



## PRESS RELEASE

Date: 28th April 2021

### Coffee Connect Launches across Leicestershire & Rutland

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April saw the successful launch of the Rural Coffee Connect project with a fantastic turnout at the Markfield Community and Sports Centre. The Rural Community Council (RCC) team offered drinks to guests whilst sharing the exciting plans for the van during spring, summer and beyond. A resident of Markfield mentioned *"Shrugging-off the rather cold and windy weather, an invited group of Markfield residents enjoyed the excellent hospitality provided by the RCC's "Coffee Connect Van" when it visited the Markfield Community and Sports Centre on 21st April. I very much enjoyed my first proper Latte in many months and catching-up with friends and colleagues from across the village."*

The project offers complimentary, high quality coffee and hot drinks in an informal, friendly space with a simple 'coffee and chat' approach. Their pop-up visits bring people together and support individuals in building mutual connections with neighbours and existing local services. Through community capacity building, Coffee Connect staff aim to help identify and facilitate the set-up of long-term assets and services to support stronger, more connected communities.



Residents enjoying a cup of coffee socially distanced: Resident (Left), Amy Chambers- RCC Staff, Resident & Resident.

**rural coffee connect**  
connecting people one cup at a time

Here at the RCC, we recognise that anyone can feel lonely, and therefore anyone can take steps in their everyday life to reach out and help others in their local community suffering from loneliness. We offer FREE Zoom based training sessions which are designed to help act by explaining the common causes and effects of loneliness, talking through ways to reach out, connect and help others that may be experiencing loneliness and sharing useful links, tools, and resources to help tackle loneliness. More information regarding our work is available on our website:

<https://www.ruralcc.org.uk/loneliness>

To find out more about the van or enquire about a visit to your community call the Coffee Connect team on 01455 856330 or email [connect@ruralcc.org.uk](mailto:connect@ruralcc.org.uk).

**END**