

Warm Room & Community Hub Annual Report 2022/2023

The Warm Room was a Parish Council initiative in partnership with HM Government and East Suffolk Council in response to the cost of living crisis. A questionnaire circulated to all residents of the Parish suggested a Warm Room was needed by some of our residents so finance was obtained from the Cost of Living/Ease the Squeeze Fund.

Helen Kingston-Ross and Sally Long managed the project with the essential help of a band of wonderful volunteers without whom the scheme could not have run. This provided a Warm Room in our Village Hall for 6 hours a day, twice a week from 1st November 2022 to 30th March 2023. Beverages and biscuits were provided.

The Warm Room proved popular with craft sessions held, jigsaw sessions, much laughter and many new friendships made. We felt the Warm Room was warm in spirit as well as physical heat, providing social support and care too. As the sessions came towards the end, many residents expressed a wish for something similar to continue.

The Parish Council obtained funding from our County Councillor Patti Mulcahy so we have been able to continue a Community Hub for people to meet and socialise for a few hours twice a month. We are pleased that this money also helped to contribute towards the financial support and stability of our much loved Village Hall.

We would once again like to thank all the volunteers who have helped make this so successful, our thanks to the Parish Council for their support and to Angie Buggs for all her help and for managing our finances.

Helen Kingston-Ross and Sally Long