

Agenda Item 9

Barrowford Library:

The Clerk received the following email from Kate Miller at Barrowford Library on Friday 5th December.

Hi Iain,

Barrowford Library is due to have it's heating system replaced, and thus be closed for approximately 10 weeks. The current tentative dates are 26 January 2026 – 3 April 2026.

Ideally, we don't want to completely stop library activities during this period, as we provide an important service to many residents who would be negatively impacted by a long closure.

Would there be any scope in us using Holmefield House in some capacity during this time? We would be looking for a place to enable customers to come and collect bags of books and also a place to continue our groups such as baby bounce and rhyme, story time and reading group.

It would be great if we could set up a time for me to come and have a chat with you to see what may be possible. Next week I am in work on Monday, Thursday and Friday and could come over whenever is best for you.

The Clerk copied the email to both Cllr Stringer and Peter Clegg Chair of the Friends Group and called in to see Kate Monday afternoon. Kate received this information at short notice and has reached out to us to see if we could accommodate some of the activities currently being held in the library for the duration of the works.

Kate is keen to see these group activities continue as if they are cancelled for 10 weeks interest could be lost. The main activities that need accommodating are:

Wednesday: Children's Storytime: Wednesday 10am - 10.30am followed by Stay and Play 10.30am – 11.30am.

Thursday: Knit & Natter 11am-12noon

Friday: Baby Bounce & Rhyme 10am-10.30am Barrowford Reading Group 2pm – 3pm Fortnightly.

- Holmefield House could accommodate the Wednesday activities at their current times and the Friday Reading Group.
- Thursday's Knit & Natter and the Friday Baby Bounce & Rhyme would need to be rescheduled as the room is used at the current scheduled times.