

## **Yaxham Village Amenities Association**

### **Report for the year 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

After the turmoil of the past few years, 2022 was successful and the hall is in high demand for regular activities, parties, meetings and events.

Sadly, one of our trustees resigned in August. We are very keen to recruit more trustees to keep the Village Hall, including the room in which you now sit, available for meetings such as this, and invite anybody interested to speak with us about coming on board. It is not an onerous commitment and the more trustees we have, the easier everything becomes for all.

During 2022:

- Policies were updated and revised and are now on the website;
- Trees in the back field were trimmed;
- There had been interest from the football club regarding taking over the Church Room. Unfortunately, we now understand this will not be going ahead;
- Windows in the hall were replaced in the summer;
- A new dog waste bin has been located on the recreation field which has reduced the problem of dog mess on the field;
- A successful Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration was held on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June;
- A grant from the Asda Foundation was awarded that enabled us to purchase a new oven and microwave for the kitchen;
- In December the Community Room was opened as a 'Hot Spot', for anybody who wished to be somewhere warm. Games, books, puzzles and hot drinks were available. A grant was secured from Breckland to help with the additional cost of energy to fund the initiative.

In terms of fundraising events included a Bingo evening, a St George's Day party, screenings of football matches and a New Year's Eve party, all of which were enjoyed by many residents of the village and wider community. We are limited in expanding village events due to a consistent lack of support by volunteers.

### **Yaxham Community Café**

The community café is the only fundraising activity we are consistently able to deliver, we have had a new volunteer and Jackie Wood has stepped up to support the coordination enabling the café to consistently open on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. We have several Yaxham residents who regularly attend and some regulars from Mattishall and Westfield too. We will continue to open the Community café throughout 2023 as long as there are sufficient volunteers to do so.

## **Community Car Scheme**

The Community Car Scheme continues to be used regularly by a small, but extremely grateful, number of people in the village. In 2022 twenty-five journeys were made for ten different people. We will be increasing prices soon to take account of cost of fuel and are grateful to the Parish Charity for subsidising the scheme. Passengers pay two thirds of the cost of each journey, with a third being paid to the driver from funds granted by the Parish Charity. We are always keen to recruit new drivers. It has been very rare that we haven't been able to find a driver for a journey but, the more drivers we have, the less likely it is that we will be unable to assist. If you would like to know more about becoming a driver, please contact Trudy Gust.

## **Yaxham Cares – Good Neighbour Scheme.**

During 2022 the need for the good neighbour scheme has diminished. There have been no requests for help in the last 18 months. We have had 2/3 requests form Norfolk Social Services asking if we cover Dereham, 1 request was actioned, but the others have been referred back.

The only other requests have been redirected to the community Car scheme.

I therefore do not feel there is a need to maintain the service. I still have the Vodaphone simcard for the Phone number if it needs to be reinstated at any time.