

14thOctober 2022 - Notes

Following breakfast Lisa Megraw of the Leisure Centre gave an insight into the Leisure Centre operation. The centre is owned by NHDC and run by Stevenage Leisure Limited. Lisa's main task is membership.

The centre has a 25 metre swimming pool which is used by a wide range of people from babies to seniors and classes are arranged for all ages and abilities including training to be a lifeguard.

There is a sports hall which hosts various events such as Creepy Crawlies (I hope this is for the younger members!) and a gym club. The accommodation is also hired by various clubs which help groups such as Parkinson's sufferers. Judo is taught here, and they have an Olympic Champion to their credit.

The centre is also happy to support charities and clubs with displays and just recently with the collection of blister packs from medicines for recycling.

The centre has ideas for the future from the probable to dreams, such as building a second pool, extending the sports hall and the provision of play equipment for children.

After questions we each chipped in with news of our own activities:

Chris Lee mentioned the next Repair Café to be held on 26th November.

Joanna Aldridge reported that Social Prescribing is working on a men's group project and is working with Herts Mind.

Karen Porter reported on the many activities held in the Library: Barclays Bank have a presence three days each week for advice, author events where an author talks about their books, Lego workshops, Slipper exchange and, next week, getting on line taster sessions.

Cate Hall said that Trinity Life Church are now well established in Market Hill and were starting various events such as a wellbeing café from 10.00 to 12.00 each Wednesday and 'pathways to learning' giving education support to school children.

Stacey Wilson of Essex and Herts Air Ambulance gave us a brief update of their work and said that she is getting to know her area very quickly.

Tony Garrick from Melbourn U3A said that they are now using the Eternit Sports and Social Club which gives them the desired space but with the problem of access, not being on a bus route. Tony also mentioned that he was now the lettings officer for the Methodist Church.

Ruth Brown is now Executive Member for Planning and Transport at NHDC and spoke about the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan which is open for discussion.

Fiona Hughes briefly mentioned her initiative Green Heat Coop and will be giving a presentation to us shortly.

Reg Hounsell talked about Royston U3A which is now working fully after lockdown. He also mentioned that the Model Railway Group hope to hold another exhibition shortly and may be having mini exhibitions around the district.

Next Breakfast 11th November 2022

Neil Guttridge
On behalf of the Community Breakfast.