

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

The Educational Foundation was established by a Scheme made by the Secretary of State for Education and Science in 1972.

The object of this charity is to promote the education (including social and physical training) of residents of the ancient (original) parish of Gestingthorpe by means of financial grants towards the cost of such items as tuition fees, study books, educational materials or any activity which the trustees consider to be educational. Preference is given to applicants under the age of twenty-five.

Charity trustees during the year 2021 were:-

Mr A. Cooper - appointed by Essex County Council

Mr S. Bolter - appointed by Gestingthorpe Parish Council

Mrs A. Nolda - ex-officio trustee Church Warden

Mr P. Nice - ex-officio trustee Church Warden

Mrs D.T. Nott - co-opted trustee

Rev. Beverley Vincent-rector of Gestingthorpe

Helen Padgett was appointed during the year and Corinna Brown stepped down as a trustee but was welcomed to future meetings as an observer.

The trustees noted that under the Constitution of the Foundation 5 out of the 7 trustees were ex-officio appointments and 2 were co-opted. There was concern that with changes at County and Parish Council level together with the infrastructure of the Church the ex-officio bodies might cease to operate in the future. There was also some concern that limiting the co-opted trustees to 2 may not adequately reflect the community of the parish within which the Foundation operates and that fresh thinking and new faces were to be encouraged. The trustees therefore agreed to amend the Constitution to permit the appointment of up to 3 additional co-opted trustees for terms of a limited term of 12 months.

Applications for grants are discussed and allocated twice a year at Trustees meetings in the Spring and Autumn.

The charity is funded partly from the rent of approximately 12.5 acres of arable land at Cock Road, Little Maplestead (known as Rents field) and partly by interest and dividends from investments in COIF Charities Deposit Fund and in Blackrock Charishare Common Investment and Restricted funds

A group of trustees inspected the charity land in September 2021 accompanied by the tenant. The Trust arranges Public Liability insurance for the charity land. The charity's investments are reviewed at each meeting of the trustees. The advice of Black Rock Investment Managers Ltd. and SB Surveyors of Sudbury is sought periodically.

During 2021, 7 grants totalling £1,226 were made in support of various individual activities. Schools were still affected by Covid and home schooling continued for many children. The trustees took this into account in welcoming grants which supported the cost of education at home.

In 2020 the trustees launched a Book Voucher Scheme. Families with children were able to apply for a £30 voucher to be redeemed at a local book shop or online and twelve vouchers were issued. The scheme was completed in 2021 with 8 vouchers being redeemed and £240 paid to the book shop.

The trustees approved this report at their meeting on 7th April 2022

The Chairman was authorised to sign on behalf of all trustees.

Under the provisions of the Charities Act, a member of the public has a right to obtain a copy of a charity's accounts, on written request. A copy of the Educational Foundation's accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, Jane Crumpton-Taylor jane@crumpton-taylor.com or 01787 460277 - price 20 pence