

## **Walberswick Village Hall Management Committee**

### **Chairman's Report 2023 – 2024**

**Flagpole** – Further problems were encountered and the manufacturers were called in. The pole was condemned and replacement was recommended. The committee agreed to pay part of the new pole together with the Parish Council and possibly the Common Lands Charity. Its installation is being progressed by the PC, who has agreed to take over responsibility for its future upkeep.

**Main Hall lighting upgrade** - The committee has considered upgrading the lighting to LED fittings following complaints about the old system. Alan Burrows' quote for this upgrade has been received and will be considered at the next meeting.

**Car Park resurfacing** – It was decided to progress the improvements to the grassed areas. Planning permission has been obtained and the contractors instructed to proceed. Unfortunately due to poor weather they were unable to carry out the work before winter set in. The work had to be postponed until the spring. The contractors have now agreed a starting date of 20<sup>th</sup> May.

**Post Office** – The Post Office has decided to reduce its service by discontinuing the use of the Village Hall annexe twice weekly. Starting 27<sup>th</sup> March, it has been replaced with a once weekly mobile visit on Wednesdays, between the hours of 12.00 and 13.00.

**Fund Raising** – The usual bingo sessions were held in the hall in August. A profit of £2,580 was raised from these three highly popular events. Thanks go to all those who helped. Last year's annual fete raised a grand total of £17,000 which was shared equally between St Andrew's Church and the Village Hall. The VHMC are immensely grateful for this donation and thank all those involved for all their hard work in organising such a hugely successful event.

**Village fete 2024**– It has been difficult recruiting members of the village fete committee this year as all of last year's members resigned. However, after several campaigns for new members enough volunteers have come forward to form a new committee. Several outgoing members have offered to help and

our own Mitchell Pocock has volunteered to be chairman. I am sure we all wish Mitchell and his team good luck with this venture.

**Committee membership** – We are lucky to have new members of the committee. Alan Gomm, Teresa Lynch and Peter Watson joined us last year and Mitchell Pocock has joined us this year. All these new members will be a great asset to the committee. A big thank you must go to both Bill Willison and Vivien Hunt for doing such a great job over the last few years. We all really appreciate everything they have done for this committee and will be a hard act to follow. Bill Willison has now handed over the position of Treasurer and Bookings Manager to Martin Lovick and Alan Gomm is taking over the secretarial role from Vivien Hunt, who is also retiring from the committee. Both these new officers are very talented individuals and I am sure they will do a great job.

John Weston has moved away from the village and has therefore been forced to resign. John will be sorely missed as he was always first to volunteer for anything that came up and could always be relied upon to get things done.

To complete the list of retirees, I will also be leaving this evening, having handed in my post dated letter of resignation at the last meeting. It has been a great privilege to have chaired such a dedicated and hard working committee, of which I have been a member for over twenty years. I will, of course, be available over the next few months should anyone feel the need to contact me.

Once again, thank you all very much for being such a good and dedicated group of individuals as well as a great team and for making the job of chairman run so smoothly for me.

Alvin Hunt

Chairman