**FOOD BANK ANALYSIS FOR MAY 2018**

Although we have missed two sessions this month due to bank holidays we have still had a steady flow of people needing help from us. Thursdays recently are turning out to be our busiest days and we have needed four volunteers on duty to enable us to deal efficiently with clients. This month has seen us give food to 75 adults and 65 children. We are anxious to recruit more volunteers so if you feel this is something you could help with, please speak to Eileen, Liz or myself, or come along on a Monday or Thursday morning when we are open (11.00 – 1.00) and spend some time with us to see what goes on. Over the past few Mondays we have had one of the students from Wallingford School give us an hour of their time and this has been very useful.

We are still using The Lodge to store our food as it turned out not to be possible to use a shipping container due to the fact that the park gates are not wide enough and the overhanging branches of the trees would also be a problem. We are extremely grateful to the Council for allowing us to continue to use their property but we are also very mindful of the fact that they need to be able to let it out on a private basis in order to obtain some rent. The latest thought on storage is that it might be possible to obtain metal flat packs – either one or two units – which could be erected in the council yard. I am aware that our busiest time of the year (harvest) will soon be upon us and it would be wonderful if this issue of storage could be sorted before then.

The donations of food and money continue to come in on a very regular basis. Waitrose also bring over the box of food that they have in their store. When we have to shop for any additional food I am often asked by the checkout ladies how we get the money to pay for the extras. They are usually amazed when I tell them that it ‘just comes in’ without any special fund raising event. My thanks, once again, goes to you all for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Jean Burt