



Trustees' Annual Report

Belchamp Walter Village Hall

For the year ended 31 December 2025

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ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Name: Belchamp Walter Village Hall

Charity Registration Number: 262403

Principal Address: Wheatleys, Hall Road, Belchamp Walter, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 7AS

Website: www.belchampwaltervillagehall.com

Email: rpbwvh@gmail.com

Trustees Serving During the Year

- Jane Walker (Co-Chair)
- Mick Shepherd (Co-Chair)
- Becky Poynter (Treasurer)
- Dave Poynter (Secretary)
- Lou Scott
- Benji Fairbanks-Weston
- Chris Krelle
- Charlie Raymond
- Tilly Poynter
- Zara Mattingly

Trustees are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting in May in accordance with the governing document.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

- Belchamp Walter Village Hall is governed by a Lease and Trust Deed dated 9 December 1970. The charity is administered by a management committee, which acts as the charity trustees
- The committee has met regularly throughout the year to oversee the operation, maintenance, financial management, and development of the Village Hall.
- The governing document sets out that the Hall is to be maintained for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Belchamp Walter, without distinction of political, religious or other opinions, and for use for meetings, lectures, classes, recreation, and leisure activities. ([Charity Register](#))

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The charity's objective is to provide and maintain a village hall and associated facilities for the use of local residents and the wider community.

In pursuing this objective, the trustees:

- Maintain and insure the hall and grounds.
- Make the facilities available for private hire and community use.
- Organise and support events that promote community engagement.
- Undertake improvements to enhance the usability and sustainability of the building.

The trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

During 2025, the Village Hall continued to serve as a central hub for community life in Belchamp Walter. All our events were well supported, particularly the film club and Belchamp Baps.

The long-standing organisers of the monthly film club, Mick and Monika Shepherd and Jan Munro and Martin Winters, decided to step down and the committee would like to record thanks for their efforts and commitment to the event over the years. They helped lay the foundation for its continuing success.

COMMUNITY USE

The hall was used for a wide variety of activities, including:

- Social events and fundraising activities including monthly film nights and breakfast brunch.
- Private celebrations and family gatherings.
- Parish meetings.
- Other local community activities.

The trustees are pleased that bookings increased during the year, reflecting the continued importance of the Hall as the village's principal meeting place.

HALL IMPROVEMENTS

The trustees continued to invest in maintaining and improving the facilities to ensure they remain safe, welcoming, and suitable for users. We invested in new tables and kitchen equipment which makes the hall more attractive to hire. We launched our campaign to restore the windows with a well-supported Summer cream tea and the committee would like to thank Mark and Michelle Taylor for their work on providing a comprehensive survey of current state of the windows.

The Hall's website was maintained and updated to provide booking information, event details, and governance documents.

VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION

The operation and management of the Hall rely entirely on volunteers. Trustees and local residents contribute significant time and effort to administration, maintenance, event organisation, and fundraising activities.

The trustees wish to record their sincere thanks to all volunteers for their continued support.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

For the year ended 31 December 2025:

- **Total income:** £14,565
- **Total expenditure:** £10,144
- **Net surplus:** £4,421

Income was derived primarily from:

- Community fundraising activities.
- Hall hire charges.
- Donations.

Expenditure included:

- General running costs.
- Utilities.
- Insurance.
- Repairs and maintenance.

The charity remains in a sound financial position and generated a pleasing surplus during the year. ([Charity Register](#))

RESERVES POLICY

The trustees aim to maintain unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover at least six months of routine operating costs and to provide for unforeseen repairs and maintenance.

The level of reserves is reviewed regularly and is considered adequate for the charity's needs.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The trustees have identified the principal risks as:

- Unexpected repair or maintenance costs.
- Reduced hall bookings and associated income.
- Rising utility and insurance costs.
- Difficulty recruiting volunteers and trustees.

These risks are mitigated through:

- Ongoing community engagement and recruitment efforts.
 - Maintaining adequate reserves in line with the reserves policy.
 - Regular monitoring of financial performance.
 - Appropriate insurance cover.
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PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

During 2026, the trustees plan to:

- Continue routine maintenance and repairs.
- Explore opportunities for further energy-efficiency improvements.
- Promote increased use of the Hall.
- Organise community fundraising events.
- Recruit additional volunteers and trustees where appropriate.

The trustees remain committed to ensuring the Village Hall continues to provide an in valuable community resource for current and future generations.

TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

No trustee received any remuneration, reimbursement of expenses, or other benefits from the charity during the year. ([Charity Register](#))

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102). The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, safeguarding the charity's assets, and taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on behalf of the Management Committee.

Signed: _____

Jane Walker, Co-Chair

Signed: _____

Mick Shepherd, Co-Chair

Date: _____