Dear Cllr Bannister

Thank you for your email regarding the Talk Community Hubs following the Parish Summit last Friday. This project is still in its early stages but hopefully I can clarify some of the points you raise regarding the hubs and their purpose.

In terms of what is a Talk Community Hub these are not intended to be IT hubs or an IT product/system or IT offer, but are places within communities that people might already be engaged with or already using e.g. a village hall or community centre. The proposal is to work with these places and provide support to those people/volunteers who run that village hall or centre so they feel better equipped and able to help residents within their local community to access information, advice and signposting that in turn will help those residents remain well and independent within their own homes and within their community.

This might include showing users of the hub where they can find information, signposting them to any relevant support or services or linking people into activities that are going on in their local community. It could also include helping these hubs to develop new activities that would help people remain well and independent, or that supports loneliness and isolation in that community. It might also look at opportunities for brokering connections to co-locate groups from these hubs or to work more closely with primary care as a way of reaching patients in communities through the hub.

It is essentially what people and the community want or need it to be to support people in that community to remain well and independent. So it is difficult to be too prescriptive as these hubs are very much about being community led, community driven and delivered by the community. But essentially at the heart of it is ensuring local communities and people are better informed and connected to information, services and activities that could support them, utilising what is already there in many cases, or identifying new opportunities where there isn't anything.

It would therefore be really helpful to understand what groups people already use in Ledbury to exchange information as this would be really useful to connect people to through the hubs for those people who might not already be connected, particularly as we start to explore any potential opportunities for a Talk Community Hub in Ledbury, so anything that you think might help with this would be greatly appreciated.

Would be happy to have a further discussion regarding the Talk Community Hubs if that would be beneficial?

Many thanks

Kind regards

Helun

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