

## Wrelton Village Hall Committee Meeting Chairman's Report 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

### Management/ Administration

This is the Chair report for the year 2022/2023.

### Building

This year we agreed to replace the main fire door from the Hall to the outside. The door was specified to have a low threshold for easier access. We also re-landscaped the area outside that door to make it more accessible for wheelchair users with a turning circle. Steps to the play area were also added. The work was completed in October.

Following recommendations from the Fire Risk Assessment we added thumb turns to all fire exit doors instead of the old break glass and key system.

This year Helen and Richard Young undertook to have scanned, printed, and framed the photographs of the village we can see around the main hall and meeting room downstairs. I think we all agree it was well worth the effort as it certainly enhances the place greatly.

In the car park we fitted new signage pointing out the entrance and exit and warning signs for slippery surfaces etc.

Helen Young arranged new blinds which were fitted in the small meeting room downstairs. Currently we have an ongoing project with Ryedale Council/ North Yorkshire to install EVC points in the car park here. This is part of a regional project whereby village halls become central point in villages for this facility.

The Committee have been discussing what the building needs next and are considering a major upgrade of the toilets. Generally there is agreement that it is one area that needs improving. This will be a project for the forthcoming term.

### Bookings

The regular bookings have continued with the Toddlers Group, Table Tennis, First Responders, the Woodcarvers, Sharing the Word, and the Parish Council continuing their regular meetings.

In November 2022 we also saw the start of a regular monthly craft afternoon run by Sharon Lockwood and it has proven to be a well-attended event in the village hall.

We also had quite a few one-off events for charities, birthday parties and external group meetings. I think this goes to show that the Village Hall has, and will continue to have, an important role in serving the community.

### Finances

We now have a robust system in place for keeping track of our finances and we can issue invoices and receipts easily and we are now set up for internet banking.

We continue to hold a healthy balance in the bank accounts, and we have a steady income from regular and ad-hoc bookings and from generous donations from fund-raising events in the village.

Thanks to Jeanette Miller for auditing this year's accounts.

## Events

Last year's Stalls on the Green raised £671 toward village hall funds. This year is also scheduled to go ahead on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May.

The Second Village Show was a great success. There was a 25% increase on entries from last year and the amount raised from the event was also increased from the previous year.

In November a monthly quiz night was started at the village hall and has proven to be a successful night each time it has been held.

## Playground

The swings in the playground were replaced last year, and it was agreed the new ones were better and safer than the old basket swing.

We also spent considerable money on shuttering and fencing around the tunnel area following recommendations from the annual RoSPA safety report.

There were some concerns from the same report regarding the zip wire. After canvassing opinion in the Wrangler newsletter on whether to replace or repair remedial and servicing work was carried out during the summer last year to the Zip wire including, cable, transporter and internal workings serviced and braking system at a cost of over £1,000.00. It is hoped that this work will give the Zip wire a few more years of use.

The subsequent RoSPA safety report only had minor recommendations which was pleasing considering the money spent.

## Committee and volunteers

The Friends of the Village Hall include volunteers who clean the village hall, polish the floor, safety check the playground, carry out the defibrillator checks and undertake ad-hoc repairs. All this volunteer work is often unseen but does make an important contribution to the management and upkeep of the hall, playground, and village.

In August last year Sue Halstead resigned from the Committee, and I would like to thank her for her 25 years' service to the Village Hall and community.

In September we held an informal meeting to invite villagers to come and see what the Committee did. It was well attended and in the following October and November we welcomed Heather, Don, and Sharon to the Committee, and I'd like to thank them for their contributions.

As I'm stepping down from the role of Chair, I would like to thank Vice Chair Helen Young, Treasurer Michael Dowse and Secretary Chris Bakes for their guidance, help and support over the couple of years that I have been in the role, and I would like to wish the new Chair the best of luck for the future.

Thank you.

Tony Miller

May 2023