

## BVCL AGM – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 – Library Managers Report

### WELCOME EVERYONE

The library has had a thriving year with over 10,000 items being loaned or renewed. It has certainly surpassed previous years and reflects that we are a well-used asset to many people and hope we can push this even higher in the future.

Alongside the traditional visits, which many people believe libraries supply, we also offer a free, safe and supportive space.

We have been supporting Buckinghamshire Council, council partners and other local organisations with the **Welcoming Space** initiative since October 2022.

We have had homeworkers and home education students dropping by to be in a social environment, using the public computers and other resources.

A hot drink and a biscuit is on offer to anyone who visits on a Friday evening during late opening, open to everyone who wish to be in a welcoming environment, for a chat or just to sit and read local newsletters, books or use IT.

Along with this community engagement, it was a pleasure to be invited to Windmill Pre-school before the Summer holidays, with a request to assist with some ideas to help create and mould their reading space. An impressive space; the staff already had ideas and some plans for moving forward with their project, I really could not elaborate further on their own ideas and the space is now being utilised by all the children who attend the pre-school. It really was an infectious meeting, with energy and passion in all the staff to make this happen.

The library has resumed offering Room Hire for small groups, maximum 8 persons at £10ph when the library is closed. We currently have 1 regular monthly booking.

If you have an interest in booking the library, please contact Colin Arney or myself via email.

We have restarted our Children's Story Time after a 5 year hiatus. The session is held weekly in the library every Thursday 3.30 until 4.14pm.

I am hoping with time to introduce a Bounce & Rhyme session for our youngest members.

The library is supported and run by our Committee and volunteers; without their time and diligence the library would not be able to function as brilliantly as we are! I thank everyone profusely for their kindness & dedication.

If you or anyone you know has a little time and would like to volunteer in a friendly environment, please do come and have a chat with me in the library for more information.

With BeaconLit next Saturday, the festival starts the year on a high and hope that we can maintain this going on.

**Michelle West**

**1<sup>st</sup> July 2023**