

## BLEASBY VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2018

### The Village Hall

We are very pleased to be able to regularly host such gatherings as this, and many more, here in our village hall. You will see that a great deal of work and investment has gone into the hall over the last few years and, subject to funds being available, we look to continue our programme of maintenance and enhancement.

### The year

In the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017-31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 we have met as a committee to undertake our usual business on five occasions, plus our AGM & two extra meetings. These latter two meetings were firstly to consider a planning application for building work close to the hall - this was resolved amicably when it was agreed that sufficient land would remain undeveloped to allow for repairs to the rear of the hall to be undertaken with safety and ease of access. A Deed of Easement has been secured with the owners to ensure this access remains into the future. We are pleased to say that our new neighbours have been very helpful and generous to us regarding our shared boundary. Following the process of investigating the exact footprint of the hall, we met again and decided it was time that the hall was registered with the Land Registry and this has now been formally completed. The legal costs of these two transactions has somewhat depleted the coffers but we are pleased that these formal matters have now been finalised. The building is vested in the Parish Council as Custodian Trustees but with all the management, decisions, finance and responsibility for the hall and its future laying with the Charity Trustees, ie the Management Committee.

### Finance

The greater part of our income this year has as usual come from regular lettings and one-off events such as children's parties and, this year, several Parish Plan group meetings. We also had the elections which always bring in a welcome amount. Bleasby Open Gardens back in June was our major event and raised £1004 for the village hall and an equal share for the church; not quite as much as the one held in 2015 but still a most useful amount. It was a super day and everyone who visited looked happy and the gardens were at their very best and the cakes just as tasty. We are so grateful to our garden openers and all the other people who help with tickets, catering, carparking, publicity etc. We are planning for another BOG in 2019 and are considering a slightly earlier date - and we would be delighted to have some extra gardens open next year. Please let us know.

Our greatest expense is heating - we try to ensure the right degree of warmth without too much waste of resources. We have had the water heater serviced recently and it is now back to full working order.

The accounts have been examined and found to be in order - as ever, thanks to Ken Ogilvie for undertaking this so efficiently and preparing the report for us once again.

### Lettings

Regular events include Parish Council meetings, whist sessions, swing into shape, the Wednesday Club, the weekly playgroup, monthly WI and Local History meetings and recently there have been yoga sessions. We also have a number of social events and charity coffee mornings held here several times a year and we are very pleased to be a partner in the monthly Friendship Coffee Mornings.

### This coming year

We are grateful to County Cllr Sue Saddington for obtaining the grit bin for us. We have been considering the deteriorating state of the carpark but resurfacing will be very expensive so we are looking into the possibilities of gaining a grant.

The village hall is to be well-used on the 1<sup>st</sup> September Aircrews Memorial Day with lunches being served by the WI to some of the special visitors. Hopefully there will be a WWII themed display here too.

Our AGM is to be held on 16<sup>th</sup> May and all are welcome to attend, this starts at 7.30pm.

### Thanks are due to

Members of the committee who pull together to keep the hall in good order and are tremendous when events are held. Their practical support is invaluable.

Edmund Salter for his constant and hands-on input in seeing to various maintenance jobs. This means that not only are such jobs done well but his work saves us money too.

Bernice and Derek McGrath for the new outside light which is working very well and going on and off at more convenient intervals than the old system.

Vivienne Mayfield for the colourful and intriguing window box displays and for taking over as Treasurer.

Sharon Murray for her care of the hall. And many thanks those who live near enough to the hall to keep an eye and more on it on an almost day by day basis - thanks to Alison and Edmund, Viv and Ann.

Finally thanks to the people who use and value the hall - we would all miss it if it wasn't here!

Barbara Cast, Chair of the VH Management Committee