Waldringfield Village Hall

Charity 304830

Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 March 2026

Contents

	Page
Reference and administration details	3
Structure, governance and management	4
Objectives and activities	4
Achievements and Performance	5
Financial Review	7
Declaration	8

Reference and administration details

Charity Name

Waldringfield Village Hall

Other name the charity uses

Village Hall (Waldringfield) – previous name

Registered charity number

304830

Charity's principal address

School Lane, Waldringfield, Woodbridge, IP12 4QP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Marian Bradley	Bookings Secretary
Joyce Forsdike	Vice-Chair
Serena Gold	Parish Council Representative
Philip Hall	Chair
Nigel King	
Tony Lyon	
John Nayler	
Amanda Sims	Treasurer
Sarah Wood	Minutes Secretary

Volunteers who serve on the management committee

Louise Brearey

Website waldringfieldvillagehall.co.uk

Email: bookings@waldringfieldvillagehall.co.uk

Telephone : 01473 736126

Bankers: Lloyds Bank

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The Trust is governed by a Trust Deed dating to 1959.

How is the charity constituted?

Unincorporated association

Trustee selection methods

Trustees/ the Committee of Management consist of elected and representative members and may include co-opted members. Trustees are elected for a term of 12 months at the Annual General Meeting and retiring Trustees are eligible for re-appointment. Representative members include the Parish Council.

Objectives and activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity set out in its governing document

A Village Hall for the use of the inhabitants of Waldringfield and the neighbourhood without distinction of sex or political religious or other opinions and in particular for use for meetings lectures and classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts

The main activity of the Trust concerns the hiring of the Hall for a wide variety of purposes for the benefit of the residents of Waldringfield and neighbourhood. Sporting and leisure activities include karate, dance, art, pilates, chair-based exercise, ukelele, yoga, table tennis and stretch and tone. Hirers use the Hall for their committee meetings, for hosting talks, shows, exhibitions and study days. They include the Wine Club, the History Group, the Parish Council, Woodbridge Arts Society, the Wildlife Group and Waldringfield Gardeners. With the assistance of many volunteers, the Village Hall also hosts community events such as monthly Coffee Mornings, Winter Talks, Annual Produce Show, Quiz Night, Harvest Supper, Winter Party and Pantomime.

The Village Hall acts as a polling station and the car park is used by the visiting Post Office mobile van. The neighbouring school uses the Hall for special events and the Hall also hosts visiting drama and local music groups for concerts and rehearsals. The Hall is also used for private parties, weddings and wakes.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

In planning the activities for the year, the trustees keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at their meetings.

Additional Details

We are grateful for the many hours that volunteers contribute to maintaining the premises and to hosting events. Without their valuable contribution of time, energy and expertise we would not be able to achieve so much. We are also grateful for the many kind donations, often anonymous, which help to support and sustain our activities.

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

At the time of the AGM in October 2026 it will be six years since I took over as Chair of the Village Hall and I feel the time has come for someone new to take over at the helm. Village Halls may be bastions of tradition but they, like all organisations, benefit from the injection of new blood and new ideas on how to maintain and improve their appeal to the community.

Of course, not all villages can boast a village hall as fine as Waldringfield's. It is hard to believe that the 'new' village hall will be 25 years old in October 2026. The new Village Hall would not have happened without the dedication, efforts, skills and financial support of many, many residents. We have all seen Grand Designs and know from our own experiences how even small building projects can go awry. It is a testament to the committee at the time that they managed to get so many things right and so in our 25th anniversary year in 2026 we plan to celebrate their achievement.

I am conscious that in a small village like Waldringfield, the Village Hall occupies a very special place at the heart of the village. It is therefore vital that we strive to make it the very best that we can for the benefit of the community that it serves. In the past six years we have upgraded the lighting system, replacing it with led; we have replaced the radiators throughout, we have replaced the flooring in the Kennedy Room and the offices and stores; we have upgraded the entry system; we have upgraded the toilets – installing a new more responsive hot water system, new flush monitoring system, automatic lights, new taps and installed an emergency alarm system in the disabled wc. We have installed a new baby changing mat, new racking in the stores, a new kitchen hatch, a new shed and most recently had new curtains made for the Deben Hall and Kennedy Room. All this in addition to an ongoing programme of repairs and maintenance. The total cost came to over £50,000 and has been enabled in large part by grant aid. In the 12 months to March 2026 alone, we have spent over £27,000 including nearly £11,000 on new curtains.

I am constantly reminded of the enduring social importance of village halls like ours in bringing people together. The monthly coffee mornings provide an opportunity for residents to meet and socialise and they continue to be as popular as ever. A tremendous amount of work goes into making these the success they are, both front of house and in the kitchen; and the quality of the home-made cakes is legendary. Our thanks once again go to Christine Lyon and the whole of the coffee team for their tireless and continuing efforts.

The relationship between the Parish Council and the Village Hall is an important one. We are very grateful for the £500 annual grant and for having a Parish Council representative on the Committee. The warm room initiative, sponsored by the Parish Council, has proven very popular and like the coffee mornings provides an opportunity for residents to socialise, helping to combat social isolation and loneliness. Thanks go to all the volunteers for making this possible.

Christine Lyon organised another very successful Quiz night and fundraiser for the Village Hall in November. Also in November we were richly entertained by the brass band Suffolk Phoenix under the very capable and entertaining direction of Richard Atkins.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Colin Reid for once again organising a magnificent series of Winter Talks. Thanks should also go to the speakers who give such amazing talks. We have a village of many talents.

Despite the cost-of-living crisis, residents continue to be extremely generous in their donations, often anonymous; and in their support for our various fund-raising efforts, including the Village Hall Lottery, promoted by Nigel King and helped by a raft of collectors. 2026 marks the 60th anniversary of the start of the first Village Hall Lottery.

I am fortunate as Chair to be supported by a dedicated team of Committee Members and our partners. Marian Bradley has done a sterling job as Bookings Secretary over the last 10 years and I would like to thank her for her dedication to the role and her professionalism. We welcome James Skellorn as Marian's replacement.

We continue to try to improve our systems and processes and to make the most of new technology in order to be as efficient as possible. To this end I would like to thank Amanda Simms our Treasurer for her keen eye and for her work in changing our accounting system from an accruals based one to a receipts and payments one. Further upgrades to our accounts system are in hand for the 2026-7 financial year.

The relationship with Waldringfield School is an important one. We are grateful to Sarah Wood for setting aside time from her busy schedule as Headteacher to be on the committee, for her work as Minutes Secretary and for agreeing to take on additional administrative duties relating to the Charities Commission.

We are grateful to David Ward for ensuring the bins are emptied regularly, to Ann Stock for ordering our supplies and to Simon Couchman for keeping the grounds tidy and presentable despite the lack of rain this year. We are delighted to have Rhiannon Fancett as our cleaner; she is doing an amazing job.

We are enormously grateful to Will Green for agreeing to be our Independent Examiner for a third year and for his diligence in carrying out this task.

We benefit from having a committee with a wide range of skills and perspectives, which make committee meetings both interesting and productive. Running the Village Hall is very much a team effort and I would like to thank in addition Joyce Forsdike and Louise Brearey for their support and to John Nayler and Tony Lyon for keeping the Village Hall well maintained.

We rely on volunteers coming forward to help in whatever way they can. The Village Hall is not sustainable if it relies on a few people trying to do too much. It will be sustainable if we can draw on a lot of people doing a manageable amount, which they can fit around their other commitments. I am grateful to all those who have offered to act as chaperones to new hirers. Not everyone is familiar with how the Village Hall works and it is hugely valuable for new hirers to have someone to show them the ropes.

Financial Review

I am pleased to report that the Trust continues to be in robust financial health, notwithstanding the increased costs that we, like all organisations, face. In line with our size and lack of financial complexity as an organisation, we took the opportunity this year to change from reporting our finances on an accruals basis to a receipts and payments basis. This is a simpler system of reporting, but no less robust. It is recommended as the default method by HMRC for organisations of our size.

Thanks to our excellent Bookings Secretary, Marian Bradley, income from bookings in the year reached a total of £21,605 in line with the previous year. When I took over as Chairman the Village Hall was receiving no income from bookings due to lockdown restrictions. Now it is a very busy venue and a pleasure to see the hall so well utilised.

Waldringfield may be a small village, but it has a heart much bigger than its resident numbers would suggest. The income from the Village Hall Lottery does much to support the ongoing improvements to the Village Hall thanks to Nigel King, the Lottery's Promoter, and his willing band of volunteers. Despite the cost of living crisis, gross income from lottery proceeds remained robust at £3,686. Not bad for a village of just over 400 residents!

Fund raising events such as the monthly Coffee Mornings, the Quiz night and Winter Talks, raised a total of £7,015. Our thanks go to all those involved for the considerable efforts that go into making them the success that they are.

We are very grateful to the £387 in donations from various individuals.

Our total receipts this year of £56,470 (£46,770 ignoring internal bank ransfers), is up substantially on the previous year, this largely due to a £10,000 grant from the National Lottery and a £2,500 grant from East Suffolk Council. We are enormously grateful to the Lottery and East Suffolk Council for their support. Our payments also showed a substantial increase to £55,786 (£43,786 ignoring internal bank transfers). The largest expenditure by far (£27,481) was spent on repairs, maintenance and improvements including nearly £13,000 on curtains, a new shed, storage racking and a new baby changing unit.

With a continuing strong balance sheet, we believe that the Trust should be able to continue to deliver on its charitable objectives for the coming financial year, barring any unforeseen catastrophic events.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The cash at bank at 31 March 2026 was £107,535 in unrestricted funds, in line with the previous year. The main financial risk to the charity is loss of funding from the hiring of the Hall. The funds are held to cover 12 months operational costs in the event of a loss of income from closure of the Hall, to meet future capital expenditure plans and to meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur.

Future Plans

The 'new' Village Hall is over 20 years old and is in need of continuing expenditure to ensure that it remains attractive to hirers and a facility of which the whole village can be proud. We are mindful that over the medium term the kitchen units will need replacing, as will the boiler, the oil tank and the car park will need resurfacing.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature



Philip Charles Leonard Hall, Chairman of the Trustees

Date: 1st September 2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Waldringfield Village Hall Trust

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01.04.2025	To	Period end date 31.03.2026

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Hall lettings	21,605	-	-	21,605	-
Fundraising events	7,015	-	-	7,015	-
Lottery income	3,686	-	-	3,686	-
Council grants	3,000	-	-	3,000	-
Lottery grant	10,000	-	-	10,000	-
Lottery donations	232			232	
Other donations	155	-	-	155	-
Electricity generation	1,077	-	-	1,077	-
Transfer from deposit accounts	9,700	-	-	9,700	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	56,470	-	-	56,470	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	56,470	-	-	56,470	-
A3 Payments					
Lottery prizes	1,584	-	-	1,584	-
Electricity	1,655			1,655	
Water	965			965	
Oil	1,223			1,223	
Council tax	536	-	-	536	-
Cleaning	4,158	-	-	4,158	-
Telephone and broadband	805	-	-	805	-
Insurance	1,071	-	-	1,071	-
Repairs and maintenance	14,758	-	-	14,758	
Licences/ H & S	658	-	-	658	-
Office, stationery and consumables	1,698	-	-	1,698	
Fund raising expenses	1,930	-	-	1,930	
Bank service charges	21	-	-	21	
Transfer to deposit account	12,000	-	-	12,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	43,062	-	-	43,062	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
8x8 shed	1,202		-	1,202	
storage racking	365			365	

curtains	10,954			10,954	
baby changing unit	203			203	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	12,723	-	-	12,723	-
Total payments	55,786	-	-	55,786	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	684	-	-	684	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	1,660	-	-	1,660	-
Cash funds this year end	2,345	-	-	2,345	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	current account	2,345	-	-
			-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,345	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	hall bookings not yet paid for	1,435	-	-
			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Instant access	**unrestricted**	-	**31,586**
	32 day notice account	**unrestricted**	-	**33,085**
	95 day notice account	**unrestricted**	-	**42,519**
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Stock of heating oil	unrestricted	-	**732**
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
uncleared lottery prizes		**181**	
unpaid supplier invoices		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Philip Hall	Philip Hall	01.09.26

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees of:

Waldringfield Village Hall

On accounts for the year ended :

31st March 2026

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2026.

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under s145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

W V Green

Name: Will Green

Date: 01 August 2026