Market Bosworth Community Library

Annual Report for the period April 1st 2024 to March 31st 2025

Registered Charity Number 1165437

Principal Address Market Bosworth Community Library
Station Road,
Market Bosworth,
CV13 0LT.

1) Achievements and Performance.

The year commenced on the 5th April with the presentation to our volunteers by Michael Kapur Esq OBE, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire of the crystal glass trophy and certificate in recognition of the library having been awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service. The Award recognises outstanding achievements by groups of volunteers who regularly devote their time to helping others in the community, improving the quality of life and opportunity for others, and providing an outstanding service. It sets the national benchmark for excellence in volunteering. In addition to displaying our Award in the library we have sponsored the planting of a Copper Beach tree in Bosworth Park to celebrate this achievement.

The foremost task of our volunteers is to keep the library open for a session each day from Monday to Saturday and while the library was open we had over 6,500 visitors during the year. Those of you who use the library regularly will know that we did suffer from some disruption in the first three months of 2025 due to the introduction of a new library management system by Leicestershire County Council. This is the system that controls the ordering and loan of our library books. All loan and returns had to be recorded manually and a range of services had to be suspended. As a result, we do not have reliable figures for our activity in February and March 2025. Our estimated figures for the year using the 10 months we do have are that we would have recruited 145 new members to the library, loaned 6,697 books which were balanced between 3388 adult and 3107 children's books, and averaged 114 active readers each month.

Our regular groups have continued throughout the year including Bridge Training, Knit & Stitch, Story & Rhyme and the Book Club. We remain both a Safe Space and a Warm Space. The library hosts the management meetings of several local organisation as well as community events such as the Cancer Research Coffee Morning which raised £800, teas for the Open Gardens event and our own fundraising activities such as our Quiz Night. One of our new developments this year

was the introduction of the School Uniform Swap Shop during the summer holiday where parents had the opportunity to donate and collect uniform items for our local schools. The scheme was part of an initiative by Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council and we hope to continue it in the future.

The library maintains a website at marketbosworthcomunnitylibray.org which had over 5,000 visitors in the year giving details about the library and its services as well as local information. We have included details of all of the local organisations which were listed in the Market Bosworth Parish Council "What's In It For Me" booklet with links to their respective web pages.

I would like to thank all the local organisations that support our work with a special thank you to St Peters CE Primary Academy whose children supply the artwork for our regularly updated display above our children's area. They have provided an attractive background to the display board in the library supplied by St Peters Church, commemorating their 700th Centenary.

2) Charity Trustees

Brian Granger	Chairperson	
John Pope	Vice Chairperson	
Jenny Jennaway	Treasurer	(Appointed as Trustee October 2024)
Tim Brooke		
Janet Greenfield		
Richard Bates		
Susan Styche		
Simon Paul		
Kenneth Gilbert		
Isabel Granger		
Jacqueline Pope		
Liz Alun-Jones		

Bryan Cole (Resigned as Trustee October 2024)

3) Governance

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a Constitution dated 1st February 2016 as its governing document.
Market Bosworth Community Library was entered in the Register of Charities on 4th February 2016 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.
The Constitution requires that there shall be a minimum of three Trustees and no more than twelve Trustees at all times. The current Trustees were elected by members at the Annual General Meeting as defined by the constitution.
The charity is resourced entirely by volunteers

4) Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity are:

a) The advancement of education for the public benefit in Market Bosworth and surrounding area by the provision of a volunteer run lending library.
b) To promote for the benefit of the residents of Market Bosworth the provision of a public library for recreation and or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of said residents.

The main activities of the charity are:

a) The continued availability of a public library service free of charge to the community of Market Bosworth and surrounding area for 13 hours each week including the loan of stock provided by Leicestershire Library Service and the provision of free internet access.
b) The provision of information concerning the local community, its resources and groups operating within it to residents and visitors.
c) Acting as a point of access for local community resources.
d) The availability of a room for meetings of up to 80 seated.
e) Providing group activities for a range of needs and ages.
f) Income generation to ensure the continuance and development of the charity's activities

5) Public Benefit

The Trustees have had due regard of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and can confirm that our operations are in accordance with the guidance.

6) Finance

The total income for this financial year was £8,541 and our total expenditure was £9,301 giving £760 excess of expenditure over income. The total end of year cash fund of the library was £52,688 contrasting to £ 53,448 in the previous year. Compared to the previous financial year our capital spend increased by £1,582, repairs and maintenance by £963, and light plus heating by £1,238.

Following the introduction of charges by HSBC UK ,the Trustees moved the charity's accounts to the Co-operative Bank in April 2024.

The Trustees have adopted a reserves policy whereby they have accumulated sufficient reserves to exceed the Charity Commission's minimum recommended six months operating costs. The Trustees undertook to maximise the reserves during the period when they were receiving grant support from the County Council. The Trustee believe that the current reserves will enable the continuation of library services for the foreseeable future, cover the level of liability in our lease agreement and enable the development of new provision as it is required.