

The Marc Smith Educational Charity



ANNUAL REPORT FOR MARC SMITH CHARITY 2023

The Trustees met in April, July and September.

Julie Lenihan took over the position as clerk in June, following the resignation of Liz Butler.

In April the trees adjoining the boundary were discussed and it was agreed that they are not the charity's responsibility.

The problems with the Old Schoolhouse were discussed and after having professional advice it was agreed that substantial remedial work would need to be carried out. Extensive roof repairs and damp proofing were carried out and it was considered that the tenant might need to be moved out whilst further work was done. This became unnecessary as the tenant gave notice and moved out of her own accord in December. This then gave the charity the opportunity to assess the full extent of what refurbishment was needed. Something in the order of £65k will need to be spent on bringing the house up to the required standard and with no rent now being received a loan or grant will need to be sourced as the funds in the charity are very limited. The Chairman has undertaken to apply for grants and look for resources to fund the project.

In July the Trustees considered applications for Clothing grants for children leaving the primary schools and moving to upper schools. In 2023 there were 12 applications for clothing grants and all were approved. The total amount given for clothing grants in 2023 was £900.00 – a slight reduction on the previous year to reflect the projected spend on the Old Schoolhouse.

At the September meeting there were 14 applications for Further Education grants. One was refused as it did not fit the criteria. The Trustees awarded a total of £3900.00 in Further Education grants in 2023.

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List of Trustees

Trevor Dawes (Chairman) Permanent Trustee (Claybrooke Magna)

Simon Smith – Rep for Ullesthorpe

Jo-Ann Allcoat – Rep for Claybrooke Magna

Jan Butcher – Rep for Claybrooke Magna

Zoe Ridley – Rep for Claybrooke Parva

M Coombes – Rep for Ullesthorpe
(resigned in January 2024 as moving away from the area - so position now vacant)

Julie Lenihan – Clerk to the Trustees
(commenced in June 2023)