

Report of Social and Cultural Working group Meeting

Tuesday 6th October 2020

Present: Community Councillors: Anne Jackson, Neil Holley, Martin Ashford, Mike Davies, Karan Lane, Carole Willis, Margaret Griffiths

Visitors: Caroline Wool, RCT Cluster Youth Coordinator; Cheryl Fareday, RCT Youth Engagement and Progression Officer; David Francis, Resident Officer: Tara Davies, Café 50 Coordinator

Apologies : Cllr Paul Griffiths

Recommendations

The Social and Cultural Working Group recommends to the Community Council:

1. Café 50 is made available for a one-to-one, Covid compliant, drop-in service one afternoon every week or two weeks from 1pm till 4pm.
2. When Welsh Government restrictions permit meetings inside buildings, the Café 50 Coordinator is asked to arrange coffee and cake events for the regular lunch users with the appropriate social distancing
3. An invitation to tender for the Café 50 catering service is prepared by officers and submitted for further consideration by the Working Group,
4. Samples of potential new chairs and furniture for Café 50 are gained so that an assessment of their appropriateness can be made by both officers and members.
5. the Community Council organises the distribution of Christmas gifts to regular Café 50 users funded by a combination of donations from local businesses and up to £250 from the Council.

1. Working with young people in Pontyclun

Caroline and Cheryl explained the work that they are doing with young people in in the Taff Ely area as part of the RCT youth service. They had visited Pontyclun community centre and Café 50 to assess whether either place was suitable for either a youth club or a drop-in service for young people over 16.

The RCT Youth service have agreed that a one-to-one drop-in service for young people over 16 can be offered on a face to face basis because it is possible to maintain social distancing

Caroline and Cheryl asked the working group if the community council would provide Café 50 for a trial drop-in service for young people over 16 as soon as possible. Community councillors were positive about working with the youth service to provide this very important service

The Social and Cultural working group recommend that

- Café 50 is made available for a one-to-one, Covid compliant, drop-in service one afternoon every week or two weeks from 1pm till 4pm.

2. Social distancing in Café 50

Tara explained that the regular lunch users were not interested in returning to café 50 for lunch with barriers across the table. However, some are keen to have a coffee and cake social session which can be organised with social distancing

The Social and Cultural working group recommends that

- when Welsh Government restrictions permit meetings inside buildings, the Café 50 Coordinator is asked to arrange coffee and cake events for the regular lunch users with the appropriate social distancing

3. Catering in Café 50

Councillors were interested that the Clerk and Tara had met with a caterer who is interested in using the kitchen facilities for catering at outside events but would be able to provide lunches and possible coffee and cake during the day.

Councillors agreed that this was an interesting suggestion and would like to

- rent out the kitchen with a linked tender for the catering of a café service to include mid-day meals, snacks, afternoon teas and Christmas dinners.
- The invitation for tender would need to be consistent with the terms of the existing catering agreement and the lease with RCT Council.
- Tenderers would need to submit a written offer and be interviewed by both officers and nominated members.

The Social and Cultural working group recommends that

- an invitation to tender for the Café 50 catering service is prepared by officers and submitted for further consideration by the working group.

4. Tables/Chairs in Café 50

Councillors recognise that we need to replace tables and chairs to ensure the space can be used to best advantage but that we must ensure that stackable chairs and folding tables are stable and safe.

Tara and the Clerk have suggested

- replacing 18 chairs with stackable chairs with arms to provide lunch service users with stability.
- Replacing 18 chairs with stackable chairs with no arms. The active groups who use chairs would want chairs without arms and 18 would be sufficient.

Cost of a chairs (Approx. £40 per chair)- half with arms; with a size similar to current chairs = £1440

Costs for 6 tables with a trolley = £1491 - again tables similar size to current ones

The Social and Cultural working group recommends that

- samples of potential new chairs and furniture for Café 50 are gained so that an assessment of their appropriateness can be made by both officers and members.

5. Christmas

Tara proposes that at this difficult time, Pontyclun community council give a small Christmas gift to regular users of Café 50. These could be delivered to users at their homes. Users would need to provide addresses for this purpose and this information would only be used for the stated purpose of providing gifts.

Tara has volunteers prepared to deliver these gifts and Cllr Martin Ashford would be prepared to help out in his capacity as a Father Christmas helper. The local grocery distributor, Blakemores, could be asked to provide products that could be used as Christmas gifts

The Social and Cultural working group recommends that:

- the Community Council organises the distribution of Christmas gifts to regular Café 50 users funded by a combination of donations from local businesses and up to £250 from the Council.