

NEWPORT PAGNELL LIBRARY ENGAGEMENT

Date: 24th June 2015

Time: 6pm – 7pm

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM ENGAGEMENT

<p>Do you have any proposal or ideas for additional users for the building(s)?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Office space below - rent space for local artists.</i> • <i>Cafeteria downstairs or in corner – pop up style events with local cafeterias – promote local businesses more – in St Albans different charities use library space once a week.</i> • <i>Local schools could utilise library area (classes & clubs) in conjunction with MKL. Comment made by teacher.</i> • <i>CAB ,Historical Society, after hours children’s activities</i> • <i>WEA U3A.</i> • <i>Drop in session for elderly, computer courses.</i> • <i>Comment that building could not be offered for other users until stock “de-cluttered” and re-arranged to make space.</i>
<p>What other service could you bring into the libraries and contribute?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Link with Youth club – encourage more teenagers using library.</i> • <i>Citizenship – teaching English for those where not first language – charge.</i> • <i>Come + collect + Pay – online service should be more widespread – so can see books available across branches – resource data base.</i> • <i>Amazon – share of market?</i> • <i>Are we making the most of the local Town Council?</i> • <i>Incorporate other Council services at Newport Pagnell Library so face of MKC in Newport Pagnell.</i>
<p>What can we do together to support the local people being involved with supporting the library and activities?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Holiday play schemes / activities – and link to Middleton Pool.</i> • <i>Involve mothers in volunteering.</i> • <i>More evening opportunities – open slightly later.</i> • <i>Blockbuster style ‘drop in box’ for books.</i> • <i>Soften the building ‘sofa’s’ more welcoming for younger generation.</i> • <i>Image is important – have open mic nights, poem, music nights – link with youth club.</i> • <i>‘Knit and Natter’ something similar for Teens.</i> • <i>We need ‘Library Champions’.</i> • <i>Volunteers/ Friends groups need to advertise better not just rely on on-line.</i> • <i>Advertise that the library is available to hire outside core hours use parish newsletters.</i>

<p>What ideas do you have to involve more local people in the management of the building to help support community access and possible use outside library opening hours for new activities?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Make more use of younger generation – go to schools, create MK wide competition on what to do with libraries ‘how would they see library in future?’</i> • <i>Use library out of hours for drop boxes like Amazon.</i> • <i>Rent out the garage.</i> • <i>Approach the local Business Association.</i>
<p>Would you be interested in contributing to some costs of running the library such as staffing, books or building-related costs?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Need to invest in solar panels. More Section 106 money will be available with the new builds on Crawley Field – invest in library refurbishment. Contact Aston Martin and other local companies. Teacher in group letting others know and friend in local computer firm. Open University could help support IT provision.</i> • <i>Ask customers for a suggested donation.</i> • <i>Town & Parish Council's should contribute more.</i> • <i>Also had comment re solar panels.</i>
<p>Would you be interested in setting up a friends group which could help raise funds for libraries and recruit volunteers to help support library staff?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ask through local publications like ‘Town Talk’. Contact local Lions club and local Chamber of Commerce.</i> • <i>Small Friends Group already at NEP, they met last week.</i> • <i>3 people from my group would be interested - names taken</i>
<p>Are you community led organisation or cooperative entity which could take on additional responsibilities in your community library, perhaps share a library building or help with the library day to day management?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Look into possibility of sharing the British Legion building on the High Street to share costs.</i>
<p>Would the idea of a fully automated option be a good one in order to extend opening hours?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Very well received as understood utilising staff to work at busiest times whilst having hours possibly extended. Some concerns over security.</i> • <i>Concerns over the security: Do we have any proof that this type of system is used well?</i> • <i>Prefer to use the library whilst it is staffed but understand the need for this outside opening hours.</i> • <i>Concerns about security.</i>
<p>Miscellaneous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>MKL should become a Trust. Library publicity is poor – raise profile of donations for money and stock.</i> • <i>Plans of each library were inadequate – labelling of Newport plan is wrong.</i> • <i>Wanted to see comparative statistics in document so they could compare themselves to other branches.</i> • <i>Library should just do the absolute basic statutory obligations eg no AV.</i>