

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHARITY IN THE
ANCIENT PARISH OF SMISBY (“The Charity”)
held at 7pm on the 31 January 2022 at Cedar Lawns, Smisby**

1. **Present** Mr. S. J. Barnett, Mr. R.J. Hounslow, Ms. C.E. Hynam via Zoom and Mr. P. Cooper via Zoom
Attending: Mrs S. Heap (Clerk)
2. **Chairman** It was proposed by Mr. Barnett and seconded by Mr. Cooper that Mr. Hounslow be Chairman of the meeting.
3. **Minutes** Minutes of the previous meetings were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising**

a. **‘Redacted’**

b. **Jubilee Field Lease**

Ms. Hynam stated that as far as she was aware everything was in the hands of the Solicitors and Mike Reynolds confirmed that Nelsons were still dealing with the Lease and that he would chase them up on the matter.

Helicopter Landing

No Invoice had yet been received but Gunnercooke had replied saying that they had made a donation to their firm’s Christmas Charity, Salford Loaves and Fishes.

c. **Land Valuations**

The land valuation had now been received from Fisher German and it was noted that the value had decreased. An invoice for £2400.00 had been received from Fisher German in respect of this report and a cheque was issued accordingly.

d. **Commemoration to Mr. J. Barnes**

Although Mr. Cooper had tried communicating with Mr. Margerrison the Clerk had now managed to contact Mrs. Barnes and along with Canon David Edwards and Gary Margerrison they had suggested the wording on the plaque be: *In Memory of Jeffery William Barnes who gave many decades of dedicated services to Smisby and St. James’ Church which he loved so much.* It was agreed that this wording be adopted.

e. **Jubilee Field maintenance and Insurance**

Maintenance

Mr. Hounslow had attended the Parish Council’s meeting and requested that they obtain quotes for the ground maintenance of the Jubilee Field before the Trustees gave consideration to funding the cost. These were asked to be forwarded to the Clerk.

Insurance

A reply had been received from the NFU requesting answers to certain questions that their underwriters required in order to better understand what needs to be covered and which the Clerk was to respond to.

f. **Christmas Hampers**

The Trustees considered and agreed to change the rules of who was eligible for a Christmas Hamper commencing 2022. It was agreed that everyone 60 and over receive a hamper.

g. **Land Registry**

A quote had been received by Mike Reynolds from Browne Jacobson of £750 plus VAT and disbursements. The Clerk was instructed to ask him to proceed.

h. 'Redacted'

5. Business

a. **Book Tokens**

The Clerk confirmed she had purchased from WH Smith and distributed book tokens to the eligible children of the Parish, being 6 x £10 and 16 x £20, at a cost of £382.00 plus £2.99 for envelopes. It was agreed a cheque for £382.99 be issued to the Clerk to cover the cost of this disbursement.

b. **Hemington Land – Overhanging Hedge**

A communication had been received from Leicestershire County Council regarding an overgrown hedge which was obstructing the footway along Lockington Lane.

It was agreed that the Clerk put this matter in the hands of Fisher German for them to deal with and Mike Reynolds had confirmed that this had been done.

Following the above Mike Reynolds had asked the Trustees if they wished a health and safety tree survey be carried out of the roadside and public right of way trees on the Charity's lands. This would be to identify and tree works that might be needed to ensure the safety of trees on land near to the public highway or rights of way.

After consideration the Trustees agreed that this be carried out.

ACTION: The Clerk to instruct Mike Reynolds to contact the council for quotes and also approach Smisby Parish Council for the name of a tree surgeon used by them and to get quotes.

c. **NFU Insurance**

The renewal notice amounting to £281.79 had been received and it was agreed that this be paid. A cheque was issued accordingly.

d. **Strategic Land Holdings Ltd**

A letter had been received from the above company looking to expand their portfolio by acquiring the Charity's land.

It was agreed unanimously by the Trustees that this would not be pursued.

e. **Report by Mr. Hounslow on attending Smisby Parish Council Meeting.**

Mr. Hounslow had attended the Parish Council Meeting and put forward the following points:

- 1) They decided to go with the pitch maintenance and review the use after a year, all quotes to be sent to the Clerk.
- 2) Mr. Hounslow mentioned that the Charity would be considering sending out a separate newsletter to let the community know what the Charity does. The Charity would still contribute to the Council's newsletter.
- 3) The meeting with Rathbones was mentioned and he reiterated the Charity were still interested in acquiring local land.
- 4) Confirmed the Charity's accounts to 31 March 2021 had been agreed.
- 5) A suggestion for funding was made about whether the Charity could help fund an EV charging point in the village. Mr. Hounslow asked if the project was submitted on the standard form then the Trustees would give their consideration to it.
- 6) There was no progress on the Smisby Lock-Up.

There was also mentioned at the meeting the suggestion of a hardstanding wall in the Jubilee Field so that football, tennis etc. could be played against. Mr. Hounslow asked if details could be sent to the Charity for the Trustees consideration.

It was agreed by the Trustees that they could be attracted to this project.

f. **Village Hall AGM Representative**

The Village Hall Committee had requested a Trustee attend their AGM and Mr. Barnett offered. He reported a baby changing unit in the toilets was discussed and also the replacing of cutlery and crockery.

g. **Consideration of Charity Newsletter**

The Trustees discussed the possibility of a newsletter being distributed to each household

in the parish to let everyone know what the Charity does, how to apply for funding and its achievements etc.

ACTION: Ms. Hynam offered and it was agreed that she start to formulate a newsletter for the Trustees to peruse.

6. Investments

a. Cash on Deposit at 31 January 2022

The Clerk presented a spreadsheet of the Cash on Deposit at the 31 January 2022.

b. Rathbones

A meeting had taken place and detailed in the Minutes of the 12 January 2022.

c. to k. Investment Notifications for Consideration/Action All Noted

Close Bros. Statements, COIF Statements, Schroders Statements and transfer confirmation to Rathbones, M & G Statements, Reports and confirmation of transfer, BNY Mellon Interim Report and Statements, Brewin Dolphin Valuation Report, Bath Building Society FSCS, Hampshire Trust Bank Statement and Hodge Bank Statement.

7. Payment of Accounts

Accounts for payment are shown above.

8. Accounts It had been agreed that the Trustees' Report completed by Mr. Barnett be sent to ADS Accountancy for them to submit to The Charity Commission. This had been accepted by them.

9. Other Business

Smisby WI

The Clerk had been approached by the WI requesting funding towards decorating the Village Hall railings with crowns made by WI members in connection with the Queens' Jubilee celebrations costing in the region of £65.

The Trustees agreed to this and the Clerk was to obtain the necessary receipts.

CAF BANK

Ms. Hynam thought that the Charity might be able to make BACS payments rather than by cheque.

ACTION: It was therefore agreed that she look into this and report back.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.55pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....