

# Harringworth Appeals Fund

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on Thursday 29 May 2025

### Present:

Philippa Gasson (Chairman), Alan Wordie (Treasurer), Rosie McCrone (Secretary), Giselle Rawlins, Richard Wade, Simon McLean (Chair of the Harringworth Parish Council), Fraser Stephen Smith (Chair of Harringworth Village Hall) and around 40 residents of Harringworth and Shotley.

Apologies for Absence: Julian O'Neill, Harry Boon

### Minutes of the 2024 AGM:

The minutes had been circulated in advance of the meeting. They were agreed as a true record. Proposed Fraser, Seconded Chris Merriman

### Matters Arising:

Nil

### Chairman's Report

On behalf of the Appeals Committee, I am delighted to highlight some of the key events and activities from the last year. 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.

Although our key role is about raising funds; the Committee also focusses on bringing our community together whether this is with Quiz Nights or Coffee and Cake. Where possible our key large events such as a Talk or the Fete, encourage visitors from outside the village to bring in funds to support our campaigns. As you can imagine a lot of work goes ahead of an event, behind the scenes planning and marketing them.

Let us start a brief journey through the last Appeals year.... Our first event was a Bridge Day in March 2024, organised by Bridge Director Roy Kedge and a hard working team who prepared and served a lovely lunch which included a selection of puddings created by friends in the village. The day raised a healthy £568.

At the end of April St John's Café reopened. We used our new Coffee Machine which had been funded through an Appeals Application at last the AGM. Again a great team of organisers and volunteers baked each week with a super variety of homemade cakes, sausage rolls and more. The Café opened every Saturday through the summer and became a friendly social hub for the village with friends and neighbour enjoying meeting each week. With the help of walkers and cyclist boosting numbers we raised £2,257.35 for the Appeals Fund.

The Harringworth Summer Fete returned for the first time since 2019 in June and it was great to be back in the stunning setting of Ian and Lin Saunders garden. With all our traditional stalls, including Books, Made in Harringworth, Plants, Bric-a-Brac etc. plus refreshments of Pimm's, a BBQ and Afternoon Tea which kept the visitors entertained and happy! We also had three Artisan Stalls and a challenging Putting game.

Despite a heavy shower of rain at one point we had a great day with many in the village coming together to help on stalls and with set up and clearing away – this was most efficient with a large trailer taking a generous donation of books and Bric-a-Brac to the Heart Foundation in Corby. In total we made £2,624.44 for the Appeals Fund.

In July we invited the Mosaic Chamber Choir to perform in the Church. The choir lived up to their fine reputation singing songs from Bach to the Beatles enhanced by the superb acoustics in the Church. Wine and a delicious selection of Canapés contributed by the PCC ladies, complemented the evening which raised a stunning £1,227.30.

We all love a Quiz and thanks to quizmasters Gavin Gordon and Jonny Sandy, helped by their lovely wives Sandie and Jackie (all pictured here) we had four very successful Quiz nights and a further three Pop Up Pubs over the year, the last of which included take away Fish and Chips. Together the seven events which have become popular evenings for our local community raised £2,310.10.

It has become a Harringworth tradition in October when the church is beautifully decorated for Harvest to plan a Talk. This year we were very lucky to have such talent and knowledge on our doorstep – in fact living next to the Church! Over 120 guests were treated to a very special evening with Alan Wordie talking about Shackleton's Endurance and Antarctic Science in 2024. 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 £1988.78.

After the continued success of the 100 CLUB campaign over recent years, Lizzie O'Neill took up the challenge last autumn 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. This brings £1,375.00 of income to the Appeals Fund.

A further boost came from a generous donation of £190 from the Safari Supper organised by Sandie Gordon and Jackie Sandy. Such a fun evening on a beautiful summers evening which started off with the Boddington Family up the hill just beyond Shotley.

Richard Nixon very kindly put in many hours creating the 2025 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. The income from the directory covers the cost of printing and the balance is donated to the Appeals Fund.

This last year has been very rewarding and as you can see from this summary over £13,000 was raised not just through the hard work of the committee but by so many in the village helping at many of the events – from putting up marquees, baking, transporting chairs and tables, working on the bar, selling tickets and so much more.

Finally, before we allocate the funds raised, 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 Alan Wordie (taking on Financial Governance as the Treasurer) and he also represents the Church PCC; Julian O'Neill who also represents the Village Hall, Rosie McCrone as the Appeals Secretary, Giselle Rawlins, and more recently Richard Wade joined us and just a few weeks ago Harry Boon. Harry has already taken the initiative to plan a key village event in September.

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.

### Treasurers Report

The 2024/2025 accounts were presented showing £13,314.59 was raised in the year with £13,400 available for distribution. The meeting agreed to release the £1400 reserved for a possible defibrillator back into general funds. As a result, this increased the funds available for distribution from £12,000 to £13,400. AW gave a huge thanks to all the volunteers and committee members for their hard work in raising funds this year. AW gave a special thanks to Boey who scrutinised the accounts for 1.3.24-28.2.25.

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 1st March 2024 - 28th February 2025

#### Opening Balance 2024

Bank BMM	12,000.00	
Bank Char	449.37	
Petty Cash	182.57	
<b>b/f Opening</b>		<b>12,631.94</b>

#### Net Income from Events

Dec, Jan,			
Feb c/f	100 club (101)	1,375.00	
	Bridge Lunch	578.59	
mar	Quiz 1	419.83	
jul	Quiz 2	359.67	
oct	Quiz 3	409.60	
jan	Quiz 4	640.55	1,829.65
sep	PUP 1	231.93	
nov	PUP 2	117.28	
feb	PUP 3	131.24	480.45
	St. John's café	2,257.35	
	Safari Supper	190.00	
	Summer Fete	2,624.44	
	Mosaic Concert	1,227.30	
	Endurance talk	1,988.78	
	Directory Income from 2023	173.00	
	Directory Income 2025	70.00	
	Donations	220.00	
	Sundry Income	300.03	13,314.59
<b>Total income and bank b/f</b>			<b>25,946.53</b>

#### Distributions from 2024 Year End allocation

Village Hall yoga equipment	375.74	-375.74	paid
St. John the Baptist church	7,600.00	-7,600.00	paid
St. Johns café coffee machine	292.52	-304.42	paid
Grants paid			-8,280.16
<b>Grants awarded 2024</b>	<b>8,268.26</b>		

#### Expenses excluding 2024 YE distributions

Lottery Licence	-20.00	
Insurance	-242.00	
Sundry expenses	-56.19	
Bank Charges and Bank Interest (net)	152.82	
Stock adjustments e.g. annual meeting	-107.17	
Stationery & web hosting	-50.00	-322.54
<b>Total expenses and distributions this year</b>		<b>-8,602.70</b>

#### Closing balance for consideration

	17,343.83
	25,946.53

<b>Funds available for 2025 YE distribution</b>	<b>17,343.83</b>
Less:	
100 Club: 9 months to end November 2025	900.00
Bar stocks & Petty cash	199.52
General - reserve, float and working monies	2,500.00
	<b>-3,599.52</b>
<b>Funds available for 2025 YE distribution</b>	<b>£ 13,744.31</b>

say £13,400

#### Closing balances 2025

Bank BMM	17,000.00	
Bank Char	293.33	
Petty Cash	50.50	
<b>c/f to 2025</b>		<b>17,343.83</b>

### **Election of Officers and Committee Members:**

Ahead of the meeting Philippa Gasson, Alan Wordie, Rosie McCrone, Harry Boon, Giselle Rawlins, Richard Wade and Julian O'Neill agreed to continue on the committee and were proposed by Joey Dove and Seconded by Simon McLean. It was hoped after the meeting a number of volunteers would consider joining.

### **Allocation of Funds**

The Chairman oversaw the process of fund allocation.

Questions:

Those in attendance were asked for their views about the appeal last year for the defibrillator and where the funds should go. It was decided that as there were no plans yet, the money should be returned to the central fund. Much discussion ensued and a vote of hands revealed the majority wanted £1400 to be reallocated. (Majority agreed, 2 against).

An application for a 20M Oilcloth Roll to make tablecloths for events was withdrawn as it had now been very kindly donated by a parishioner, which left just two applications from the Village Hall and the Church.

The Vicar was due to present the Appeal on behalf of the Parochial Church Council but sadly was unable to attend due to an accident that day. As a consequence, Alan Wordie would present the Appeal, and it was noted that as the Treasurer of the Appeals Fund had a dual interest. It was also noted that the Chairman of the Appeals Fund is a Trustee of the Village Hall.

The two Appeals totalled £14,300 with funds available totalling £13,400 so a £900 shortfall.

**Appeal by Harringworth Village Hall Trustees:** To extend the new panelling (i.e. the panelling currently in the southeast corner of the hall) around the remaining perimeter of the hall - £6,900 (i.e. £5,750 plus VAT). Fraser Stephen Smith presented the proposal and it was agreed to reduce the amount to £6,450.

Questions:

- Simon McLean: – Is the panelling going to be different to before? Chris M replied that it would be battened with air ventilation at the top and bottom. Nails had also rusted in the wall. The skirting board would also be replaced.
- Jonny Sandy: How much narrower will it be? Chris M: It will come out a little.
- Rona Towell: What colour will it be? Fraser replied that he will consider the village for their opinion. PG mentioned the base colour of the panelling is a very good colour – so a colour match in paint could work.

**Appeal by St John the Baptist Church Parochial Church Council:** Removal of grates, infilling all pits and ducts with approved materials, fitting Lincolnshire Limestone slab flooring and lift/relay and point surrounding Limestone flooring to form a trip free level finish - £7,400. Alan Wordie presented the proposal and agreed to reduce the amount to £6,950.

Questions raised:

- David Reading: Have you considered any other options or businesses? Alan W replied that yes they have explored this with diocese with an application for funding. It will be the windows that will need that funding as they are failing.
- Neil Rogers: Have you tried asking Mick George? Alan W: We are in the locality of MG and Peterborough so we are aware we could, but there is a minimum application of Mary 10's of thousands.
- Tom Wade: Could both appeals go ahead and we get more money the following year or do it in phases? Alan W concluded that the appeal this year has to go ahead as one whole operation, Andrew White raised the fact that it has already been phased i.e. last year's money was allocated to this project. AW added that it has been the admin of the faculty that has delayed it. It started last December and it is time limited so we cannot delay the works another year. We must maintain the momentum
- Frank Walsh: Where is this water going to go? Alan W explained that the pit under the red carpet will be filled, a water membrane will be installed which holds the water down.

The chairman concluded that both appeals need to be agreed in principle. It was agreed that both the Village Hall and Church split the shortfall off £900 with an adjustment of £450 each to pay for works to be carried out.

Those in attendance at the meeting approved the two Appeals for Funding.

### **Village Hall (£6,450)**

Proposed Nick Gasson, Seconded Tom Wade

### **Church (£6,950)**

Proposed Neil Rogers, Seconded Rosie McCrone

### **AOB**

Philippa Gasson confirmed after many years as Chairman of the Appeals Fund, she is planning on reducing her role over the next 12 months.

Meeting ended 9pm