

December Report from the Cost of Living Working Group

It has now been decided that the Social Supermarket group will be known as Food for Thought.

Plans for the Fareshare larder van to come to Purbeck have progressed at pace, although unfortunately Fareshare have now said they can only provide one van from Monday 9th January; there is a waiting list for extra vans. The larder van will be at St Marks School every Monday from 9.30 – 11.00.

A budget has been agreed for the first year, and Dorset Council are funding all but £1,000 of this, and have offered to assist with fund raising this shortfall.

A sub-group has been meeting to identify the need for this van across Purbeck, and this is far greater than originally anticipated. It has been decided to use the publicly available data about the number of Pupil Premium families at each school as the benchmark for each school's need for bags of food, with a minimum of 5 bags per school. This resulted in Corfe Castle Primary School having a quota of 5 bags.

Leaflets and a sample membership form have been distributed to the 6 schools involved so that they can start signing families up, with a deadline of 12th December set.

The next meeting of the full Food for Thought group is on 7th December.

The second Soup and Pud lunch was held in the Village Hall on Saturday, but unfortunately I was unable to attend due to a prior commitment. They are trialling a monthly event for the first three months. I have volunteered to help out at the next one on Saturday 7th January.

Report by Cllr Helen Sumbler, 5/12/22.