

Report to the Annual Parish Meeting 2026 concerning the Community Cafe.

The Community Cafe is an initiative generously funded by the Walberswick Common Lands Charity. Begun in October 2024 it has become an established feature of the village diary. 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 are also grateful for occasional practical help from those who come along.

The cafe offers free tea, coffee and cake, and provides some games including scrabble, dominoes and an ongoing jigsaw puzzle, together with a quiet place to chat. We hope that it enhances community life here in Walberswick and that it provides 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 in the Community Services section.

Now that the Cafe has become established there are a few myths to be dispelled; these may be inhibiting or deterring people who might otherwise enjoy a visit to the Community Cafe.

- You do not have to play games or do a jigsaw, although you can if you want to
- It is not a knitting circle, although you could knit if you want to
- You do not have to regard yourself as old or lonely to come along, although it offers a great place to come for some company
- It is not a club

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

on behalf of the Community Cafe Team

Christine Mitchell 8.05.2026