting any new members. We are trying to use the remainder of the current funding on buying in some sessions that the girls could attend to try to re-engage them, for example dance sessions led by an experienced instructor. I have requested that the current grant be extended by 1 month to the end of the financial year. We have already received funding for the club for next year but as yet have not been successful in identifying another suitable leader. I have enquired about the possibility of using this funding for general youth work.

**Community Garden**

Alan and John are keeping the garden tidy during the winter and we have requested that they make the garden as productive as possible during the next growing season to fit in with the Community Fridge ethos.

**Share Farnham Swap Shop**

The Swap Shop continues to operate with volunteers manning it 3 mornings a week and is well used by the local community.

**Community Cupboard & Fridge**

Please see separate report. The funding used to pay Katie as project co-ordinator had enabled us to register with Environmental Health and we are awaiting the final part of our inspection.

I have put in an expression of interest for funding to continue Katie's involvement and to pay for the running costs of what has become an important community resource.

We have been working with a local chef who contacted us as the venue he works in is closed. It has been a great partnership as he has a 5 star food hygiene rating so he has been able to support Katie through the accreditation process and it has enabled us to do more cooking with the Fridge food including lunches for home schooling families, more information in attached report.

**Community Engagement project**

Some feedback activities were attempted at Christmas but engagement is very difficult due to the present restrictions. This is on hold until we are able to make better contacts with people.

**Timebank**

The Timebank continues to provide volunteers for our projects.

**Seniors Group**

The groups have not felt able to return yet. We keep in contact with them.

**Hale Singalong** – suspended until Government allows singing again ☹️

**Code Club**

Continues to be suspended. A group of employees from Red Hat are looking at ways of being able to restart the Club virtually.

**Cook and Eat**

Suspended. Have an agreement with Food Bank to run cookery courses once Centre is open again.

**Volunteers**

We have increased our base of volunteers and we are very grateful of their commitment to the projects they support.

**Partnership projects supported by Hale Community Centre****SHIP, WiSH**

The WhatsApp group continues to provide support and has enabled identification of needs resulting in new initiatives such as Space2Breathe. Several emergency funding requests have been made to the Farnham Crisis Fund. We were able to provide lots of treats for families through the Fridge and did a raffle in February.

**Space2Breathe**

This is an exciting new initiative being offered by the Community Centre along with space2grow and St Georges to offer local families a chill out space to relieve the pressure families are under trying to cope with juggling work, home schooling and running a household. See separate report.

**North Farnham Voice** – we have been working with this new group to represent the community of North Farnham in particular in relation to the impact measures in the Local Infrastructure Plan would have.

**Detached Youth Work with 40 Degreez**

We have joined with 40 Degreez who are paying their youth worker for 4 hours detached youth work on Sandy Hill in order to reconnect with the young people and to conduct a needs analysis of what is required for a new youth work offering going forward.

**Combatting Loneliness working group**

The Maltings have received £25k from Surrey County Council to work in partnership with other organisations to look at creating and strengthening ways to combat loneliness as we emerge from the current restrictions. I was invited to join the working group along with Alistair from Right at Home, Rodney from Farnham Assist, Laura the social prescriber for GP practices in Farnham, Lou James from space2grow and a couple of representatives from the Maltings. A project plan has been drawn up and we will be working with the Maltings on setting up and delivering a weekly **Craft Café** which will focus on encouraging people to socialise again and build up resilience.

**Wrap up coat project**

The Centre joined with the Maltings as a collection and donation point for winter coats within the town. We gave out over 40 coats to local families.

**Craft Group – Opportunities** – have not yet returned

**Job Club** – is still operating remotely

**Warm Hub** – is operating remotely.

**Networking**

**Hale Network** - suspended

**Farnham Network** – is meeting quarterly on Zoom

**Farnham Locality Patient Group** – has met by Zoom

**Farnham Youth Network** – met by Zoom for a debrief after the Youth consultation

**Farnham Connects**

This group meets fortnightly on a Tuesday afternoon and discusses issues affecting residents of Farnham and has proved to be a really valuable networking opportunity.

**Farnham Younger People Task Force**

The next meeting is booked for 12 March

**Healthwatch** have been commissioned to do a survey into wellbeing by the local CCG and we have had discussions with them as to how we could support them.

**PR/Marketing**

A new banner has been made for the fence advertising the Community Fridge and that it is open to everyone. We have given information to FTC for inclusion in the town information brochure.

**Building/Health and Safety/Risk Management Issues**

The routine checks and inspections are ongoing. Risk assessments for the Centre, the Swap Shop and the Community Fridge are kept under regular review in order to ensure they comply with current government guidelines.

**Staff Training**

Several more volunteers have undergoing online Food Safety and Hygiene training.

**Emerging issues****Sandy Hill Detached Youth Provision**

This work is continuing under Surrey County Council with about 10 young people engaging on Thursday evenings. As far as we are aware this will stop at the end of March; staff are being consulted now.

**Staffing**

Sue has been on flexible furlough for a month, from 11 January, due to the lockdown but has been brought back to full hours as of 22 February.

**Vaccination centre** –the Community Centre was offered but turned down as too small.

**Census Support Centre** – although not successful in gaining funding for this I believe the Centre will have a role to play in supporting the community to complete this digital version of the census.

**Waverley Borough Council emergency response funding/Family Centre**

We received £1.5k from Waverley to support the local community with shopping, clothing, IT equipment during the crisis. We have been able to issue several shopping vouchers for food for local families and have also supported the Family Centre workers with families they are working with. This week I purchased some clothing for a 12 – 18 month old whose mother had been moved here to escape domestic violence and did not have enough clothes.

**Nursery Space**

Surrey County Council have agreed the funding for the remedial works to get the building fit for purpose. They are keen to restrict activities to those involving young people. We have asked for any excess funds to be spent in some interior modifications.

**Response to COVID-19**

I continue to watch government guidelines for the use of multi-purpose community facilities to ensure compliance and we have rearranged the space to ensure that there is adequate social distancing. Staff work opposite times to ensure as little cross over as possible so that if one of us has to isolate the Centre can remain open. We continue to operate tightly controlled cleaning regimes.