

Agenda item: 6

| Committee | Assets & Services Committee |
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| Month | April |
| Report Title | Easter Crafts Workshop |
| Report Author | Colette Kerr – Events & Activities Officer |
| Attachments | NA |

Summary

The Easter crafts workshop held in the Garden Rooms on Thursday 14th April 2022 was exceptionally well supported, with over a hundred children enjoying themselves. The Events & Activities Officer was supported throughout the day by a casual staff member from the Tourist Information Centre, along with volunteers; Cllr Trilby Roberts and local students Annabel Rush and Verity Kerr, both aged 13. Photographers from both The Walden Local and The Reporter attended to capture the creative fun.

Easter baskets and cards were made, individually decorated, and filled with Easter eggs kindly donated by our local Waitrose and Tesco stores. The colouring competition saw many artistic entries, and were judged at the end of the day by Town Mayor, Cllr Richard Porch – the winners, from 3 age groups have been notified and their prizes, donated by Waitrose, have been collected.

Following the event, surplus Easter eggs were donated to Uttlesford Food Bank.

Recommendation

It is recommended that this becomes a regular annual event in the Easter holidays, and plan for it to be held just prior to the Easter weekend if possible. Judith Thompson, Tourist Information Officer, attended with her grandchildren and said; "The activities were great and the kids loved them. The timing was perfect, close enough to Easter for visiting family members to enjoy with grandparents – thank you!"

Financial Implications

This event continued the momentum of the Councils community offering from the 'Welcome Back Fund' Events held in February and March. Whilst £1.00 per child was charged, costs for materials were met, but no contribution to overheads was made.

Key Considerations

Immediate feedback from the event was positive with enjoyment scoring 4.7 / 5 and 100% citing excellent value for money (£1 per child). Comments such as great holiday activity, well organised, nice craft materials, and lovely staff and volunteers were received. The press release issued requested further feedback from any attendees still wanting to make comment.

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SF2M2ZV



Officer Recommendation

It was a wonderful community event with children using their imagination with the craft resources supplied - Mums, Dads and many grandparents enjoyed the event too. It is recommended that this becomes an annual Easter event and where possible, a school holiday grant to be obtained to fund this activity.