

The Clerk  
Hamble Parish Council,  
Memorial Hall,  
2 High St,  
Hamble-le-Rice,  
Southampton  
SO31 4JE

My Ref: SK/240519/mercury  
Your Ref:  
Please ask for: Matt Blythe  
Direct dial: 023 8068 8311  
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Fax:

Date: 24 May 2019

Dear Amanda

### **Running of the Mercury Library and Community Hub**

Thank you for coming in with Cllr. Schofield today, to discuss the above. It really helped me to understand the challenges that the Parish are facing in running the volunteer element of the Mercury and the wider impact on your services.

To confirm what we agreed:

- You feel that the Parish is unable to sustain the level of support currently given to the Mercury Hub and think there needs to be a dedicated resource to manage the facility (you suggested 5-6 hours per week). However the Parish are still willing to support the volunteer element of the Mercury. You suggested the model at Woolston, where the YMCA run a library, may be worth considering.
  - Action. I will investigate alternative management models and aim to report back to the Hamble Parish Council meeting on 8 July 2019.
- You said there were a number of outstanding issues relating to facilities management.
  - Action. If you can confirm the outstanding issues I will follow these up.
- You suggested there may be alternative funding that could be sourced to support the running of the Mercury.
  - Action. We will contact OneCommunity to request their support.
- You said that there were difficulties in ensuring adequate volunteer support to run the Mercury.
  - Action. Matt Blythe, Local Area Manager will work from the Mercury in the mornings where possible until a final management solution is agreed.

I hope that this is a fair reflection of our conversation.

Thank you for your ongoing support with the Mercury. The commitment of the Parish Councillors and staff is very much appreciated. I hope that we can continue to work

together to resolve the above matters and make the Mercury a successful community resource.

Yours sincerely,

**Sarah King**

**Corporate Director – Support Services (CFO)**