

Harringworth Appeals Fund

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on Thursday 25 April 2024

Present:

Philippa Gasson (Chairman), Alan Wordie, David Reading, Rosie McCrone, Julian O'Neill, Andrew White (Chair of the Harringworth Parish Council), Fraser Stephen Smith (Chair of Harringworth Village Hall) and around 35 residents of Harringworth and Shotley.

Apologies for Absence: Maggie Hill, John Kidston, Giselle Rawlins, Jan Jones, Verity Thompson, James Thompson, Angie Boakes, Susie Brett.

Minutes of the 2023 AGM:

The minutes had been circulated in advance of the meeting. They were agreed as a true record.

Matters Arising:

Nil

Chairman's Report

On behalf of the Appeals Committee, I am pleased to report this evening on the various activities we have been involved with since our last AGM; for those new to Harringworth, the Appeals Fund was established over 40 years ago to co-ordinate the raising of money each year for the benefit of the village. It was established by the vicar incumbent at that time to simplify fundraising through one committee and each year at the AGM the village comes together as we have this evening to decide how it is distributed for the benefit Harringworth and Shotley.

Now let us start a brief journey through the last year.... The first event was a Bridge Day in March 2023, organised by our Bridge Director Roy Kedge and a hard working team serving a delicious lunch with stunning puddings created by friends in the village. The day raised a healthy £568.

Last year Richard Nixon put in many hours creating the Village Directory which is available for free to all residents. It includes a listing of everyone in the Parish, a useful section with handy information and services. In addition, we invite local businesses to advertise for a modest price in the Directory to cover the cost of printing. I would like to thank Richard on behalf of the Village for all his hard work preparing the Directory and the many other creative challenges he does behind the scenes, including running the village website.

At the end of April St John's Café was launched in Harringworth; the initiative of Diana and Alan Wordie, they were joined by a team of volunteers helping on a Saturday and baking cakes, sausage rolls and more. The Café opened every Saturday through the summer and became a social hub in the village for friends and neighbour and the bonus of visitors from outside the village helped us raise just over £2,078 for the Appeals Fund.

In May, organised by Jan Gray and the PCC the Tudor Choir performed music from the 17th century through to the modern day, which included songs from the shows. The choir lived up to their fine reputation with their sacred and secular music enhanced by the superb acoustics in the Church. Wine and a delicious selection of Canapés complemented the evening which raised £524.

The Appeals Fund was further boosted by a generous donation of £302 from the Safari Dinner - the new organisers team Sandie Gordon and Jackie Sandy planned a superb evening enjoyed by many. They are busy planning this year's Dinner on June 8th which promises to be another amazing night out in Harringworth.

We all love a Quiz and thanks to quizmasters Gavin Gordon and Jonny Sandy in September we had the first of two Quiz nights during the year with a licensed bar and snacks in the Village Hall. The second Quiz in December had a Christmas theme and between the two evenings raised £534. As the plan is to continue with regular quiz nights - it's definitely time to start prepping your quiz knowledge!

With the church decorated for Harvest nearly 120 guests were treated to a very special evening with Charlie Haylock talking about the History of the Spoken English in October. Wine and delicious canapés made by the PCC and friends were served at the interval and we raffled a luxury hamper created from generous donations. The enjoyable evening made £1,641.

The winning formula of the Christmas Artisan Market in 2022 made it an easy choice to run it again last November with the church transformed into a shopper's paradise. Eighteen Artisans joined us on the day, alone bringing £730 of fees and their advertising through social media encouraged many new visitors. Your generous contributions of crafts, jams, chutney, plants, cakes and hamper donations helped to ensure this was a great afternoon. The Café was kept very busy and Soup and Bacon Butties were definitely a popular addition to the home made cakes and mince pies. With the help of the Committee and a host of volunteers we raised a record £2,767.34.

Now a Christmas event in the Church would not be the same without the famous Harringworth Hamper Raffle. Liz Mitchell kindly masterminded the creation of these two wonderful Hampers for the Artisan Market (and the one for the talk in October) using your generous donations. Thank you as ever Liz.

After the continued success of the 100 CLUB campaign David Reading took up the challenge again this year and sold 101 Numbers at £25 each. Each month we draw a number and give away £100 to a lucky winner, with a bonus £50 for the December draw bringing £1,275.00 of income to the Appeals Fund. We also repeated the Donations Appeal which boosted our funds by a further £575.00 through some very generous donations. Thank you.

As you can see the Appeals Fund is not just about raising funds; we are also about bringing our community together whether this is with Quiz Nights or Coffee and Cake. Where possible our key events encourage visitors from outside the village to bring in funds to support our campaigns so a lot of work goes on behind the scenes planning and marketing events.

Having highlighted the key moments of the year this slide confirms our Financial Status at the yearend in February. We raised an amazing £10,318.26. and ended this year with £12, 449.37 in the Bank. The committee recommended £10,000 was made available for distribution.

Finally, I would like to say a special thank you to the Appeals team. The key role of the Committee is to ensure good governance and to take forward ideas and initiatives. We have been supported through the year by Jan Jones, David Reading and Julian O'Neill – Julian also represents the Village Hall. This year has been one of change with Bernadette Oakey representing the PCC leaving Shotley for Yorkshire a few months ago; Alan Wordie kindly stepped up in her stead representing the PCC. Victoria Lloyd had to step down due to family commitments however, she was still key behind the success of the Artisan Market. Earlier this year we were joined by Rosie McCrone and she has taken on the role of Secretary. Finally, Joanne Wade who had continued in her role as Treasurer and a great organiser – stepped down at the end of last year to travel with her lovely husband. So I hope you will agree with me that they all deserve one BIG thank you. We end the year with two of the team standing down. David Reading, a very valued committee member for many years confirmed that this was his last year – however he will still continue to organise the 100 Club - thank you David. And Jan Jones has decided to move on - leaving Harringworth for Scotland, so another key organiser will be sadly missed – thank you for all you have done!

I would also like to thank everyone in the village who helped the committee in so many ways – without this support we could not stand here this evening with such a positive report. We now APPEAL for you to come forward to join the committee to help us plan exciting events in the year ahead.

Treasurers Report

The 2023/2024 accounts were presented showing £10,240.26 was raised in the year with £10,000 available for distribution. The Chairman's report identified the funds that had been raised over the year and there were no further questions.

HARRINGWORTH APPEALS FUND FINANCIAL REPORT FOR YEAR END 29 FEBRUARY 2024

Opening balance:	£9,622.50		
Income:		Expenses:	
Bridge Lunch - March	£567.99	<u>Distribution:</u>	
Tudor Choir	£524.00	Harringworth PCC	£6,500.00
Safari Supper Donation - July	£302.00	Plaque for Jubilee Planter	£126.18
Quiz and Pop Up Bar - September	£264.99	<u>Outstanding distribution:</u>	
Talk: History of the Spoken English	£1,641.95	Oak Tree Guard and Plaque	£200.00
Artisan Christmas Market	£2,767.34	<u>Distribution for previous year</u>	
Quiz and Pop Up Bar - December	£268.73	Defibrillator Training	£100.00
St John's Café - April to September	£2,078.77	<u>Other:</u>	
Village Directory	-£130.00	Insurance	£242.00
100 Club	£1,275.00	Raffle License	£20.00
Donations	£575.00	Bank Charges	£87.39
Sundries including Bank Interest	£104.49	Web Hosting	£130.20
Totals	£10,240.26		£7,405.77
Closing Balance:	£12,449.37		
Funds Available for Distribution:	£10,000.00		

Election of Officers and Committee Members:

Ahead of the meeting Philippa Gasson, Alan Wordie, Rosie McCrone and Julian O'Neill agreed to continue on the committee and were proposed by Fraser Stephen Smith and Seconded by Chris Merriman. It was hoped after the meeting a number of volunteers would consider joining.

The Election of the three Officers was proposed by Fraser Stephen Smith and Seconded by Chris Merriman

Chairperson: Philippa Gasson

Secretary: Rosie McCrone

Treasurer: Alan Wordie (to hold the post until a new Treasurer can be appointed).

Allocation of Funds

The Chairperson oversaw the process of fund allocation.

Applicant	Proposal	Request
St John the Baptist Church Parochial Church Council	Funds to address broken windows; replacing failing leadworks; ferramenta repairs; lime mortar joints – all to maintain wind and watertight and avoid further decay.	£1,800
St John the Baptist Church Parochial Church Council	Funding to tackle blocked drains in church yard (hand dig etc.) installation of silt traps and new soak away.	£4,500
St John the Baptist Church Parochial Church Council	Funds to fill redundant underground boiler pits and ducts including to fit limestone slabs under retained cast iron grills	£1,300
Nicky Howell	Funds are requested for the provision of a second defibrillator in the village.	£1,400
Jan Gray and Café Team	Funding for a Coffee Machine for use at St John's Café.	£300
Julian O'Neill	Funding Yoga Equipment including Bolsters for exercise classes in the Village Hall	£375
Total		£9,675

The following questions were raised over the allocations of Funds:

Funds for the Parochial Church Council:

Can you claim the VAT back? – No but there is a grant that pays the equivalent value of VAT.

John B -What is the virtue of preserving the ironwork? – this would be discussed at the next PCC meeting as an option to just lay slabs.

Joey – Why does the Church of England not fund renovation? Each Church is self-funding and self-supporting. Without the work of the PCC and provision of funding the church in Harringworth would not survive.

Funds for a Defibrillator: It was noted that this was a conditional bid as there are a number of factors that have to be confirmed before it could proceed.

Funds for Yoga Bolsters and Blankets:

If the bolsters and blankets are the property of the village hall, are they responsible for the deterioration/replacement of these? *This would be discussed at the next Hall meeting as the option is likely to be a further Appeal. They are an asset for villagers to use in exercise classes booked in the Hall.*

Those in attendance at the meeting approved all of the Appeals for Funding.

AOB – 100 club draw was drawn – No. 1 Jenny Craven

Approved at 2024 AGM

