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Registered Charity No : 1183244

This summary reports for the purposes of both the Annual Parish Council Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting and while including details from our end of the calendar year report, it covers progress that brought us to the end of our financial year, plus recent events.

Behind every year there is of course, a huge amount of work, a mixture of crisis & opportunity management plus thankfully, plenty of humour when needed. Be you customer, collaborator or even both, as we have said before if you have played a part at some point, big or small. Thankyou.

We are now back in a sound partnership with a much-recharged Parish Council and in little more than our three years (despite COVID), we will by 2023 in real terms, have reduced our community precept dependency by 67%. We look forward to continuing to work with the newly appointed CPC members.

Our air source heat pumps successfully saw us through the winter, greatly reducing our dependency on fossil fuels, and were joined in April by a solar array for of 80 panels that are expected to meet 85% of our electricity requirements. Next month, all lighting will be replaced by LED bulbs and proximity switches. Match funded by MSDC they join a number of fully funded initiatives that we hope will act as an environmental exemplar to the community we serve. Our carbon audit with the support of Groundworks/Suffolk District Council showed we have already reduced our footprint by 72%. With the aid of people like the National Lottery, MSDC, SCC and Viridor Landfill Credits and the Valencia Community Fund, our work really is cleaner and greener.

The activities continued to grow; award winning Ballroom Dancing, Badminton, Bowls, HIIT, Nordic Walking and Pilates flourish. Our Suffolk School of Nordic Walking embarked on its first European trip. In April we introduced Ballet for the over 55's, with a full class. We launched our new Tennis School this year, with offers for the more sedate or just regular players plus a new Junior camp for the summer. We are investing a lot of time in this project and would welcome support as we believe it has scope to appeal to a broad age group in and outside the Parish.

We welcomed the return of the Coddenham Athletic Football Club who end the season at the top of their leagues. Regular followers from Haysel House have been particularly welcomed by the Club.

We believe the Coddenham Centre offer an excellent choice of active wellbeing for all, so please continue to support and make the most of it, if you can!

Ukrainian Junior National Badminton Champion, Nastya Ruban, continues to train at the Centre as part of a welcome from the Coddenham community. She has been particularly successful and is the subject of filming at the Centre later this month.

The new and expanded offers for toddlers and infants grew, plus the introduction of scrapbooking, a gentle activity for everyone.

Our Branches also continued to bring people together. The Coronation Brunch and entertainment supported by CCRG members was an excellent recent example. In April we experimented with a new Market and Brunch and will repeat markets in the summer and at Xmas. A Coddenham Picnic organised with the CCRG will take place in September, followed by another popular quiz and Ceildh events later in the year.

At the beginning of April Suffolk Mind raised over £8000 with the help of our donation of facilities for their 'Fire & Ice' event.

We continue to build on the Coddenham Parish Community Survey and are working to integrate recommendations and ideas into our future strategy, including the contribution of our environmental work.

We have now received Lottery Funding and planning permission to create a storage extension with volunteer help and this will complete our internal re-configuration, releasing much needed space for hire and active use.

We were also delighted to continue to play a lead part in conjunction with Parish Council in bringing the Coddendam Green Space Management Report to fruition with the Suffolk Wildlife Trust. We continue to host litter picks and working parties working with CPC.

The new meeting room continues to play an increasingly important role in releasing main hall capacity.

Our winter weekly 'warm-space' was introduced with help from Mid Suffolk District Council and were expanded with monthly 'fish & chips' courtesy of the East of England Co-Op through the Suffolk Community Foundation. Careful use of funding has allowed us to extend the offer into May with a free offer of a 'Ploughman's Chatter'. All events were accompanied by successful collections for local foodbanks. We also ran a successful collection for earthquakes victims in Turkey and Syria.

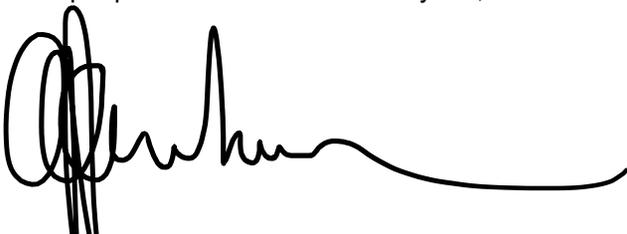
Our kitchen continues to flourish with four artisan chefs/food manufacturers now booking in for a range of products 'cooked in Coddendam', all offering very low food miles.

The repair of our 'closed loop' technology for the hard of hearing and new public address system courtesy of the Gardemau Trust, has been put to increasingly good use. Our 'arsenal' of marquees has also been in recent use with volunteer help.

The icing on the 2022 'cake' were awards for the Suffolk Community Centre of the Year and Most Active Community, putting the Centre and Coddendam, very firmly on the 'map'. This year we will be applying to update our Carbon Charter Award to recognise the tremendous progress since the original award two years ago. We continue to work with Community Action Suffolk, Active Suffolk and the Suffolk Community Foundation.

Finally, despite a precept shortfall, with the help of an unexpected private donation, the delaying of some costs and improved revenues and on-going support of the Day Foundation, at the end of the 22/23 financial year, we achieved a breakeven position. With some 'essential' capital works behind us (we hope), we now intend to leverage reserves for a range of outstanding small works and longer term, the development and re-purposing of the bowling green in 2024/25. We nonetheless proceed cautiously given the economic climate.

Our huge thanks to fellow Trustees, Ray Collins, Debbie McDonnell and David Wythe, hard-working employees Gail Springett and Charmian Hall, all our activity providers, the generous sponsors including Active Suffolk, Community Action Suffolk, the Day Foundation, the Gardemau Trusts, Mid Suffolk District Council, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Community Foundation, the National Lottery, Valencia Communities Fund, Viridor Landfill Credits, fellow CCRG members, plus our wonderful volunteers and the people of Coddendam and beyond, who continue to support the pursuit of community health and wellbeing for all at the Coddendam Centre.



Andrew MacPherson
Chair – The Coddendam Centre.
10th May 2023