

## **Update for Open BCC 15 August 2020**

### **1. Reopening.**

Acknowledging the teamwork of the Lockdown 10, and preparations for reopening – Tim, Debbie, Richard family members and our EVS Volunteers.

Training and safety measures have been undertaken..

Outreach and publicity is ongoing.

Real Community + virtual Community are both active and integral to Othona Bradwell.

### **2. Financial Position.**

High levels of investment in both Centres by the Othona Charitable Trust, related to Bradwell's business plans with year-round opening to generate sufficient income to cover investments and their upkeep.

Higher than anticipated costs at both centres, + effects of Covid on Othona's investments and income, so needing real focus on generating income from visitors and donations.

Bradwell needs to generate around £80,000 to sustain the Othona Charitable Company this financial year.

### **3. OEEP and Education Building Updates**

**The energy project** was started last year in response to the necessity to replace our condemned fossil fuel heating system. Trustees agreed to a Green design in response to our Members' commitment to a Green and Sustainable future for Othona Bradwell. An Energy audit revealed a number of areas for improvement; once the Project started a number of other hidden deficiencies in our systems were revealed. All were completed to ensure a green, sustainable, safe and compliant Centre for many years to come, supported by a professional service Contract.

The Othona Essex Energy Project is effectively complete now. You will see few changes at Othona – most are hidden. We now have a biomass boiler using UK fuel; more solar panels; an all-electric efficient kitchen; an

updated fire safety system; a new backup generator which, once we have achieved the second Wind Generator, will be rarely used.

**The Education Building** was re-created from the wooden Hut in the Lower Field. Susanne and Trevor contributed to the design, and oversaw the work which was completed by professional builders for the structural works, then by Trevor and selected volunteers. The painting and decorating were done by our EVS team, and some final safety works will be completed using money from a legacy. The main costs were supported by the Essex Community foundation Grant and very generous donations from members. The building will now be fit for educational purposes and as two additional bubbles of accommodation.

#### **4. Current work of the Trustees, Directors and BCC.**

Trustees have the overall responsibility for the assets of the Othona Community and in ensuring we are fulfilling our objectives and mission. Key concerns this year have been:

- a) Health and Safety – both Centres needed an upgrade of the Fire Safety systems and electrical upgrades to meet current safety standards, with oversight of the way we comply. Simon Thompson, our H&S rep. on the BCC, has been named as Bradwell’s H&S Competent Person.
- b) Investments – the trustees have increased their investments in the buildings and services at each Centre, consequently decreasing their Investment Portfolio set up after the sale of the Farm. Globally, investments are not performing well.
- c) Bradwell B nuclear Power Station: Roo on behalf of Trustees has responded to the Consultation, raising concerns that impact on Othona. Copiers of that letter are available via Roo: [essexchair@othona.org](mailto:essexchair@othona.org).
- d) Operational management – each Centre has a budget – reliant on income from visitors, and from donations. Income from the Central trust must be kept to a minimum to sustain The Community through difficult economic times. Directors oversee the operations of each Centre.
- e) Trustees are considering if there are better ways to structure the Community – but being aware that any change in structure must reflect the nature and purpose of our Christian Community.

- f) The BCC supports the work of the Community in all its operations, including support of the Centre Manager/Wardens and their teams.