

## **Report to the Annual Parish Meeting 2025 concerning the Community Cafe.**

The Community cafe is a new initiative generously funded by the Walberswick Common Lands Charity. The first session in October 2024 was held in the Village Hall Annex but the popularity of the venture necessitated a move to the Main Hall where the cafe has been open once a month thereafter. It is run by three of us from the village, Shirley Humphrey, Suzzie Godfrey and Christine Mitchell. We are all experienced in running community ventures and in catering for the public.

We initially ran the café one afternoon a month throughout the winter as a trial, but in view of its ongoing success we are continuing going forward. The cafe offers free tea, coffee and cake, and provides some games including scrabble and now chess and an ongoing jigsaw puzzle, together with a quiet place to chat. We hope that it enhances community life here in Walberswick. When the lunch club (which ran here for many years) was operating, its success lay not only in feeding people but as an informal space for villagers and neighbours to meet each other and spend time together.

We can offer lifts if required and the informality means that you can call in at any time, there is no need to book and there will always be someone to share time with, perhaps your new neighbour or an old friend?

The cafe meets in the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of the month in the afternoon between 2.00pm and 4.30. Look out for notices; a reminder of the date is in the Village News.

With grateful thanks to the WCLC, the Village Hall Committee and Sheila, the VN editor, for their support and encouragement in this new venture.

Christine Mitchell 1.05.2025