

Walberswick Village Hall Management Committee

Chairman's Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

Premises and Equipment

The flagpole developed problems with raising and lowering of flags. The manufacturers attended and normal service was resumed with a proud display of the Ukrainian flag as well as that of the Union.

In July we looked very carefully into whether solar panels on the hall roof would be economically sensible. John Weston did the research and a meeting was held with the electrical company specialising in such installations. The financial returns did not warrant the considerable outlay and we decided not to proceed with this.

A defibrillator was installed outside the front door of the hall at the request of the Common Lands Charity.

A new fully insulated ceiling was installed in the annexe with new integrated low-energy lighting.

The car park grassed areas are to be replaced with a shingle surface and the drainage improved. A quotation for the work has been accepted; planning permission has been applied for and work should proceed over the coming months.

Fund raising and events

The main social event was the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee in the hall and marquee.

The usual three bingo sessions were held during August. These were well supported by villagers and holiday makers and raised a profit of £1983.00.

Hire charges were reviewed by our treasurer Bill Willison and his sub-committee of Martin Lovick, David Neeves and John Weston and increased after considering the charges made by similar halls in the area.

Annual summer fete

The annual fete had historically been the responsibility of Walberswick VHMC shared with St Andrews Church PCC. Of late the WVHMC has appointed the chair of the fete committee, with the approval of the PCC. The 2022 fete was very ably run by Gordon Beard and his committee. Gordon has very kindly agreed to again take on the task again for 2023. Last year's fete raised profits of some £15,000, shared equally between the hall and the church. I stress the significance of this item since the fete is something which is not only of great importance financially but brings together very many residents of Walberswick in a happy joint venture.

Personnel

This is a time of significant change in the make-up of our committee since several of us have been *in situ* for several years

Jill Willison left the committee last November having been a very active member and occupied the onerous position of Booking Manager.

Bill Willison will resign as Treasurer during this year and his place will be taken by Martin Lovick when Martin is able to move into his house following completion of renovations. David Neeves, Harriet Wilson and Martin have joined in the last couple of years and Alan Gomm, together with Teresa Lynch, have just come on board. We could still do with two or three new members, perhaps representing other groups in the village as has historically been the case.

Clive Brynley-Jones has retired from the chair and the group after, in his own words, 'having hugely enjoyed many years on the committee'. He also stated that 'without exception, my fellow members were cheerful, hard working and very committed people and it has been a privilege to work with them, many thanks to them all'. The committee would like to thank Clive for all his hard work and dedication over the years, carrying out his duties in a thoroughly professional manner.

I have agreed to stay on as chairman for the coming year then I will also be retiring. I have served on the committee for twenty years and feel that it is time to move on. I would like to thank the committee once again for all their sterling efforts and know I can rely on their support over the coming months.

Alvin Hunt,

Chairman, Village Hall Management Committee