

Dear Othona Community Members and friends,

You know how happy we are to start welcoming you back to Othona Bradwell - although the steps will be slow and things will inevitably be different.

>>>>>>>> **Now we need your help and support as never before** <<<<<<<<<<

The reality is that Othona needs, in order simply to survive, more money than any reopening plans could bring in. People come first - but places to stay together in Community, and communications, are essential to us - and come with a price tag.

The Charity needs money to run, currently £171,000 per year to keep both Centres running: heating, lighting, cooking, insurances, food, water, staff costs etc. We do have some reserves but at the current rate with very little income and staff mainly on furlough these will only provide us full cover for this financial year ending 31/3/21 and leave a little to support the following year. Othona's survival comes first - later, if Bradwell is to complete the Energy Project we still need the second Wind Turbine, which requires an additional sum of some £110,000. Without that, we waste money on diesel, produce CO2 and damage our green credentials

Othona has refurbished facilities, spacious grounds and beautiful settings. We have experienced, able, dedicated Wardens/Managers and resident core teams. We have truly committed members, friends and supporters. We are well known and included within our local communities. The Virus has hit us just when reserves are low because of major investments in both Centres. This letter focuses on Bradwell - but we are one Community: Othona West Dorset is reaching out now, too.

> No-one is prevented from sharing in Othona because of low income, which will be hitting some people really hard now. Donations to our general funds are vital, so we can keep Othona going and aim to sustain our bursary fund. Please see the Othona Bradwell Website "I want to" ... donate; for a link to easy online giving.

> If you are able to make a financial gift to Othona, this is the time. Your gift now will mean that future generations will benefit from the Community we all know and love. Use the link to give now, or contact our treasurer Angie Smith, treasurer@othona.org.

> With our Green Credentials Othona is an ideal place for your Carbon Offsetting. At Othona Bradwell we are off grid and our Energy Project means we are now fully electric, with solar energy supplemented temporarily by a diesel generator; and our gas boiler is replaced with a biomass boiler burning UK wood pellets. You are encouraged to use the principle of Carbon Offsetting to invest in Othona when your personal spending is on carbon: driving, flying etc. Information is available through various Websites, for example Carbonfootprint.com or Climatecare.org.

