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Speaker 1 (00:03):

Yeah.

Speaker 2 (00:04):

Yeah, that's fine. Can I get you to introduce yourself please?
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Speaker 1 (00:08):

Yeah, my name's Tina Hamilton and I'm chair of form B community football club.

Speaker 2 (00:13):

And you have been doing something extremely important for the local community, helping it. Can you please explain a bit more?

Speaker 1 (<u>00:20</u>):

Yeah, certainly one that the FAA took football away from us due to COVID-19, which was understandable. We thought, okay, the football has gone away. Um, but we're not going to go away. Um, we always said that we will be the club for the community and this gave us the opportunity to, uh, stand up and help our community. So for 99 days, we have been shopping, crossing the grass, weeding people's gardens, uh, correcting prescriptions, and offering what we call company calls for people who are self isolating and on their own we'll chat to them and check in with them once a week. So in these 99 days, we've looked after 478 homes and form B, um, we've uh, responded to 2078 requests for help. You're only a new club. Yes. We started off, uh, March, 2019. Um, and in that time we've accrued, uh, 28 teams and we've got over 330 members ranging from, uh, children age three, right up to our oldest walking football, a member who was 86.

Speaker 2 (01:28):

What's been your biggest challenge so far.

Speaker 1 (<u>01:31</u>):

Um, the biggest challenge so far is to find, uh, find us a home, um, which we're hoping to, we've got a five year plan, uh, because the idea is we want to community hope where, um, it's a center where everybody can come seven days a week. So during the day you might have your older people, um, coming for tea, coffee, uh, Domino's bridge. And they will mix with the mother and children group. Um, idea being there was a channel four documentary showing the positive influences, older people and younger children have mixing together into generational. It's good for mental wellbeing. It's good for the physical development of both age groups. Um, so that the biggest challenges to sort of find this land, um, cement our place in the community, which I think COVID has helped, helped us do, but we really wanted based on what's called home,

Speaker 2 (<u>02:20</u>):

How many young people have been involved in Nazi delivering and also the supply network that you've settled.

Speaker 1 (<u>02:28</u>):

Okay. You've probably got, I'd say about of the people who were doing it probably about 40% are young people as in underwriting. Um, the likes of my children, um, that's 16 and 30 and they've been answering the phone, taking shopping requests, prescription orders. We've also got, uh, children out delivering, um, dropping off papers, um, and just generally offering support where the camp,

Speaker 2 (<u>02:53</u>):

How do you think it's actually affected them, locked down? Do you think this has been a benefit to them to be, to do something for the community?

Speaker 1 (<u>03:01</u>):

I think it's been good because it's brought on the social skills. Um, and they're aware of we've now identified all these people who were self isolating, who were lonely. Um, and a lot of the kids have come back and said, we're not going to leave them behind, you know, which we've said, no, we want to continue, um, looking after them and bringing them into the club, whether that means, um, on a Saturday, bringing them down to watch the football, giving them, uh, a rug and a chair and a flask of tea, or whether it means bringing them along to our social dues. Um, so it's been good for the kids in that respect. Um, we've just been given the green light to go back to training, uh, under very tight restrictions. And it's lovely to see the children meeting with practice. So, you know, three months, that's a really long time, longer than the six week holiday. And I think that's given the kids a boost as well. So, um, we've also held zoom meetings where the kids can tap in and talk to each other, but nothing beats the face to face interaction.

Speaker 2 (<u>03:56</u>):

Do you think it's also helped with their education

Speaker 1 (<u>04:01</u>):

Social skills? Yeah, it's been invaluable because they're using skills that, which they didn't know, they have, they're having to prioritize, realize what's more important who takes priority over who else, making sure that they respond quickly. Um, I think on the educational side, it's been really tough. Um, as a moment I'm also a governor. So the local primary school getting the balance between children getting enough education or too much and overload. It's also been a tough time for the teachers, you know, um, that they're having to plan and sat and check in with the kids. So I think every age group and every part of the community has been affected, um, what we've tried to do is just remain positive. Um, always look at things that the glass is half full, because I think if you dwell on the negatives too much, there is no end in sight. And that's a question that, you know, the people we're looking after constantly are asking us one will and one will attend. And unfortunately we don't know, there's no set in stone answer

Speaker 2 (04:56):

Form BC. And a lot of problems recently with use of are particularly on the beaches and things. How important are community clubs like the sales do you reckon in combating issues

Speaker 1 (<u>05:08</u>):

Is really important, which is why we want this community help setting up the idea being that it offers kids. The champs. I know my daughter did a GCSE is last year. And she said, for me, library was too small and too noisy to study. So the nearest place would be Liverpool library. So we want to have this community hub where the children can call in after school and do some homework. For instance, if I

don't know Johnny wants to be an engineer, but he's struggling filling in an application form and setting across the way is Elvis. And he helped build the fourth road bridge. So while that can help Johnny that his application format and maybe in return, Johnny could then help out, but do you know gas onto the internet and use an iPad? We're going to be offering a level, one football courses.

Speaker 1 (05:50):

We're going to be offering referees courses all out to the community hub. They'll also be ideally, we want to get a mental wellbeing program in situ, so people can come and talk if they have any issues, but it's somewhere for the kids to go. Um, what's important for us. It's a small minority of kids who were causing the problems. We've got a youth committee, um, which we've got everyone from age six, right up to 16, he'll have an input to the club and they have a voice. And it's really important to give kids a voice. Um, you know, some of our kids have been down at the beach tardy, you know, after that the masses turned up and unfortunately, you know, that the it's the way that the broader, you know, values instilled to them. So I do think they get a bad press, but to give them something and to get them ownership of a community, health is really important and give them something to be proud of somewhere, to go and somewhere to make a difference.

Speaker 2 (06:45):

People are doggy at all, places like the dos trust, what Stefan's about a community football club and things like the dose.

Speaker 1 (<u>06:54</u>):

The idea for us is we're using football as a vehicle for community cohesion. And what's been interesting as well as we've been helping everybody out. Um, you know, they've actually said to us, we'd like to get involved. So some of the older generation who helped build the pool and get the pool going have said, look, Tina, you know, we will help you and we'll get this going for us. You're mixing the old generation with the new generation, the Duke trust do a fantastic job. And I know loads of kids who go there for dancing and various other activities. Our idea is this will be open seven days a week. We'd like your cafe. And we'd like everybody to get involved. And for it to be a focal point for the committee,

Speaker 2 (07:34):

How big a difficulty is it? How's it, how's it been for safeguarding, particularly with the coronavirus and keeping everybody safe.

Speaker 1 (07:43):

We were in the fortunate position that we were almost set up ready to go because all our coaches and assistant managers are all DBS chat and it's not just a standard DB assets in humps. Cause a lot of them are working with like the walking football. You've got, um, you know, vulnerable people there, um, and children. So they all have enhanced DBS as, um, they've also have to go on courses, safeguarding courses, both for safeguarding children, um, for our books. So they're fully prepped and they know, you know, what needs to be done. We also invested in PPE. Um, we also bought all our volunteers, a tee shirt like this. So they were easily identifiable to when people are coming to the door, they realized what was happening, um, who they were. And they could tell it from our club. We also sent out guidelines when delivering what we need to do. So I feel as though we ticked every box

Speaker 2 (<u>08:30</u>):

Food box, sort of stopping, being delivered by the government. I believe you're doing some tickets.

Speaker 1 (<u>08:37</u>):

What we did. Um, we sort of took a different route when we were taking calls from, um, the older generation. They were really disappointed that they couldn't come out for the day and they were planning, you know, street parties and everything else and they were ready to respond. And so what we did, um, we got 105 baskets. I contacted safe Waitrose Tesco's and Cassidy's Cassidy become tasks. They can gave us all our strawberries for free, which was 80 pounds worth. Um, Waitrose gave us all champagne, truffles and short brats. And Tascos gave us, um, about you towards the tea that we bought. We went out and we ordered online, um, union Jack hats and union Jack glasses and privacy propers. And we delivered 105 afternoon teas to houses, round four and B, um, which went down the store. We also at the bank holiday, people were finding it really difficult, staying in at the bank holiday. So, um, we chose again donated, um, chocolate bars and we supplemented this and we delivered, uh, 400 chocolate bars to homes around four and B with a little message. I'm saying just a sweet treat for most to keep you going. So, although it's not sort of Goodman food boxes, we like to think it's just something a little bit different. Um, um, something which will pick people's spirits up

Speaker 2 (09:50):

And you're continuing that low into.

Speaker 1 (09:53):

Yes, we're continuing. A lot of people have been phoning up saying because, um, restrictions have been relaxed, I'll be going to stop. And we've said, look, we're not stopping. We know that people have got letters saying that they have to shield until the 1st of August and we'll keep going to them.

Speaker 2 (10:07):

Well, thank you and good luck. And if anybody wants to sponsor you, how do they do that?

Speaker 1 (10:13):

Get in touch with myself. I'm Tina Hamilton on Oh, double seven, nine one double six, eight two eight zero. Or they can email me at, uh, Tina FC fc@outlook.com.