**FRIERN BARNET COMMUNITY LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT April 2020-March 31 2021**

On 23 March, 2020 the library closed until July, 2020. During lockdown some work went on behind the scenes like cataloguing. We were also required to run the water every week and check on the building frequently. From July 2020 we re-opened for only 3 days per week, 4 hours per day. Many of our volunteers did not feel safe returning to public duties. We were open for book borrowing and computer use only. All the toys were hidden. Computers were spaced 2 metres apart. We covered the keyboards with cling film and changed them after every user. We sprayed the tables with Dettol. We quarantined the borrowed books for 72 hours before recirculating them. Masks were compulsory. We kept windows and doors open.

Normal activities did not resume. We were unable to allow study groups, Knit and Natter or book groups. The only group usage of the library was from Bare Bones Drama’s school groups when schools resumed and toddler music and movement groups when nurseries were allowed to resume. There was no Messy Play for pre-schoolers. There was no Summer Reading Challenge for children.

We wish to thank our librarian Anne Storey and her team for cataloguing books and providing online forms for library use. We wish to thank Farhad Izadi for keeping our website going and for fitting difficult forms onto our website for library users. We wish to thank Colin Thomson for keeping our broadband and wifi working and for all the equipment he has provided. We wish to thank our trustees for keeping guard on the building and we wish to thank our brave volunteers who returned to public duties even before we received our first vaccinations.

When Barnet House closed down we were given the opportunity of acquiring new tables, chairs, cabinets and filing cabinets for free. However, we did have to pay a removal firm to carry them to the library.

Trustees

Joanna Fryer

Anne Finnie

Cllr Pauline Coakley-Webb

Cllr Reema Patel

Helen Daugherty

Cllr Barry Rawlings

Felix Maguire

Rudolf Stravens

John Jenner

Farhad Izadi (resigned 1 Dec 2020)