**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT FOR THE YEAR APRIL 2019-2020**

Thank you all for attending our meeting, albeit in a very different format to usual.

I would like to thank William McLaren, President, and Denise Hiscox, Vice-President for once again guiding us through the last year.

The Community Shop and Community Gym continue to be great assets to the village and I would like to thank both Committee Members and Volunteers for their continued efforts. Although it has taken a considerable amount of time to resolve the difficulties over the utility bills in the gym, this has finally been achieved. I would like to thank everyone, especially Steve White, for your patience and efforts. We will continue to work on a long-term rental agreement or lease agreement with NCC to secure the building as a gym. The shop Volunteers, along with Trustees held a training day at Bell View and was well attended. It was deemed very successful and we hope to arrange other days where we can meet up and share ideas.

The Arts Festival was a wonderful event this year and has gone from strength to strength. Thanks go to Jodi Larder, Producer and her team.

We have made grants available this year to Belford War Memorial, Belford Village Show, Christmas Lights Committee, Pantomime and Bell View, and will continue to strive to support our community. We look forward to receiving further requests for projects in the future.

The Woodland Team is doing very well and our thanks go to Brian and the team for making these areas such a delightful feature of Belford.

The website continues to be monitored and updated by Amanda, and the markets set up by Ruth and Phil continue to be popular.

Dave and Val as usual, have kept our accounts in order, and our thanks go to them. The Group continues to be financially secured.

We were very sorry to lose both Dennis and Fiona as Trustees and would like to thank them for their valuable contribution to the group.

Thanks also go to Sue Smith who has produced the Newsletter.