

Jubilee Foodbank Annual Report April 2017

The Jubilee Foodbank has been open for more than five years now, looking back over that time there had initially been a need identified for support for one or two referrals each month, gradually the number of monthly referrals has now increased to between 25 to 35 each month - sadly it would seem that the need for the Jubilee Foodbank is not going end in the near future.

We were pleased to welcome 30 people to the Annual Meeting on the 14th March 2017 it was a good opportunity to publicly say thank you to all those individuals, churches and other organisations for their continued and very generous support, without which we would not exist.

At times the generosity of the local community can be quite overwhelming it was especially so at Harvest and Christmas times when we received so many donations of food. Our stocks of food had been running very low and the shelves were emptying but suddenly both the shelves and the store room were full again it was very humbling for us all.

At the present time our financial situation is strong, due to the number of people who very generously donate money to us and this has allowed us to make some adjustments to our systems. We are now able to provide longer term support to a small number of people who are in need, continue to provide fruit, vegetable and meat vouchers and also to give supermarket vouchers at Christmas to all our referrals. We continue to keep these systems under review and may need to adjust them should our financial situation change.

We have been very pleased to offer our support to the Churches Together in Harborough Homeless project and will provide food as required to be given to homeless people out of hours when the Foodbank is closed.

Our volunteer numbers remain strong with 7 committee members 1 administration volunteer, 15 front line volunteers, 11 stock room volunteers and a small number of other volunteers who help us from time to time when needed. The management committee expressed their sincere thanks to Jane White who stepped down from the management committee and her role as Chair earlier in the year, Jane has been a very hard working member of the management committee since the Jubilee Food bank first opened; Jane remains working as a front line volunteer.

In closing this report I would like to say a very sincere thank you on behalf of the Jubilee Foodbank Management Committee to all those people who support us in any way, thank you to the Rev. Stephen Haward and the members of Market Harborough Congregational Church and also to the ministers and members of the other churches in Market Harborough for their ongoing and very generous support.

Margaret Nash

Chair Jubilee Foodbank Management Committee April 2017

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