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From: "McDougall, Lynn" <Lynn.McDougall@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk>

Date: 07/11/2022 08:42 (GMT+00:00)

To: stonehousecommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Subject: Stonehouse Lifestyles and Libraries

Dear Robert

My apologies for the delay in getting back to you. Cultural Services Manager Benny Martin had asked me to contact you as he was on annual leave.

Due to the number of points raised, I have answered each point below in blue directly into your original e-mail. I hope this clarifies the points raised however please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Kind Regards

Lynn

Lynn McDougall

Venues Manager

South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture

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From: Stonehouse Community council <stonehousecommunitycouncil@gmail.com>

Sent: 20 October 2022 09:52

To: Martin, Benny <Benny.Martin@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk>

Subject: Stonehouse Lifestyles and Libraries

Good Morning

Following our community council meeting on Monday night a few questions were asked regarding the use and costs of lifestyles community hall and its operation within the community.

Whilst not all items raised may be under your remit I would be grateful if you could pass to your colleagues responsible and copy me in.

Lifestyles hall

1) Can you advise if the cafe is likely to re-open and when.

Due to the current activity levels, we do not have any plans to re-open the café at this time however will continue to monitor and review

2) Vending machines were removed during lockdown, is it your intention to reinstate these and when.

The vending machines were removed during the building closures over the past couple of years however we are currently looking to re-instate vending and exploring options available.

3) Large hall hire, does access to kitchen come with this or is it costed separately. What are the conditions if any to having the kitchen.

The cost to hire the kitchen is £41.05 (social charge) and £61.70 (commercial charge) . For your reference I have attached the Conditions of hiring the kitchen.

4) Can you advise current hall and room charges including kitchen access and provide a comparison to 2018 and 2019.

I have attached the prices for the centre for the current financial year and would advise that our pricing from 2018 to date has only increased by the 3% RPI

5) Are hall and room charges the same as other lifestyle halls across Lanarkshire

The charges are based on the square meterage of the rooms/halls. Our pricing policy applies to all South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Halls.

Library and ACE Activities

1. a) Library is being closed to one day a week (a Friday) is this temporary or permanent.

The change to library opening hours from 24/10/22 is a temporary situation which has been necessary due to staffing shortages across the library service. Staff teams have been

redistributed to make best use of resources and decisions have been taken based on service usage. The situation will be constantly reviewed and opening hours improved when possible. Larkhall Library is the nearest library and open as follows:

Mon 9.15 – 12.30 / 1.30 – 5pm

Tues 9.15 – 12.30 / 1.30 – 5pm

Wed 9.15 – 12.30 / 1.30 – 5pm

Thurs 9.15 – 12.30 / 1.30 – 5pm

Fri 9.15 – 12.30 / 1.30 – 5pm

Sat 9.15 – 12.30 / 1.30 – 5pm

b) Will you be offering or running activities for children on a Friday like Minecraft, book bug etc.

c) Will library service consider offering special events one or two days a month.?

Bookbug will be available on a Friday afternoon 2 - 2.30pm and primary school class visits will be programmed on a Friday morning. There may also be opportunity to programme additional activities such as Shake, Rattle and Read or other ad hoc events on Friday morning depending on the uptake from schools and during school holiday periods.

2. Will the active IT suite be open to the community or will this only be available on a Friday. If its only available on a Friday can opening on non-library days be considered. Can IT courses be considered?

Unfortunately we are unable to deliver IT courses at this time and the Active IT suite will only be open on a Friday.

3. The hall facilities (rooms) don't appear to be promoted for use within south Lanarkshire leisure and culture. I.e. Shake rattle and read, Arts and craft courses, Paint and play, New media course. **Why is this.?** Our facilities are promoted via our website and our various classes are promoted through on-line platforms

Social work

1. Are social work back to full capacity operating at Stonehouse

Social Work have advised that some of the service users have already returned to the centre and we anticipate this increasing over the coming weeks.

2. The kitchen used to offer meals to the public whilst they were serving their clients. Will this resume.

We have passed this enquiry to our colleagues in Social work for further discussion.

Community Heating Hub

Has Stonehouse been considered for a community heating hub, or has any hall in SLC been considered.

South Lanarkshire Council in conjunction with South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture have launched the Warm Welcome initiative and community groups who use Stonehouse will be contacted in the next few days regarding this.

Thanks in anticipation

Robert Freel

Secretary

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