Bealings Village Hall & Playingfield – Chairman's Report AGM 21st May 2012

The Village Hall and Playingfield is a shared facility on behalf of the Bealings communities and is run as a Charity. We thank the Parish Council for its contributions of £250 for Village Hall and £500 towards Playingfield. These contributions are in the context of operating expenses of around £8,000 for the Hall and around £3,000 for the playingfield – the main cost for the playingfield being insurance costs.

It is our policy to hold reserves to the value of one year's base operating costs. There is also a ringfenced fund of £2,000 set aside for replacing the flat roof, parts of which are now at least 30 years old. We aim to set aside £1,000 each year for this fund.

After the work done last year to address the leaks in the ridge roof we still have the odd leak from time to time so we are looking into a more permanent solution to the main roof which still leaks from time to time. We will be looking for help with funding this work once we understand the costs.

Activities at the hall include: Badminton, Ballroom Dance Classes, Carpet Bowls, Miniaturists, Snooker and children's parties.

The Management Committee has been busy again dealing with essential upgrades and general maintenance. The main work this year has been marking out the car park with tegular blocks – and this was achieved with the help of funds from Peter Bellfield's Locality grant.

In May 2012, we had an another visit from the Fire Safety Officers at Suffolk Fire Service. And he has confirmed that our remedial work since the previous visit meets the fire safety regulations.

We have carried out repairs to play-equipment at a cost of £1200. Although most every day maintenance is still done by volunteers. We do use the Community Payback team to keep the weeds at bay around the hall and playingfield. We allow for about 3 days a year and this year for the first time we are being charged £75 per day for a team of about 6.

The weather in the last year has seriously affected the line markings on the Multi-Sports Court which are now in need of renewal – and so we have applied for the release of funds held in the Outdoor Playspace Sports Fund. We would be grateful for the support of your Parish Council in this application. We are hoping to get the work done in June at a cost of £1,302 + VAT. The contribution from the fund is £886 and the Village Hall Playingfield fund has to find the rest.

Events planned this year include:

- event on 13th July to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the refurbishment (organised by the friends of the field).
- 31st December a New Years Event at the Village Hall.
- Hoping to hold another quiz evening.

Our finances are audited annually by an independent examiner and also monitored by the Charities Commission. We are indebted to Margaret Wilson Little Bealings for all her hard work which she carries out diligently and efficiently – she is not only Treasurer but does all the Secretarial work and is also Booking Secretary.

Finally, we are grateful to our volunteers, Keith and Nigel Hall-Wright who maintain the playingfield; Alison Hall-Wright for helping the cleaner; Eric Barnett for his excellent Quiz evenings, Robin Sadler for carrying out work installing draught excluder. Malcolm Watson for organising our fundraising events. As the excellent support we get from our County Councillor, Peter Bellfield.

Jenny Shaw Chairman of Trustees Bealings Village Hall