

INFORMAL INTRODUCTION ON BEHALF OF J.H.C

THIS PRESENTATION IS A SNAP SHOT OF OUR CONTINUING WORK WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

OUR CLIENT FIGURES ARE BASED UPON THE PERIOD, 1ST. JANUARY TO THE 31ST. MARCH 2022.

DURING THAT PERIOD, THE NUMBER OF CLIENTS VISITING US WAS **225** WHERE FOR THE SAME QUARTER PERIOD LAST YEAR, THE FIGURE WAS **213**. FROM THAT NUMBER, 54% WERE SAWSTON RESIDENTS, BUT INTERESTINGLY, 25% DID NOT HAVE A CONNECTION TO THE VILLAGE. AS A MATTER OF INTEREST, AND AS A REFLECTION OF INCREASED DEMAND, THE FACT IS THAT IN 2019 FOR THE SAME PERIOD WE SAW 157 CLIENTS. A CONFIRMED INCREASE TO US OF 66 CLIENTS.

THE GENDER RATIO FOR THIS LAST QUARTER, WAS 75% FEMALE CLIENTS AND 25% MALE CLIENTS; WHERE AS LAST YEAR THE RATIO WAS 61% FEMALE, AND 39% MALE.

OF THE CLIENTS THAT WE SAW, 7 OUT OF TEN OF THEM WERE EXPERIENCING DIAGNOSED HEALTH ISSUES.

OVER £13,000 IN GRANTS WERE AWARDED DURING THIS QUARTER WITH SOME FINANCIAL RESOURCE BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO US FROM THE RADLEY CHARITABLE TRUST, STAYWELL (GOVERNMENT GRANT POT FOR UTILITIES), GREAT SHELFORD PAROCHIAL CHARITY (FOR GREAT SHELFORD RESIDENTS) AND DUXFORD PARISH COUNCIL (FOR DUXFORD RESIDENTS). A FURTHER 28 APPLICATIONS WERE MADE TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE LOCAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME (CLASS). THE RESULT WAS AN AWARD OF £5,000 FOR WHITE GOODS, SUPERMARKET VOUCHERS, CLOTHES AND SOME UTILITY VOUCHERS.

WITH THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE ARISEN THROUGH THE PANDEMIC, THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF GRANT ENQUIRIES BEFORE COVID, HAD BEEN RELATED TO THE ISSUE OF BENEFITS. SINCE THEN THE LIST OF ENQUIRIES IS NOW IN THE ORDER OF GRANTS, BENEFITS, HOUSING, DEBT AND INDIVIDUAL FAMILY SUPPORT.

THERE HAS BEEN MUCH DISCUSSION ON THE APPEARENCE OF FOOD BANKS AND J.H.C HAS, IN ITS OWN WAY, BEEN CONTRIBUTING TO A TANGIBLE WELL BEING WITHIN THE COMMUNITY THROUGH ITS PROVISION OF FOOD BAGS TO CLIENTS REQUIRING ASSISTANCE. 245 BAGS WERE OFFERED TO 51 FAMILIES; SLIGHTLY DOWN ON THE SAME QUARTER FOR 2021 (274 BAGS TO 50 FAMILIES).

HOWEVER, IN 2019 THE LAST YEAR BEFORE COVID STRUCK, WE GAVE OUT LESS THAN 400 BAGS THROUGH OUT THE WHOLE YEAR.

THIS LOWER NUMBER MAY WELL BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE INCREASED SIZE OF OUR BAGS AND THE NUMBER OF ITEMS WITHIN IT. WE SET OUT TO PROVIDE A MINIMUM SUPPLY OF THREE DAYS WORTH OF NUTRITIONALLY BALANCED, NON PERISHABLE FOODS, BOTH TO INDIVIDUALS AND TO FAMILIES.

TYPICALLY, EACH BAG CAN CONTAIN 15 ITEMS. OBVIOUSLY, WE ACKNOWLEDGE AND RESPOND TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF CLIENTS WHO HAVE RECOGNISED DIETRY PROPBLEMS.

INCLUDED IN WITH THE ITEMS WILL BE A PROVISION FOR HOUSEHOLD CLEANING PRODUCTS AND TOILET ROLLS (WHEN AVAILABLE TO US).

I WOULD URGE YOU ALL TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND FACE BOOK PAGE TO SEE FOR YOUR SELVES, THE RANGE OF ITEMS GOING INTO EACH BAG AND TO NOTE THOSE ITEMS THAT ARE SOME TIMES IN SHORT SUPPLY TO THE CHARITY. WE DO RELY ON DONATIONS FROM THE KINDNESS OF OTHERS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

AND FINALLY, £400 WORTH OF J.H.C – CO-OP VOUCHERS WERE GIVEN OUT DURING THIS QUARTER (1ST. JANUARY TO THE 31ST. MARCH 2022. THANK YOU FOR LISTENING.