

Walberswick Village Hall Management Committee

Chairman's report

3 April 2025

Premises and equipment

Car Park resurfacing – The major project of resurfacing the car park and improving the drainage was finally completed by May 2024. The final cost of the project was £21,354.

Main Hall lighting upgrade – The main hall lights have been upgraded to LED fittings which give a better brightness and are more sustainable.

Floor repairs – The main hall floor was successfully repaired where some of the floorboards had risen causing a trip hazard.

Flagpole – The old flagpole was condemned and a new flagpole installed in partnership with the parish council.

Fund Raising and Events

Due to a new team organising the bingo it was restricted to two sessions in August. However, it was very successful and the intention is to return to three bingo sessions again this summer. Thanks go to all of those who helped. There will also be an extra bingo session in the Easter holidays on 16 April 2025.

A new venture this year was the showing of the National Theatre 'live' film of 'The importance of being Earnest'. This proved to be a successful initiative and the VHMC have now signed up for a full year's programme. Thanks to Martin and Karen Lovick for leading this initiative.

Further events and activities included the excellent village play 'The real inspector Hound' which took place in the village hall, table tennis which has proved very popular, likewise the Yoga and Pilates sessions. A once a month café has been instigated by Christine Mitchell and her team. We have also welcomed the theatre group 'Circle 67' who have already performed one play at the village hall with another production in the pipeline.

Village Fete – The tradition of a summer Village Fete was very successfully continued, thanks to Mitchell Pocock and his committee. This year the proceeds were split 40/40/20 between the village hall, Church and a local charity food bank. The village hall received a donation of £4,800. The VHMC would like to thank those involved for all their hard work in making the fete such a success despite the weather!

The village hall also received a grant of £3000 from WCLT in January 2025.

The committee are now seeking to develop the programme of fund raising and community events and activities.

Personnel

There was a very new look to the Village Hall Management Committee in April 2024. We were fortunate enough to have new members who were able to take over from the very experienced members of the committee who resigned during 2023/2024. Martin Lovick took over the position of Treasurer and bookings manager from Bill Willason and Alan Gomm took over the secretarial role from Vivienne Hunt. We were joined at last years AGM by Mitchell Pocock. The VHMC would like to extend our thanks to Alvin Hunt, who stood down as Chairman at the last AGM, for his many years of excellent, loyal service to the village hall management committee.

It has been a particular challenge for the present team to pick up from where a very established and experienced committee left off. The fact that this has been achieved so well has been down to the hard work, enthusiasm and commitment of all members of the committee and I would like to thank them all.