



Friends of Greenhill Library

Registered Charity Number 1158656

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SUMMARY OF ANNUAL REPORT TO THE 2018 AGM



Trustees

Patrick Coghlan:

Chair

David Basil Wildgoose:

Treasurer

Chris Brown:

Vice Chair

Richard Brown

Laurence Coates:

Secretary (from 18th Oct. 2017)

Chris Whitehouse:

Secretary (to 18th Oct. 2017)

Trustees are elected by the membership of the Friends of Greenhill Library. Members have either paid a membership fee or contribute as volunteers. We currently have 35 Friends and 118 active volunteers. The trustees consider that our fundraising is compliant with the standards set out in the Code of Fundraising Practice required by the Charity Commission. Our fundraising is overseen by a Fundraising Team, which meets regularly; meetings are attended by two trustees. Most fundraising is run by volunteers through events and the bookstore, but the Fundraising Team has successfully made grant applications, for which we are

particularly indebted to Margaret Davis. An Awards for All (A4A) grant is funding planning to develop the library building. We do not usually use professional fundraisers, but part of the A4A grant will fund a consultant to apply for the capital funds for development.

Names and addresses of advisers

Solicitor Kerry Maddison Taylor Bracewell Solicitors
17-23 Thorne Road, Doncaster DN1 2RP

Bank Yorkshire Bank
681 Chesterfield Rd, Sheffield S8 0RY
sort code **05-08-68 a/c** 33308374

CHAIR'S SUMMARY (Patrick Coghlan)

What a great year 2017 -18 has been for Greenhill Library. After an initial dip when Woodseats re-opened, our visitor numbers, at 6000 a month have remained constant. Behind that figure lays a huge variety of activities, hence the new strapline 'More than just books'.

But first of all the books. With our constantly renewed stock, thanks to a behind the scenes team, there has been a slight increase in book loans this year. 27,933 Books loaned to 3014 users. People often comment favourably on the welcome they receive and the help that is provided from our frontline teams. Overall the volunteers gave **10,656** hours of service (= 6 FTE). A great team effort from 100 people. Our thanks to all, including those behind the scenes who have made it all possible.

School class visits have continued from Greenhill School and since Easter from Lowedges Academy. This, and other outreach activities, including stalls at both their school fairs, have led to a steady stream of new people (320) joining the library, half and half adult and children.

As well as Chatterbooks, Storytime and Funtime continuing, Friday after school crafts, usually around a book theme, has become well established. This autumn Codeclub, teaching basic programming has started.

The new Friday coffee morning has quickly become very popular, alongside the Computer skills and CV support both run by Heeley Trust. The Library works with some 10 partners to deliver all its activities

The lease was signed this year after 3 years of protracted negotiations with the Council. This means we have extra freedoms as well as extra responsibilities for the security, and compulsory checks on the building. Library services provided a full grant in 2017 -18. This will now taper down.

The fundraising team has again been very successful in raising £25,000 of diversified income as well as a grant of over £8000.

All our activities are widely publicized through the website and Facebook as well as the Newsletter and posters.

Building

As well as routine maintenance, the trustees have aimed to update the building so that it is fit for the next 25 years while we still receive a council grant. This year the council has renewed the roof and fascia boards and we planned to replace the 55 year old lighting (recently completed).

Future

Back in 2014 we considered how we could make better use of the 'stack' – the area that was once used as book storage for Sheffield libraries. This year a Feasibility study, paid for by a grant, has been produced by a team of architects and a structural engineer. During 2018 -19 we will apply for grants to take this forward.

Although the Library covers Greenhill, Bradway and Lowedges there are relatively few users from the latter. This has improved a little through engagement with the Lowedges Community centre, Foodcycle, Terminus café and The Academy. We are conducting research to discover the best way to raise use from this area and will apply for a grant for a part-time, short term, Lowedges development worker.

A longer version of this report is available on the library website or on request.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Patrick Coghlan (Chair of Trustees)

Date