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Dear Mandy

Here is the information regarding Willingham Library for the Annual Parish Meeting.

Report

The library continues to provide an excellent service in Willingham.

As well as books there are talking books and children's DVDs for loan. Items not in stock can be requested from other libraries for £1 for adults but this is free for children. We now have a joint arrangement with Peterborough and Suffolk libraries which allows our customers to request books from those libraries for £2.

Members can access the library system on-line from home to search the catalogue, make requests and renew books as well as being able to use many and varied reference websites. Our e-offer continues to be excellent, offering free downloading of e-books, magazines and newspapers.

The library service now offers the Spydus app, a free download on both Apple and Android phones, via which members can access their account, search the catalogue and make requests.

After a trial period of charging customers for computer use, this has again become free from 1st April 2019. Wi-fi use continues to be free.

In the last year the library has offered the following:

- **Engage in the Afternoon**

A monthly event for the over-50s offering a speaker and refreshments free of charge.

- **Bus Passes and Blue Badges**

The library is now established as offering a great service to those wanting to apply for or renew bus passes and blue badges and this is much appreciated by customers.

- **Class Visits**

In March, the library hosted two Reception classes from Willingham Primary School.

- **Summer Reading Challenge**

Last year 68 children took part and 29 completed the challenge, having read 6 books over the summer holiday and discussed them with staff and our teenage volunteers. They received a medal and certificate at the ceremony in September which was attended by Councillor Ray Croucher and Mr Dave Morel, Head of Willingham Primary School.

Money donated by the Parish Council enabled us to do the following:

- Lion Learners event where the children were able to listen to stories and then meet several different animals like those in the stories.
- Lou Carter, author event. Lou kindly did not charge for attending but we bought some of her books for the library and staffed the event.
- Lego event
- Helen Moss, author visit. In conjunction with the school we held a day of author workshops which really engaged with the children – giving them pointers as to how to construct a story and design their own monster.
- Purchase of equal share of Lego with the other 5 libraries in our area.

- **Volunteers**

The library has three general volunteers, Anne, Rosemary and Jenny whose input is much appreciated by staff. Anne and Rosemary also run the out-of-hours Family History group twice a month.

- **Friends of Willingham Library (FOWL)**

The library supported the Feast in October 2018 by opening on the Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday with members of the Friends group who also mounted a small Local History Quiz. The library also hosted the Octagon Art Group's Exhibition which brings in a lot of extra visitors. The Friends regularly host events in the library – two Poetry and Prose evenings, a Desert Island Discs evening and run their monthly Reading Group.

Accounts

The library would like to thank the Parish Council very much for the kind donation of £600 made last year for the Summer Reading Challenge. The breakdown of spending is as follows:

- Lion Learners, event fee and staffing - £130.
- Lou Carter, author event - £50.
- Lego event – staff costs - £20.
- Helen Moss, author event in conjunction with the Primary School - £350.
- Purchase of equal share of Lego with the other 5 libraries in our area - £96.
- Total: £646 (The overspend was covered by the carry forward from the previous year).

The money donated by Willingham Parish Council is paid to Cambridgeshire County Council and is only used to provide events and activities for Willingham Library.

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

Many thanks again for Willingham Parish Council's generous support for the Summer Reading Challenge.

Yours sincerely

Wendy Law
Area Library Manager
South Cambridgeshire North

