

Date: 11th April 2016

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Ms M Powell, Parish Clerk
Willingham Parish Council
Ploughman Hall
West Fen Road
Willingham
Cambridge
CB24 5LP

Economy, Transport and Environment
Executive Director: Graham Hughes

Cambridgeshire Libraries & Information

Bar Hill Library
Gladeside
Bar Hill
Cambridge
CB23 8DY

Dear Mandy

Willingham Library received no financial support from the Parish Council last year so no accounts will be submitted.

Report

The library continues to provide an excellent service in Willingham.

As well as books there are magazines, talking books and children's DVDs for loan. Items not in stock can be requested from other libraries free of charge. A scanner and a photocopier are available for public use as well as a staff operated fax machine.

Library members may have up to two hour's free Internet access a day on the library computers (subject to demand). Using these computers, customers can access Ancestry and Find My Past for researching family history and Which? as well as all the publications accessible free of charge from home, such as Encyclopedia Britannica, Who's Who, Driving Theory Test Simulation, Oxford Art and many more.

Library members can download e-books, e-newspapers, e-magazines and e-audio to their own devices. A new downloadable app called Sorcer gives readers instant access to their library accounts for checking issues and renewing loans. Again all free of charge.

Last Year in Willingham Library:

- Engage in the Afternoon – a free monthly event for the over-50s offering a speaker and refreshments.
- Volunteers – we have four volunteers whose input continues to be much appreciated by staff.
- Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)
The library still benefits from having an active Friends group. The Friends run regular activities - a monthly Reading Group and a new Family History Research group which is proving popular, as well an annual Poetry and Prose evening which is always well-supported. They also run occasional events such as last October's

Book Trail as part of the Feast weekend – this was much enjoyed by those who attempted it!

- Commercial Notice Board
The library has a board on which local businesses can pay to advertise (£4 a month for small notices and £6 for A4)
- The Summer Reading Challenge with a theme of Record Breakers was very successful with 67 children taking part through the holidays
- Staff experienced problems with rowdy behaviour from a particular group of teenage girls just before Christmas but this problem is now resolved.

Other Library News

Some Cambridgeshire Libraries and Archives opening hours will change from Monday 25 April, to make savings in line with the Council's business plan. The pattern of hours has been set following feedback from consultation with local residents.

Some 1,400 people took part in the surveys to shape the new opening times at our seven largest libraries (Cambridge Central, Ely, Huntingdon, March, St Ives, St Neots and Wisbech) and the Archives collections (Cambridgeshire Archives, Huntingdonshire Archives and the Cambridgeshire Collection).

We will also make reductions across various sections of stock following feedback on priorities for spending

Willingham library will not be sending a representative to the Annual Parish Meeting.

Your letter requesting this information was addressed to me as a representative of Willingham Library Friends Group but I am a member of staff employed by the Library Service. The secretary of the Friends group is Linda King whose contact details you will have.

Yours sincerely

Wendy Law
Area Library Manager
South Cambridgeshire North