

## **Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council**

### **Full Council Report**

#### **Agenda Item: FC 152/15**

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:**

To note the agency responses and agree a proposal to hold a regular social event for elderly people in the Parish to drop in for tea/coffee/biscuits as a way of countering isolation and loneliness in elderly people in the community

#### **MAIN CONSIDERATIONS:**

Coffee First run by Sue Graham from Age UK will be meeting with the Parish Clerk shortly to discuss the implications of running a Coffee Morning/Drop In and possible joint partnership working.

The Loughton Scout Group has responded saying that they could attend depending on the date and times the Coffee Morning/Drop In will be held, and are willing to make presentations on the work that they do.

The MacIntyre Centre Coffee Club on Haddon Great Holm is willing to hold the Coffee Morning/Drop In, and have suggested the morning time as it is their quietest period, and as soon as the date and times have been agreed by the Parish Council, are willing to have a further conversation to firm the details up.

The Parish Clerk met with representatives of the Diamond Club that meets every Wednesday between 12:00pm – 3:00pm based at the Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe Parish Council Offices, the Parish Council gives a grant for the group to purchase equipment for activities, and towards costs for outings that take place once a month, recently they have undertaken coach trips that charge a nominal fee, but attendees can also come along just to chat and meet friends and do not have to take part in the activities, the club has a couple of members that help set up the room and organise the outings and trips, there are occasionally speakers invited to make presentations on a variety of subjects to the group, the Parish Council sent out a questionnaire to all households to gauge interest and what activities the club should cover.

In view of the indicative comments of the Manager of the MacIntyre Centre Coffee Shop it is suggested to hold the Coffee Morning/Drop In between 10:00am - 12:00pm.

Bearing in mind until volunteers are identified, it may be appropriate in the first instance to hold the Coffee Morning/Drop In's on a monthly basis.

Consideration needs to be given as to a name for the Coffee Morning/Drop In, (this could be considered by attendees in the future and made into a competition to encourage more involvement.)

Further consideration needs to be given as to the type of publicity such as a flyer to every household, a questionnaire to every household to gauge take up and future activities attendees would like to take part in, these could be done by articles in an issue of the newsletter or separately, and can also be included on the website Facebook and Twitter, it is important to identify volunteers to run the Coffee Morning/Drop In so that it becomes self-reliant from the Parish Council.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council may want to consider issuing a grant in principle for any possible start-up costs such as for outings or trips or any equipment which is identified and requested by attendees in the future, (costs would be obtained and agreed at a future Parish Council Meeting).

### **ANY OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

The location, and possible extension of a Coffee Morning/Drop In, to Loughton with the possible use of the Loughton Memorial Hall or All Saints Church, the times and frequency along with the activities can be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure the Coffee Morning/Drop In meets the need of the local residents.

Volunteers that have been appropriately identified will need the necessary legal checks before they can do so.

Numbers of attendees could be restricted in future that can attend the Coffee Morning/Drop In due to the MacIntyre Centre Coffee Shops fire and health and safety regulations.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

The Diamond Club held at the Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe Parish Council Offices, Coffee First held at the Loughton Baptist Church, Age UK at the Peartree Bridge Centre, and the MacIntyre Centre on Great Holm.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. To note the report**
- 2. To consider a name for the Coffee Morning/Drop In, (this could be considered by attendees in the future and made into a competition to encourage more involvement.)**
- 3. To consider whether to issue a grant in principle for any possible start-up costs such as for outings or trips or any equipment which is identified and requested by attendees in the future, (costs would be obtained and agreed at a future Parish Council Meeting).**
- 4. To agree to hold the Coffee Mornings/Drop In at the MacIntyre Centre Coffee Shop, Haddon, Great Holm and review in the future the use of the Loughton Memorial Hall, Bradwell Road, Loughton or All Saints Church, Pitcher Lane, Loughton.**
- 5. To agree to hold the Coffee Morning/Drop In between 10:00am - 12:00pm (subject to confirmation from the MacIntyre Centre on Great Holm).**
- 6. To agree the frequency of holding the Coffee Morning/Drop In.**

**7. To agree to the methods in publicising the Coffee Morning/Drop In.**

**Author of the report:**

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