

Walgrave Annual Parish Meeting - 23 April 2018

Report and statement regarding the Walgrave village website

The WALGRAVE VILLAGE COMMUNITY WEBSITE is edited by Michael (Mike) Bailey with technical assistance from Alison Evans-Smith.

The website exists on behalf of the Parish Council for the benefit of all the members of the Parish, and for visitors. The Parish Council has ultimate decision making authority over the content, and indeed the continued existence of the website. A copy of the 'Website Terms of Reference' is on the website.

Mike started editing the original website in 2010 and the server was changed later that year. Following 18-months of struggling with outdated software Alison, with the agreement of the Parish Council, updated the website in 2012 to the well known and more universal WordPress. At the same time Mike and Alison revamped the layout and content to form a community website shaped as a 'One Stop Shop'. Previously nearly all the updates had only been parish council information, everything else was static. Alison has continued to offer advice and assist as necessary with the technical side. The website won an Excellency Award from Northants ACRE in 2013 and continues to receive much favourable feedback.

The Parish Council use the site to put out their policies, meeting agendas and minutes, planning applications and links, the work they do, councillors and representatives, notices from DDC and NCC, as well as posts advising changes to local services, transport and highways information, etc. It is a valuable source of information for others who use it e.g. the local media, estate agents, people considering coming to the village and for village events such as the Open Gardens and Groove on the Green.

For various reasons, Mike is now finding it difficult to maintain the website to the present standard. Regretfully, he is therefore giving notice that he will not be available to edit the website for much longer. In order to keep the website running we need someone - preferably a person in the village - who can use WordPress or could possibly be trained on the newer system used by NCALC. A job description and a list of other relevant information are being prepared.

The @WalgraveTweets Twitter account will also be affected by the above decision.

May I suggest Madam Chairman that a Parish Councillor should liaise with the present website editor to investigate the above and make a proposal to full council on the way forward?

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bailey' with a horizontal line underneath.

Michael Bailey

On behalf of Walgrave Parish Council