

Great Chesterford Parish Council

The Parish Council agreed last year to fund the rent of the Community Centre to support an afternoon tea session. The objectives were to build links between the village, the Parish Council and Community Centre management. The Parish Council is asked to underwrite the rent for a further 3 months costing approximately £220. We expect to negotiate a lower rent so we pay the 'village' rate. In the meantime we will look for grant funding.

These sessions have attracted 15-20 older people many becoming regulars. We have not attracted the broad age range we had hoped for, but then it is older people who tend to have the time to come. We know that we have attracted people who do not get out much, and they stay for the whole session. They bring games. We hope that as the weather warms up we might attract parents before school pick up who have younger children who might use the rec. Some of the original benefits are being realised. The carpet bowls club may start in the autumn. People have expressed concern about litter and traffic. The Management Committee have said they will hold meetings at afternoon tea, but they have yet to happen

In 9 sessions we have taken £196.50. The cost of cakes and beverages is estimated at £240, so we are running at a loss before paying the rent. So far no money has been taken for provisions.

And the cakes are excellent!

Joanna Francis/Susan Ross

18.2.10