

Highmoor Educational Charity

Trustees Report for the year ended April 1st 2024

The charity was established under a Charity Commission scheme dated 22nd January 1982. The capital of the fund arose from a one-third share in the proceeds of the sale of the Church of England school serving the parish of Highmoor at that time.

Objectives

Under the terms of the trust deed governing the charity the trustees are to apply the net income of the charity:

- a) to promoting in such ways as they think fit the education of persons under the age of 25 who are resident in the parish of Highmoor and who are in need of financial assistance in accordance with the principles and doctrines of the Church of England;
- b) in or towards providing such special benefits of any kind not normally provided by the local education authority for any school in the maintained sector attended by children resident in the parish, provided trustees have regard to the principles of the Church of England; and
- c) for the benefit of any Sunday school in Highmoor.

The income is not to be used for the relief of public funds.

Parochial Restructuring

On 1st June 2012 a pastoral measure combining the parish of Highmoor with the parish of Nettlebed was approved and the parish church of St Paul was closed. Based on consultation with the Oxford Diocesan Office the trustees are of the opinion that the trust continues in its existing form. Eligible beneficiaries remain the young people resident in the historical Ecclesiastical Parish of Highmoor.

Management

The charity is managed by trustees.

Early in 2023 three trustees resigned.

- Mrs Charlotte Earle A'Hern – Churchwarden, an Ex-officio Managing Trustee appointed 8th June 2016 and Chairperson appointed 22 May 2018
- Ms Elaine Mary Mulvaney – Resident of Highmoor - a Co-optative Managing Trustee and Treasurer appointed 22 May 2018
- Ms Michelle O' Sullivan – Resident of Highmoor - a Co-optative Managing Trustee and Treasurer appointed 26 March 2021

Leaving two remaining Trustees:

- Mrs Judith Anne de Vere Stacpoole – Resident of Highmoor – a Co-optative Managing Trustee appointed 2nd May 2017

- Mrs Catherine Clarke – Resident of Highmoor - a Co-optative Managing Trustee and Treasurer appointed 26 March 2021

It was necessary to appoint three more Trustees to manage the Charity and over the course of 2023, three more Trustees were appointed.

- Mr John Thompson – Church Warden of Nettlebed Church- ex-officio Managing Trustee appointed March 2023.
- Mrs Debbie Warren- Price – Resident of Highmoor – a Co- optative Managing Trustee appointed in May 2023
- Mrs Caroline Ahanchian – Resident of Highmoor – a Co- optative Managing Trustee appointed in May 2023.

Under the original terms of the charity there are three ex-officio trustees and two co-opted trustees. The ex-officio trustees were the officiating minister and churchwardens of St Paul's Church Highmoor. The co-opted trustees are people who through residence, occupation or employment have special knowledge of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Highmoor.

St Pauls Church Highmoor is now a residential dwelling and the ecclesiastical parish of Highmoor is now part of the Parish of Nettlebed with no resident incumbent but with two new Church Wardens. It was necessary to make Administrative changes to the management Highmoor Education Charity, and a resolution was passed on 17th October 2023 at a quorate Extraordinary meeting of the Trustees.

The Trustees sought the help of the Charity Commission of how best to make the necessary Administrative changes to the management of Highmoor Education Charity we were required to have properly documented minutes of quorate meetings agreeing to these changes.

- 1.A new Resolution stating the Administrative changes.
- 2.An Extraordinary meeting of the Trustees to agree the Administrative changes.
- 3.Minutes from Nettlebed PCC agreeing to the Administrative Changes.

Copies of all three documents are attached.

Review of the year to 1st April 2024

The trustees actively seek opportunities to assist children of the parish within the objects of the charity. The Trustees have advertised in the Stoke Row News, on the Highmoor Facebook Page, and the Trustees have delivered a flyer to every house in the village.

Grants

Total grants in 2023 amounted to £3,555

Income and dividends

At the balance sheet date the undistributed accumulated income amounted to £58,030.00 (compared with £64,032.41 as at 31 December 2021 and £57,214.14 as at 31 December 2020). This variation is due to the ongoing impact of Covid 19 and the war in Ukraine which have each had a negative effect on investment values in 2022, and to the fact that one grant of £5000 was made in 2022 which resulted in payments out being in excess of income by way of dividends for the year (-£2068.13) and a consequent reduction in the closing bank balance for the year.

The total annual dividends arising out of the charity's investments was £2,931.87 in the year ending 31 December 2022 (compared with £2,835.52 in the year ending 31 December 2021, and £2,738.18 in the year ending 31 December 2020).

The trustees welcome notification of needs within the parish. In the absence of the incumbent these should be addressed to Ms Judith Stacpoole.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Mrs Charlotte Earle A'Hern

Chairperson