

Community Enterprises PL12 Report to Annual Meeting with Parishioners of Saltash

Community Enterprises PL12 (CEPL12) has had another busy year supporting the PL12 community. For example, it was in April 2023 that our Community Fridge served 755 people, of these, 710 were at our stall in front of the Community Kitchen wherein that month we served 543 customers. These levels have continued throughout the year and are not only supplying those in need but helping to bring footfall into Fore Street.

As to footfall generators No. 4 Fore Street, after a quiet start to the last year, has seen sales increase, as has the number of crafts people who sell their goods through the shop. At the start of the last 12 months, we had 25 crafters and now that number is circa 50. To provide a facility such as this helps crafters in the PL12 community who have an expertise but do not necessarily have the ability to sell their goods.

The Community Kitchen also provides a venue for various support organisations in the community to hold meetings and have friendly chats between people who have similar problems which include mental health groups, a stroke group and Dementia Voice. We were also pleased to announce during the year that Saltash Rotary are now using the venue on a regular basis.

But we don't just have the 2 properties in Fore Street. We were fortunate some years ago to be asked to take on 18 Belle Vue Road and the former toilet building in Belle Vue West car park. In the former we provide a base for Citizen's Advice and Foodbank (the latter also using the former toilet building). We have been negotiating a long term lease of 18 Belle Vue Road and, by the time this report is public, we have now completed the documentation on a 30 year lease of the building.

We are always thankful for our many volunteers and at the present time we have 130 thereof. However, we are always looking for more, including potential new directors.

In recent weeks we have decided to stop the Hopper Bus service. There are, within Saltash, other buses which can provide the same/similar service and it was felt that the time was now right to move on. Once the mainstay of CEPL12 it is now one of the many enterprises with the organisation. Unfortunately, the Director responsible for Transport was ill for several months and then decided to resign and hence the decision, albeit that some of the volunteers did an excellent job of running it during the Director's absence/departure.

In early January we invited Town and Cornwall Councillors to come for afternoon tea at the Community Kitchen and all of those who attended were surprised as to the extent of help we provide in the community with feed those in need, providing a base for social/support groups to meet, operational premises for local charities, a venue for sales by local crafters and a place for volunteers to do good work in the community. We are able to do this because of the various grants/donations we receive but we are always looking for more grants/donations as without them continued operation would be difficult.

End of report

Vice Chairman of PL12