

MEETING POINT HOUSE

MEETING POINT TRUST, SOUTHWATER SQUARE, TELFORD TOWN CENTRE, TELFORD, SHROPSHIRE, TF3 4HS
01952 292268 RECEPTION@MEETINGPOINTHOUSE.CO.UK

WELCOME BACK!

First of all, we would like to start off by welcoming everyone back to Meeting Point House.

Please note that Meeting Point House is open from Monday - Friday 9.00am—5.00pm

If you require a space to run a support group or deliver educational services then please do contact us on 01952 292268 or email reception@meetingpointhouse.co.uk

All of our existing bookings that are eligible to run will continue to do so, and this includes 'Calm Cafe' on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at a new time of 5.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.

Funding from both the Coronavirus Community Support Fund, distributed by The National Lottery Community Fund and The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust (The Community Survival Fund), have both contributed enormously to our ability to continue operating during the last six months. We thank them both for making this possible.

In re-opening our building, we can assure you that all relevant safety measures relating to Covid-19 are being implemented and these are under continual review. When visiting Meeting Point House we do request that you: Wear Face coverings in the public/communal areas of the building, use the hand sanitisers on the entrance/exits to the building, respect other visitors by maintaining safe social distancing, wash hands for up to 20 seconds and avoid touching hard surfaces where possible. Your safety and that of our team is our top priority.

The on site Cafe will remain closed until the week commencing **11th January 2021** due to refurbishment work being carried out.

In the meantime, we wish to thank all of our regular and existing customers for their continued support and hope to welcome them and greet new customers in the new year. We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a safe return in the New Year.

ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Meeting Point Trust enjoyed a very busy and successful start to 2020. This has been achieved by the hard work and commitment from the team, in addition to the partnerships that have been further developed throughout last year.

We started the year off by running our Monthly Craft Fair and Holiday Scheme in February and both enjoyed the same levels of success as previous ones. The Holiday scheme, which is funded by Telford and Wrekin Council, commenced in summer 2019 and following a successful funding application has been secured to run until Easter 2023. Children (supported by parents and carers) between the ages of 5 – 9 years that were in attendance for the February scheme took part in making their own bee finger puppets, flowers for them to land on and also planted their own Sunflower seed after decorating the pot for it to grow in. The scheme provides an ideal opportunity for children to learn new skills, meet new friends and have a healthy lunch whilst not at school. The scheme is aimed at filling 'Holiday Hunger', by providing children with a lunch on each visit. During the last academic year we had 247 attendances, excluding Easter which although fully booked with 120 sessions had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus lock down.

During the Summer holidays, we offered 'take away activities'. Activity packs and lunches can be collected from Meeting Point House on each Tuesday and Thursday of the holiday. Again, Each session was fully booked and 10 lucky children were put forward to receive a "John Muir" award as they completed each activity and have been in attendance from the very first session. They were very proud of their creations and couldn't wait for us to see them. Each of the children collected their award on the first session of the October Half-term scheme and it was a joy to present them with it.

The next sessions will follow the "Take-Away" structure and be on December 22nd and 24th. To book a space please contact reception@meetingpointhouse.co.uk or call 01952 292268





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Our Craft Fairs also made a return in August and we saw some familiar faces come to showcase their hand-made creations. There was mixed results to begin with as shoppers were still a bit dubious about coming out amid the ongoing pandemic. But word has spread and we are now welcoming new sellers to the group and seeing an increase in footfall as people are venturing out a little bit more. We will continue to hold the fairs on the second Saturday of each month and support local people with their small businesses. The next Craft Fair will be on **December 12th** on the green space outside of Meeting Point House.

During Autumn 2019 we extended a very warm welcome to 'Care Leavers Hub' and welcomed back 'Yellow Ribbon'.

Both projects have been successful in establishing and developing their own strong connections with the wider community. We continue to support them in any way we can as we do with the other charities and projects in the building and hope that as a whole, we can continue to grow and develop.

We have also had the pleasure of welcoming the Telford Minster to the building. They have made a substantial investment and will soon be undertaking the development of the first floor extension. The space will be developed to host a 350-seat auditorium for multi purpose use. The plans have been drawn up and commissioned by the Lichfield Diocese who, over time, hope to engage the local young people of the borough and hopefully, grow their congregation and change the way the traditional "Church" is viewed and used in the community.

Prime Resolution, who provide mediation services will be joining us at Meeting Point House and they specialise in Family, SEND and workplace mediation.

NEW FOR 2021

Meeting Point House will be launching a number of activities to support your personal Well-being in 2021 and will create a 'Well-being Hub'. Activities will include: The Creation Station – Fun and educational Arts programme for pre school children, Yoga, Pilates, Women's Well-being circle, 'Time to Be' – A programme aimed to support 11 – 16 years olds deal with issues of anxiety and stress, Knit and Natter.

If you would like to see any other activities on offer please email manager@meetingpointhouse.co.uk

As we, along with other local charities start to re-build following the period of closure we really do both value and need your support.

Please visit us for coffee, lunch, to attend the Holiday Club or Craft Fair, or if you are or know of a community group looking for a new home please consider us.

Our mission today is as valid as it was 40 years ago when the Trust was born:

'To be the enduring Meeting Point in the heart of Telford that increasingly inspires, connects and enables Statutory, Faith and Voluntary organisations; and through this partnerships improves the lives of others'.

