



Welwick Village Hall

Annual Report

May 2025 – May 2026

CHARITY DETAILS

Welwick Parish Hall is a registered charity (Charity Number: 1083040). The principal address of the charity is: Welwick Village Hall, Westhoe Parade, North Lane, Welwick, East Yorkshire, HU12 0SH.

The charity is governed by a committee of trustees who are responsible for the overall management and administration of the hall.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The charity's objective is to provide and maintain Welwick Village Hall for the use of the inhabitants of Welwick and the surrounding area, without distinction, for the purposes of recreation, education and leisure-time occupation, with the aim of improving the conditions of life for the community.

The trustees achieve this by maintaining the hall to a high standard, offering affordable hire for community groups and private functions, and organising a programme of events and activities throughout the year.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The activities and events described in this report demonstrate the charity's ongoing commitment to providing a welcoming, inclusive and beneficial facility for the whole community.

The Annual General Meeting of the Welwick Village Hall Trustees took place on the 13th May 2025. The Annual Report was shared, and the annual return was completed and returned to the charity commission as required. All trustees were reappointed to office. The chair, vice-chair and treasurer remained in post. It was recognized that many people give their time freely to maintain the hall and thanks was given particularly to Richard Smith for his efforts and valued support in maintaining and running the hall.

Sadly, in July resignations were received from Greg and Jackie Beaumont, Sue and Dave Crossley and Debbie Hutchins. We thank them for their time and contributions whilst serving as trustees. Jo Wood kindly agreed at the August meeting to take on the role of treasurer. Jackie Beaumont requested that she could continue in her role as cleaner and this was agreed by the trustees. She continues in the role as a contractor and provides an invoice for her hours. New trustees were appointed to serve on the committee and **as of August 2026, the committee is represented by:**

Gill Smith – Chair

Jenny Malkin – Vice Chair

Pat Beech – Secretary

Jo Wood –Treasurer

Gerry Hailwood – Publicity Officer

Mark Brankley

Jean Wilkin

Charles Roden-Rhodes (appointed Aug 26)

Sally Roydhouse (appointed Aug 26)

Louisa Pearson (appointed Aug 26)

Jeanette Templeman (appointed Aug 26)

Unfortunately, during the year there had been a lot of negativity and misconceptions throughout the community and some very upsetting comments placed on Facebook. The trustees know they must communicate effectively and needed to put to bed some of the misunderstandings being raised. A message

from the trustees was circulated to the community which alleviated the unrest (see app. 1). A suggestion box is now available in the hall, and we welcome any comments, concerns or queries the public may have about the halls management and decisions taken by the trustees.

The trustees manage the hall with an open-door policy. All minutes of the meetings can be found on the welwick.org website. As well as the suggestion box in the hall, we welcome questions directly to us face to face or posed on the website forum. The trustees continue to work for the publics benefit, so it is important to us that we do so openly, honestly and with integrity.

FINANCES

The regular monthly running costs for the hall are as follows:

	2025	2026
Insurance	£80.17	£80.17
Electricity	£98.36	£86.50
Gas	£318.00	£112.64
Broadband	£33.54	£34.76
ERVHN membership	£4.20	£4.17
PAT tests and emergency lighting	-	£45.73
Other maintenance charges (fire extinguishers, boilers, wiring etc.)	£624.00	£89.80
Water	£15.36	£13.69
Performing Rights	£12.90	£6.90
Bank charges	£5.00	£5.00
Total outgoings per month	£1,191.53	£479.36

The trustees continue to work hard to keep a healthy bank balance to ensure we have the resources to cover any projects and repairs that are not covered by the insurance. The 2025 - 2026 financial report shows £16,745.89 in the current account, and £25,352.36 in the gold account with £480.00 in petty cash. The accounts for this year have been audited by Sharon Mordey from Cash Controller.

The monthly running costs are substantial (as highlighted above), and all the trustees give up their time to manage the expenditure, but they can only be met through the generosity of the community. The trustees are therefore very grateful when events are supported, and you generously donate to raffles, tombolas and other fundraising activities. Our thanks must also go out to the members of the sewing and bowls groups and to those who attend the pop in, as it is their regular weekly contributions that assist in meeting the halls expenses.

For breakdown of annual finances see Appendix 2. attached at end of the report.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed, particularly in relation to rising utility costs, building maintenance and ongoing financial sustainability. Steps have been taken to mitigate these risks through careful financial planning, regular monitoring of expenditure, securing external grant funding and maintaining an appropriate level of reserves. The installation of energy-saving measures, including the planned solar panel project, will further reduce long-term financial risk.

RESERVES POLICY

The trustees aim to maintain sufficient reserves to ensure the continued operation and maintenance of the Village Hall. This includes holding adequate funds to cover routine running costs, unexpected repairs and future improvement projects. The current level of reserves is considered appropriate given the age of the building and the potential for unforeseen maintenance requirements.

CHANGE OF BANK ACCOUNT

The change to the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) bank seems to have been successful. We continue to pay £5 a month in fees. The CAF bank does not make any money as any profits go to charities and it is proving to be more appropriate for our needs.

In February the trustees purchased a card reader for £99.99. 1.69% is paid in commission. Users can now pay electronically via the card reader and cash is not required for purchases. This has already proved useful at the quiz evening and will be very helpful for art sales etc.

GRANT FUNDING

Following a feasibility study undertaken by D3 associates it analyzed where cost savings regarding the utilities could be made in the hall. A full copy of this report can be found on the website. It identified that the hall could benefit from solar panels, roof insulation, wall insulation, double glazing, air source pumps and destratification fans.

Gerry Hailwood has worked particularly hard researching and putting bids together to source funding for solar panels initially and in February he was successful in securing a grant from Northern Powergrid for £15,990.85. This money will pay in full for the erection of the solar panels with a battery backup. Work is due to commence shortly and hopefully we will soon see a reduction in our electricity costs and to give the hall an emergency electricity supply in the event of a power cut. Lots of discussions have taken place regarding the aesthetics of the panels but we felt in the long-term that the benefits of the reduction in the electricity bills and the emergency backup will be more beneficial. Work will continue in the next financial year to find further funding for the destratification fans and thermal insulation etc.

WEB SITE

The trustees recognized that communication with residents could be improved so Jo Wood kindly built the Welwick and Weeton web site in partnership with the Parish council who paid the domain fee. The web site is very informative and all information regarding the hall and its activities can be found at welwick.org. Very positively we have seen the activity of people using the site steadily increasing.

Jo often puts photos of village activities on the gallery so if anything has taken place please have a look. She is also very willing to take on comments or concerns from the users. There were a few comments about the grey text, Jo has now darkened it to make it easier to read. Please view it for all the village news.

Jo continues to administer the site, and our thanks go to her for her hard work in its development and administration.

REGULAR HALL BOOKINGS

Monday 1 – 3pm ART CLASS - Run by Diane Rotherforth. The Art class has been running successfully in Welwick for several years. Unfortunately, during the last year Diane was off sick for a few months whilst she recovered from a fractured hip. The students managed to carry on the class independently during this period supporting each other. Happily, on Diane's return a few more students have joined and we now have 12 students attending each term. It is a friendly group and spaces are still available. Diane will tutor in any medium and any ability is welcome.

The art class runs regular exhibitions to display their art, and many pictures are available to purchase. We also ran a field trip to Ferens Art Gallery where we viewed Gerry Hailwood's two successful art pieces on display.

To book a place at the art class contact Diane on 01482 817890 or Mobile 07789 305640. The cost is £50 for a 6-week session.

Tuesday 1 – 3pm SEWING GROUP – There has been a steady cohort of around 10 plus attendees. The group is ably run by Glenda Hopper and Jo Wood who have talents in lots of different crafting techniques. The members of the group usually concentrate on doing their own thing, but any crafting can be done, and help is always available from whoever has the skill. It is a friendly group with coffee and a natter on the agenda. Anyone is welcome whatever their ability. Cost is £3 per person, which includes refreshments.

Wednesday 1.30 – 3.30pm INDOOR BOWLS – The current group have 12 regular people who play in the afternoon and 4 – 8 players attend the evening session. The activity is open to all, and new players of any ability are most welcome. The club has several sets of bowls, including two sets of smaller bowls, which were purchased from the “Do It for East Yorkshire” grant several years ago. These are ideal for smaller or younger players who may have a smaller grip. There are other sets of bowls also available so owning your own bowls is not essential. The cost per session is £4 per person, which includes refreshments.

Wednesday 7 – 9pm INDOOR BOWLS - The mats are left out for the evening bowlers. Again, all abilities are welcome and a trip to the Plotters’ Bar afterwards is usually on the agenda.

Thursday 10 – 12pm POP-IN – The popular pop-in continues ably run by volunteers (Jean Wilkin, Anne Brankley, Larry and Jenny Malkin, Dave and Margaret Jarratt, Pat Beech, Gerry Hailwood, Janet Wheelwright, and Glenda and Jim Hopper) who all assist at the Pop-In on a four-weekly roster. They man the kitchen serving teas, coffee, toasties and homemade cakes etc. Everyone is welcome and a warm and friendly atmosphere is evident. Several attendees come from neighboring villages and often support the hall by attending and supporting us in other initiatives.

We need to express our thanks to Jeanette Templeman for her very kind donation of a contact grill. This enables the volunteers to do toasted sandwiches and cook bacon and sausages etc. for everyone’s enjoyment and has made life easier and more efficient in the kitchen.

The pop-in also supports residents by welcoming other community initiatives and they have worked very closely with Sally Hamer the dementia support coordinator. Sally first visited the pop in 6th November where she was available for support and advice. On January 22nd a colleague from the local medical practice came and offered memory checks which many of the attendees accepted. The test offered allayed worries and concerns and appropriate advice and support was offered. We hope to continue our links with health professionals as we wish to promote a healthy and happy community.

Attendance averages about 15-20 per week and users give a donation for the refreshments. Proceeds are shared between the village hall, Village in Bloom and St. Mary's church.

HALL HIRE RATES

The hall boasts a welcoming space for meetings, parties and weddings etc. at very competitive prices so perhaps consider hiring the hall for your next function.

The cost for the hire of the hall is:

- Weddings /all day functions - £300
- Parties going on after 10.30pm - £180
- Parties finishing before 10.30pm - £120
- Children parties £15 per hour (£10 extra if Bouncy Castle is hired)
- Other functions i.e., wakes, presentations, courses £15 per hour
- Regular local community activities i.e. Pop-in, Sewing and Bowls sessions £10 per hour.

Prices include the use of the kitchen.

Additional equipment available for hire

- Stage £10.00
- Television £10.00
- Projector and screen £10.00
- Microphone and speaker £10.00

A 25% (non-refundable) deposit is required when booking and the remainder of the fee to be paid two weeks prior to the hire date.

Contact Jo Wood on 07513 237 140 or at bookings@welwick.org if you wish to hire the hall for any of your celebrations or events.

DURING THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR THE TRUSTEES HAVE HOSTED THE FOLLOWING SOCIAL FUNCTIONS.

Victory in Europe Celebrations (10 May) – An evening event took place to commemorate Victory in Europe Day, bringing together members of the local community in remembrance of this significant occasion. Funding of £500 was kindly obtained from East Riding Council to support the provision of food and entertainment. A total of 22 attendees enjoyed an evening of music, with entertainment provided by Swing Street, alongside a sing-along which created a warm and inclusive atmosphere. The celebration proved both enjoyable and a fitting tribute to this important historical event.

Yard Sale (14 June) – The planned yard sale at the Village Hall was cancelled due to a lack of bookings and insufficient participation. While the event did not proceed as intended, it remains a potential activity for future consideration should there be greater community interest.

Bingo (21 June) – A bingo evening took place at the Village Hall, offering a sociable and enjoyable occasion for those attending. The event generated a total profit of £94.30, comprising £73 from ticket sales and £21.30 from refreshments, making a welcome contribution to hall funds.

Pub Lads (4 July) – The Village Hall welcomed a performance by the band Pub Lads, providing an entertaining evening of live music. The event generated a total profit of £718.00, including £480 from ticket sales and £238 from raffle proceeds, representing a strong fundraising outcome.

Quiz (26 July) – A quiz evening was held at the Village Hall, offering an enjoyable and friendly competition for participants. The event raised a total of £75.50, with the winning team generously donating £20 of their prize back to hall funds.

Yard Sale (3 August) – The planned yard sale at the Village Hall was again cancelled due to a lack of bookings and limited participation. Despite this, it remains an option for future events if sufficient interest can be secured.

Bowls Tournament (17 August) – The annual bowls tournament remains a valued feature on the Village Hall calendar, held in remembrance of Shaun Hutchins, a former Vice-Chair. Donations were collected for his chosen charity, MND, and a commemorative cup was awarded to this year's winners, Janet Wheelwright and Gillian Smith, who kindly donated their prize money back to the charity. Afternoon tea was served, and the event was enjoyed by both players and spectators. A total of £160 was raised for Village Hall funds.

Quiz (13 September) – Eight teams took part in a well-attended and engaging quiz evening at the Village Hall. The event raised £51.90 for hall funds, including a generous £10 donation from the winning team.

Interactive Day (18 October) – The Village Hall hosted an interactive community day, organised with support from the local radio club, featuring a variety of hands-on exhibits and activities. A total of 57 adults and 30 children attended, including several home-educated participants, and the event was very well received. There has since been interest in making this an annual event. Thanks are extended to all involved, particularly Charles Roden-Rhodes and Jo Wood, for their considerable efforts. Income from entrance fees and refreshments totalled £398.

Quiz (7 February) – A quiz evening was held with five teams taking part in a well-organised and enjoyable event set by Jo Wood. The Woodhouse/Smith team were the winners and generously returned their prize money to hall funds. The event generated income of £52.84 from entry fees, £39 from refreshments and £56 from the raffle, giving total takings of £147.84.

Bingo (6 March) – A bingo evening took place with 17 attendees enjoying a lively and sociable night. Rich Smith made his debut as bingo caller and carried out the role very effectively. The event raised £82 from bingo card sales, with the £20 jackpot won by Larry Malkin and kindly donated back to hall funds. A further £16.30 was taken from refreshments, giving total takings of £98.30.

Pre-loved Sale (4 April) – The Village Hall hosted a pre-loved sale, advertised via the Welwick and Weeton community Facebook page, with 14 stalls (8 outside and 6 inside) offering a variety of second-hand goods, crafts and household items. Sadly, we had 3 no shows. The event ran during the day and included refreshments, encouraging visitors to browse and socialise. It provided a valuable opportunity for residents to recycle items locally while supporting the hall through increased engagement. Refreshments were sold throughout the day total takings been £126.90. Hire of the tables made £108.

EXTERNAL HIRE OF THE HALL FROM MAY 2025 – MAY 2026 were

Polling Day (1 May) – The Village Hall was booked by East Riding Council to facilitate voting in the local elections, offering a convenient and accessible venue for residents. The day ran smoothly, enabling participation in the democratic process within a well-organised setting.

Private Party (17 May) – Debbie Hutchins hired the hall for a private afternoon tea, creating a pleasant setting for guests to gather and enjoy a social occasion.

Band Rehearsal (23 May) – Greg Beaumont hired the hall for a band rehearsal, making use of the space for musical practice.

80th Birthday Party (7 June) – The hall was used to celebrate Barbara Dixon's 80th birthday, providing a welcoming venue for family and friends to mark the occasion.

Child's Birthday Party (22 June) – Katie Lockwood hired the hall for a child's birthday celebration, offering a safe and suitable environment for the event.

Country and Western Evening (28 June) – Lisa Pryor organised a Country and Western themed evening in support of East End Cancer, combining entertainment with charitable fundraising.

Band Rehearsal (3 July) – Greg Beaumont again made use of the hall for band rehearsal purposes.

30th Birthday Party (5 July) – Katie Lockwood hired the hall for a 30th birthday celebration, providing a suitable space for guests to gather.

HFDXARC Radio Rally (19 July) – The Village Hall hosted the HFDXARC Radio Rally, bringing together amateur radio enthusiasts to buy, sell and share knowledge, and attracting visitors from a wider area.

The Alternators (19 July) – A live performance by The Alternators, a Sheffield-based band featuring Greg Beaumont, attracted 70 attendees. The evening raised over £500 for the band's nominated charity, PAKS, alongside £100 in hall hire and additional refreshment income.

Environmental Agency (11–12 September) – The hall was used by the Environmental Agency to host community update sessions regarding developments along the Humber Bank. A letter of thanks was later received expressing satisfaction with the facilities.

Meditation Session (26 September) – Lesley Curtis led a meditation session, offering a calm and reflective experience for participants.

Meditation Session (17 October) – A second session was delivered by Lesley Curtis, again well received by those attending.

Child's Party (1 November) – Annmarie Storey hired the hall for a child's party, which included a bouncy castle.

Environmental Agency (7 November) – The hall was used for a further meeting by the Environmental Agency.

Dance Rehearsal (21 November) – Katie Lockwood hired the hall for a dance rehearsal, making use of the flexible space for practice.

Sarah – Life Made Her That Way (21 November) – A free performance was delivered by a small troupe of actors, providing an engaging evening of entertainment. Attendance was modest at 22, possibly due to prior performances in nearby venues. Refreshments raised £63 for hall funds.

Pub Lads (6 December) – A further performance by Pub Lads, organised by Lisa Pryor, raised funds for East End Cancer while offering an enjoyable evening of live music.

Environmental Agency Workshop (30 January) – The hall was used for a workshop, supporting community engagement and discussion.

Patrington Young Farmers Quiz (18 April) – The annual quiz night organised by Patrington Young Farmers attracted strong participation, featuring a quiz, raffle, refreshments and additional catering, creating a lively and well-supported event.

ART CLASS EXHIBITIONS

Art Exhibition (5–13 July) – The Village Hall hosted a week-long art exhibition organised by the local art class, which proved to be both successful and engaging. Each member contributed £10 towards hall costs, and a 10% commission was donated on any artwork sold. The exhibition attracted visitors from the local community, with several paintings sold, and also generated interest from residents wishing to join the class. A total of £150 was raised, supporting both hall funds and local artistic activity.

Art Exhibition (28–30 November) – A second exhibition showcased a wide variety of artwork by local artists. Despite particularly poor weather conditions, 31 visitors attended, with five pieces sold, many as unique Christmas gifts. Income included £70 in rent, £30 from refreshments and £13.55 in commission, providing a further contribution to hall funds while continuing to promote local talent.

VILLAGE SHOW (6 September)

The Village Hall hosted the annual Village Show, with residents submitting entries across a range of categories including arts and crafts, horticulture, flower arranging and baking, alongside junior classes. Following judging, a good number of competitors and visitors returned, despite challenging weather conditions, to view the prize-winning exhibits. A hamper of donated entries was raffled and won by Stuart and Lesley Curtis. Thanks are extended to the judges: Jane Sutherland (fruit and vegetables), Mike Coates (art and handicrafts) and Maureen Stansfield (baking). After expenses, the event raised £233.50 for Village Hall funds.

CHRISTMAS

Christmas Decorations (25 November) – The Village Hall was decorated for the festive season, creating a welcoming and seasonal atmosphere in preparation for upcoming events, including the wreath-making workshops and community pop-in sessions.

Wreath Making Workshops (27 November) – Afternoon and evening workshops were held for the third consecutive year, led by Larry Malkin. The sessions were well attended and offered at a cost of £12 per person, with all materials provided. Participants added their own decorative items to personalise their wreaths, while mulled wine and mince pies contributed to a festive atmosphere. The finished wreaths were displayed throughout the village, reflecting both the participants' creativity and the quality of instruction.

The event raised £360, with thanks extended to Larry and Jenny for their efforts and to Mark Brankley for assistance with clearing surplus foliage.

Christmas Hamper Raffle – A Christmas hamper was prepared and raffled, with tickets sold at £1 each. The initiative was well supported and raised £196 for hall funds after expenses. The hamper was won by Emma from the Plotters' Bar.

Christmas Cake Raffle – A homemade Christmas cake, kindly donated by Gill Smith, was raffled using a £1 per square format. The draw took place in the pub on 19th December alongside the hamper raffle and raised £98. The cake was also won by Emma from the Plotters' Bar, adding a memorable and light-hearted moment to the festive activities.

Christmas Fruit Hampers – Fruit kindly donated by Bidfood, and organised by Debbie Hutchins, was distributed to approximately 60 residents of Welwick and Weeton in time for Christmas. This thoughtful initiative ensured a festive contribution reached many within the community. Letters of thanks were sent to both Bidfood and Debbie Hutchins in recognition of their generosity and organisation.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Village Hall continues to host Parish Council meetings on a bi-monthly basis, providing an accessible venue for local governance and community engagement. Meetings remain open to the public, with outcomes published on the parish website (www.welwick.org). During the year, additional meetings were also held, with the Parish Council working closely with PCSOs to address concerns relating to antisocial behaviour within the village.

To ensure the continued success and sustainability of the Village Hall, the ongoing support of residents remains essential. The committee greatly appreciates attendance at events throughout the year and looks forward to welcoming the community to future activities. Suggestions for new events or functions are always welcome.

REVIEW OF POLICIES

To provide a robust organization several policies are in place which are reviewed 2 yearly. This year we also wrote a Safeguarding policy and a bullying and Harassment policy.

EAST RIDING VILLAGE HALL NETWORK (ERVHN) AND HALLMARK ACCREDITATION

We continue to pay the fees to remain a member of the East Riding Village Hall Network (ERVHN) at a cost of £50. Each year we have applied for a Halls for All grant of £100 which goes towards an activity. This year it helped towards the cost of the quiz.

The ERVHN conference was held on the 13th March at Holme-on-Spalding Moor and Jo Wood, Charles Roden-Rhodes, Louisa Pearson and Gill Smith attended. It is a useful event allowing us to network with other village hall trustees and to learn what initiatives they are doing. Several presentations and workshops were delivered on topics such as bringing cinema to the community, working with Parish Councils, saving energy and inspiring volunteers etc.

The hallmark accreditation ran out in October and we will work towards achieving this again. It does allow us 10% discount off the insurance and adds a bit of kudos to the hall. We will consider applying for the level 2 accreditation perhaps later in the year.

The ERVHN continue to support the trustees. If we have any concerns or queries, we can get their advice, so it is a useful to be a member.

THE VILLAGE LOTTERY

Thank you to everyone who takes part in the village lottery. The number of players for 2025/26 was 80, each player paying £26 for the year (i.e. 50p per week). The 80 players gave an income of £2,085. which included a donation of £5. This enabled us to donate £520 to both the Village Hall and to St. Mary's church. £1,040 remained for the monthly prize draw and was divided as follows

- first prize £40, second prize £27 and third prize £18. The first draw took place on the 8th June, and our thanks must go to Dave and Margaret Jarrett who take responsibility for the draw at the Pop in, every second Thursday of the month.

The winners for 25/26 were:

June 2025 – The 1st winner for the 2025/26 lottery draw was (No. 17) Liam and Richard Symonds; 2nd (No. 57) Angela Conner; and 3rd (No. 52) Chris Branton.

July winners – 1st (No. 68) Rosanne Rowbottom; 2nd (No. 17) Liam and Richard Symonds; and 3rd (No. 24) Adam Brankley.

August winners – 1st (No. 55) Nell Smith; 2nd (No. 10) Sally Roydhouse; and 3rd (No. 52) Chris Branton.

September winners – 1st (No. 72) Laurie and Marie Martienson; 2nd (No. 3) Jean Wilkin; and 3rd (No. 14) Gillian Smith.

October winners – 1st (No. 43.) Pam and Clive Richmond; 2nd (No. 19) Di Rotherforth; and 3rd (No. 56) Joyce Woodhouse.

November winners – 1st (No. 51) Andrew Boothroyd; 2nd (No. 13) Emily Bowden; and 3rd (No. 14) Gillian Smith.

December winners – 1st (No. 59) Chris Branton; 2nd (No. 55) Nell Smith; and 3rd (No. 71) Matthew Sowden.

January 2025 winners – 1st (No. 69) William Smith; 2nd (No. 41) Rosanne Rowbottom; and 3rd (No. 19) Di Rotherforth.

February winners – 1st (No. 23) Jayne Burkett; 2nd (No. .69) William Smith; and 3rd (No. 36) Tony Rowbottom.

March winners – 1st (No. 14) Gillian Smith; 2nd (No. 30) Joyce Woodhouse; and 3rd (No. 39) Janet Clapham.

April winners – 1st (No. 26) Tony and Sue Smith; 2nd (No. 76) Michael Scott; and 3rd (No. 37) Alison Sowden.

Winning numbers are posted on the website www.welwick.org, on the Welwick and Weeton Facebook page, displayed in the village notice board, in the telephone box, and in the Village Hall. Residents are welcoming the continuation of the lottery and payments of £26 are required by Gill Smith and Pat Beech or at the Pop-In by 5th May to allow entry into the 2026/27 draw. Don't forget – “you have to be in it to win it” and it also supports the village!

POPPY DISPLAY

We didn't make any new poppies this year but made several repairs to those already in existence. Once again, the poppies made a lovely display on the church bank, outside the village hall and around the war memorial as well as several other places throughout the village. Residents commented on how lovely and colourful the display was.

CHURCH

The church is always an item on the Village Hall agenda, and we receive an update from Jean Wilkin (church warden) as to what events are happening in the church. The trustees support the church agenda as much as they are able. Church services continue to be every first Sunday of the month.

Jean's claim to fame this year was that she featured on Channel 5's “Yorkshire Great and Small” where she spoke about the church and the gunpowder plotters whilst been interviewed by Dan Walker.

Jean also organised the harvest festival and the carol service which were well attended and refreshments were served after the services.

BUILDING

Cleaning – People often comment on the presentation of the hall, how pleasant an environment it is and how clean it is kept. Our thanks must once again go to Jackie Beaumont who continues to do a splendid job. She tidies drawers and cleans up after parties and events enabling us to enjoy a pleasant and hygienic space.

Damp patch on the wall – Mr. Dunn from EY Roofing Service made repairs to the roof and guttering so hopefully the damp patch in the top right-hand corner of the hall will dry out and be able to be repainted. The cost of repairs was £560.

Draft proof the loft. door – It was identified that a lot of heat was escaping through the loft door so Rich Smith applied draft proofing strips around the door which has alleviated some of the problem.

Recycling – As a small hall we do our best to be environmentally friendly. Unfortunately, the company called “Empties Please” who used to take our discarded used printer cartridges are no longer finding the service viable so the cartridge collection box is no longer available. Thank you to all who supported us with this venture previously. We will continue to think of ways to raise money and be environmentally friendly.

Fly killer – Through Summer we tend to have the inevitable influx of flies. We therefore invested in an electric fly zapper, and this has helped to alleviate the situation.

Heating system – A Hive System was installed by Richard Newsam at a cost of £273.36. This has allowed trustees to set the heating system remotely ensuring the hall is warm before use. We are hoping to have a Smart Meter installed and Jo Wood has been in discussion with Octopus Energy to try and source this. She has now been given the date so hopefully on 4 June this will finally happen.

Boilers – the 3 new boilers were fitted last year and are running well. Gerry Hailwood was successful in getting a £2500 grant from FP Hall & ER Char, which went to paying for the instillation.

Car Park – It was highlighted that the car park is only in the “possession” of the trustees and not owned. After further discussions with the land registry, it proved to be a complex and expensive issue to have it put into our ownership. The trustees decided it was no major issue and that we would leave as is. Mark Brankley must be thanked for his contribution in keeping the car park weed free as he sprays it several time throughout the year.

Spring Clean – On the 28 February several of the trustees met and spent the day spring cleaning and sorting out issues in the hall. Including an inventory and repairs to the hall chairs. 10 chairs were donated to the church.

Solar Panel Project – The Trustees have developed plans to install a solar photovoltaic (PV) system at the Village Hall to reduce energy costs and improve environmental sustainability. Grant funding of £15,990.85 has been secured from the Northern Powergrid Foundation to support the installation of solar panels and battery storage, enhancing the hall’s energy resilience. A proposal has been obtained for an 11.70 kWp system, expected to generate renewable energy for on-site use, reduce reliance on external supply and lower ongoing running costs. This project represents a significant step towards securing the long-term sustainability and efficiency of the Village Hall as a key community asset.

NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR

We are always endeavouring to do interesting and fun things to raise funds to keep the hall going and we value your input. If anyone has ideas we would welcome hearing from you. We are aiming to put on a Food festival, have a murder mystery night and there has been talk of reinstating the children’s hang out.

When events are organised, it is always wonderful to have your support and we are grateful for your attendance at these activities. Your support is vital to the up keep and running of the hall.

THE TRUSTEES FUTURE AIMS for 2025/26 ARE:

- Continue to canvas the community and listen to their views regarding services / activities they wish to see in the hall.
- Maintain the hall so that it is a clean and safe environment to use for parishioners/hirers.
- Put trustees through Food hygiene training
- Apply for the Hallmark certificate level 1 again and possibly apply to do level 2
- Continue to deliver services/activities and entertainment to the community at a fair cost.
- Raise enough funds to run and maintain the hall.
- Continue to look for funding streams / grants etc. that will support the running costs of the hall and put on activities.
- Continue to apply for grants to pursue utility saving initiatives.
- Source further opportunities to recycle and be more environmentally friendly.
- Continue to keep honest and accurate accounts.

All events are promoted on the Welwick and Weeton Facebook page and the new website at www.welwick.org. Please join to see what is happening in the village and help support us in our initiatives.

Appendix 1

MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES

Sadly, there have been a number of misconceptions and misunderstandings about recent decisions made by the Village Hall Trustees. Some comments have even suggested that we are not being transparent, questioning the honesty and integrity of our members.

We'd like to remind everyone that the trustees give their time and expertise freely and voluntarily, with no financial or personal gain and no hidden agendas. Our sole aim is to manage and maintain the hall so the whole community can enjoy this beautiful building and its surroundings – and to ensure it is sustainable for many years to come.

Future-Proofing the Hall

Recently, the trustees have been planning improvements to help future-proof the building and reduce running costs. A feasibility study has been completed – funded entirely by a donation, not by Village Hall funds.

We are now working hard to secure 100% external funding for works such as solar panels, thermal insulation, and secondary double glazing. If our grant bids are successful, we will source trades people from as close to the local area as possible.

You can view the full feasibility study (Decarbonisation plan) on welwick.org

Clarifying a Recent Question

A question was raised about whether a decision not to proceed with the project was overturned “on a whim.” This was not the case. The initial proposal to fund the feasibility study out of the Village Hall Funds and then securing a grant to pay it back, was rejected.

However, at a later meeting, a separate proposal was made that the feasibility study be funded through a donation. Although some trustees initially disagreed,

they ultimately supported the decision so that we could gather the vital information needed for future funding applications.

Some trustees chose to resign after this decision was made, but they have continued to support the hall and its aims.

Funding and Benefits

We recognise that any potential savings from the improvements would take time to materialise. However, as grant funding (not hall funds) would cover the costs, any savings would still benefit the hall and the community.

Grant money comes from large businesses as part of their corporate social responsibility, distributed to charities such as ours.

At present, we pay £80.73 per month for electricity. Installing solar panels and batteries could significantly reduce, or even eliminate, this cost – and generate income by selling excess power back to the grid.

Again, this is not just about saving money, but about creating a warmer, more comfortable, and sustainable community space.

Communication and Transparency

We want to ensure everything is done openly and transparently. We welcome any questions or concerns.

- You can speak directly to a trustee – we're always happy to talk and clarify things.
- Residents are welcome to attend the start of our meetings to ask questions in person.
- A Question & Answer section has been added to our website and you can send us a message on our contact form, just select Village Hall from the dropdown.

Final Thoughts

It has been upsetting for trustees to have their honesty and integrity questioned when all we do is give our time freely to benefit the community. We value residents' opinions and understand that not every decision will please everyone – but we all share the same goal: to have a pleasant, safe, warm, and financially sustainable hall for all to enjoy.

Some residents have also mentioned the idea of a play park. While we agree it's a great idea, this would need to be led by the Parish Council and interested community members. They can explore funding opportunities and, if successful, will need to manage insurance and maintenance going forward.

We hope this message helps clear up any misunderstandings. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you'd like clarification on any point.

Thank you all for your continued support. Together, we can ensure our lovely Village Hall remains a welcoming and vibrant space for generations to come.

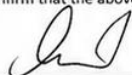
Gill Smith (Chair of the Village Hall) and the Trustees

Appendix 2 Annual Accounts

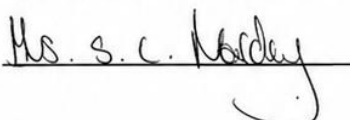
Welwick Parish Hall Year Ending 31st January 2026 Income and Expenditure Account

Income	2026	2025
Art Class	£2,052.10	£900.00
Craft Group	£864.00	£801.00
Bowls Group	£1,250.00	£1,556.00
Pop-In	£180.00	£736.00
Hall Hire	£1,932.50	£1,599.50
Parish Council Hall Hire	£180.00	£170.00
Events	£1,796.05	£1,478.00
Events - Games	£559.00	£340.00
Events - Refreshments	£445.25	£347.75
Refreshments	£55.50	£0.00
Fundraising Income	£294.21	£0.00
Village Hall Lottery	£544.50	£327.50
Grants Received	£18,990.85	£1,000.00
Donations	£290.50	£560.50
Cash To Bank From Tin	£6,944.40	£5,310.00
Transfer of Funds	£5,500.00	£5,100.00
Bank Interest	£457.14	£712.27
Other Receipts	£4,603.69	£625.45
Rent/Lettings (Other)	£0.00	£0.00
Deferred Income Brought Forward	£0.00	£0.00
	£46,829.69	£21,778.97
Expenditure	2026	2025
Hall Utilities - Electric	£1,097.26	£1,898.81
Hall Utilities - Gas	£1,351.69	£2,158.63
Hall Utilities - Water	£164.33	£184.32
Sky Internet	£417.08	£402.48
Window Cleaner	£0.00	£36.00
Cleaner Wages	£717.72	£480.48
Repairs & Renewals	£1,266.37	£7,399.59
Membership Fees	£50.00	£50.00
Cleaning Materials	£25.91	£126.20
Sundries	£0.00	£289.90
PPL/PRS Licence	£82.80	£154.80
Insurance	£962.05	£0.00
Bank Charges	£0.00	£37.25
Cash From Tin To Bank	£6,944.40	£5,310.00
Transfer of Funds	£5,500.00	£5,100.00
Equipment Purchases (Large)	£0.00	£0.00
Equipment Purchases (Small)	£44.90	£207.95
Event Expenses	£597.41	£1,058.00
Fundraising Expenses	£0.00	£0.00
Business Expenses	£0.00	£0.00
Governance (Examiner/Audit)	£0.00	£0.00
Items From Grants	£5,184.92	£10.46
Other Payments	£4,104.00	£0.00
	£29,571.51	£25,604.73
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	£17,258.18	-£3,825.76

I can confirm that the above is true account of the financial records of the Parish Hall for the year.

 Treasurer 24/4/26 Date

I can confirm that I have conducted an internal audit of the financial records and find the statements prepared by Welwick Parish Hall to be correct.

 Ms. S. C. Hardy 24/4/26 Date

Welwick Parish Hall
Year Ending 31st January 2026

Statement of Affairs

CLOSING BANK BALANCES (31-01-2026)

Current Account (Working Fund)	£16,745.89
Gold Account (Deposit Account)	£25,352.36
Cash Account	£480.00
	£42,578.25

RECONCILED BY:-

OPENING BANK BALANCES (31-01-25)

Current Account (Working Fund)	£2,164.03
Gold Account (Deposit Account)	£22,401.31
Cash Account	£679.73
	£25,245.07

Add Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	£17,258.18
Total deferred / restricted income	£75.00
	£42,578.25