

## **Warm Room & Community Hub Annual Report 2023/24**

The Community Hub continued to provide a space for people to meet and socialise for a few hours twice a month and proved popular with craft sessions, jigsaw puzzles, much laughter and many new friendships were made throughout the summer of 2023.

As the weather became cooler, further funding was provided by East Suffolk Council which enabled The Warm Room to continue. This time it was renamed "Warm Welcome" and welcome was what it continued to provide every Tuesday to Friday for 3 hours per morning.

A communal space for the residents to meet in a warm space to meet friends, neighbours and form new friendships too. It's been a place where residents spend time chatting, laughing, and socialising but also sharing practical advice and supporting each other too. Coffee, tea and biscuits are provided free of charge and the jigsaw puzzles have remained as popular as ever!

As the Warm Welcome came to an end East Suffolk Council commented "*it demonstrates the worth of the Warm Room in Levington*" and provided further funding for the Community Hub to continue through the summer months where the hall will be open on Thursday mornings every other week.

Helen Kingston-Ross and Sally Long continued to manage the project whilst John Parrish was assigned as lead councillor.

A special and heartfelt thanks goes to the group of wonderful volunteers who have provided their time, cheery dispositions and have always made you feel welcome.

Our grateful thanks to every one of them for continuing to make this available to all of us, without their generous donation of their time this provision simply wouldn't be possible.

These volunteers have ensured that the rota was populated resulting in every session being open.

Also, our thanks to the Parish Council for their support and to Angie Buggs for all her help and for managing our finances.

We are pleased that this money has also helped to contribute towards the financial support and stability of our much loved Village Hall.

Helen Kingston-Ross and Sally Long