

## Report for PPC AGM Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March

Friends of Pontesbury Library [pontesburylibrary.co.uk](http://pontesburylibrary.co.uk)

FOPL is pleased to report that we have continued to support the library in its new home during the last 12 months. FOPL has also been able to pay the £3,500 for last year and this year, as agreed with the PPC, towards library costs. In addition there is a plan in place to develop an AV system within the Pavilion to support library and community activities. The first stage of this – to install a smart tv in the library area – is almost complete. The **Library Lottery Live** is now held on ZOOM and is proving successful, followed as it is by speakers or entertainment. It raises a steady income trickle. We have also had a number of individual donations received in the last year, an example of how community members value the library.

After the shock of lockdown FOPL's main challenge has been to work within the ruling of 'not encouraging social gatherings', when these have been the bedrock of our successful fundraising events. Undaunted the FOPL Committee came up with a number of creative ideas that could be realised within the COVID-19 rules of social distancing, mask-wearing and handwashing. The events we held (see poster below) recognised the importance of feeling part of a social occasion and doing something together. We know many people have felt isolated and everyone's well-being has taken a dip as the lockdown measures took effect. FOPL has risen to the challenge and we've measured the success of our events not simply by funds raised but by people's responses and smiles on faces as they took part.

We successfully applied for the **Coop Local Community Funding** this year and posters illustrating how we've used some of the money have been put up in both Pontesbury & Minsterley Coops and include: May Plant Sale, ongoing development of the Pavilion garden, Writing Competition with the theme of *Friendship* for adults and children, village Treasure Hunt and the Christmas Tree Trail organised with St. George's Church. FOPL look forward to working with the management in the library's new home in the coming months as restrictions are lifted.

# THANK YOU



# COMMUNITY FUND & COOP CARD HOLDERS

WITH YOUR SUPPORT WE'VE ...

### KEPT THE LIBRARY GOING DURING THE LAST CHALLENGING YEAR



### DEVELOPED THE PAVILION WELL-BEING GARDEN



### HELPED BRING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER WITH FUN EVENTS



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