

Annual
Report
2016/17

2016 2017

2016

2017

1159992 - LLANFAIR WATERDINE COMMUNITY TRUST

Llanfair
Waterdine
Community
Trust

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Community Trust Name and Charity Number

1159992 – Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust

Type of Organisation

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Principal Address

Llanwoley
Llanfair Waterdine
Knighton
POWYS
LD7 1TY

Trustees as of April 30th 2015

Andrew Beavan

Barry Swancott

Graham Trew

Robert Gwilt

Roger Thomas

Other Trustees in the year to April 30th 2015

Rick Harrowing

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Patrons

None

Advisors

Legal:

McCartneys
Wylcwm House
Knighton
Powys
LD7 1AE

Medlicott Snows
7, Wylcwm Place
Knighton
Powys
LD7 1AE

Structure, Governance and Management

The Managing Trustees work as a small team with shared roles and equal responsibilities for the overall success and legal compliance of the Community Trust. Within this team specific responsibilities do exist and skills are utilised to maximise our effectiveness.

Roles include:

- Chair
- Secretary
- Financial Officer

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The Chair has no executive powers over and above the powers of the other Trustees.

Other roles are decided annually. We expect to rotate these roles between trustees to raise our overall expertise and avoid over-reliance on the skills of any particular trustee.

As well as the formal roles stated above, there is a need to make good land management decisions. It is obviously of great help that we have experienced land management skills within the team.

History, Governing Document and Constitution

The history of Llanfair Waterdine Parish Charities can be traced back three hundred years. They consisted of a number of bequests and allotments of land under enclosure awards. The ancient charities were amalgamated to some degree in 1977 when a Charity Commission Scheme became the Governing Document for all the individual Parish Charities then existing.

The only charity not governed by the 1977 Scheme was The Joan Adams Charity founded by a Conveyance of The Vedw Field in August 2000. This Conveyance was the Governing Document for this Charity.

In 2015 the Trustees combined all the separate charities into one new entity, called The Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust.

This replacement entity has made the work of the Community Trust easier to manage and has replaced the old Governing Documents with a Constitution that is easier to understand. The intention of the Trustees was always to ensure that the aims of the Community Trust remain consistent with previous aims.

The new Constitution is available on the Parish Council Website at the following web addresses:

www.hugofox.com/community/llanfairwaterdine-parish-council

***** contact Mark to put Constitution on website *****

Printed copies are always available on request.

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Trustee Selection and Management

Managing Trustees (the people responsible under the Constitution for controlling the management and administration of the Community Trust) are selected by two methods;

- I. Four are appointed by the Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council
- II. One Trustee can be co-opted by the other Managing Trustees

Related Organisations

Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council

The Parish Council appoints four trustees to act as Managing Trustees for the Community Trust.

Note:

Because the Parish Council is classed as a Governmental Authority and part of the 'State', there is a legal requirement that the Community Trust acts independently from the Council. Therefore Trustees act solely in the interests of the Community Trust and a Trustee is not a delegate of the Council even though the Council may appoint her or him.

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Objectives

- 1) Relief of Financial Hardship, either generally or individually, of people living in the Parish of Llanfair Waterdine in Shropshire and its environs by making grants of money for providing or paying for items, services or facilities;
- 2) Advancement of Education for the public benefit to promote the education (including social and physical training) of people under the age of 26 years in the Parish of Llanfair Waterdine in Shropshire and its environs in such ways as the charity trustees think fit;
- 3) The promotion for the benefit of the public of urban or rural regeneration in areas of social and economic deprivation (and in particular in the Parish of Llanfair Waterdine) in Shropshire and its environs by all or any of the following means:
 - a) the relief of financial hardship;
 - b) the maintenance, improvement or provision of public amenities;
 - c) the protection or conservation of the environment;
 - d) such other means as may from time to time be determined subject to the prior written consent of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales.
- 4) The General Benefit for charitable purposes of the inhabitants of Llanfair Waterdine and its environs for which provision is not made out of rates, taxes or other public funds.
- 5) The provision of a recreational field in accordance with the Conveyance of the Vedw field of 7th August 2000.

Community Trust Location

The Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust provide for individuals, groups and the whole community of Llanfair Waterdine and its environs.

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Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission Guidance on public benefit and that the public benefit requirement has informed the activities of the trustees in the year to April 30th 2017.

In evaluating public benefit the trustees note that beneficiaries are;

- individuals requiring funds for items or projects;
- or organisations and groups;

whose needs are compatible with the Mission Statement of the Community Trust. The mission statement is in turn, compliant with the aims and objectives of the Governing Document endorsed by the Charity Commission.

Summary of Main Activities

Community Trust income is allocated to meet applications for funds.

Applications are considered for:

- Grants to individuals, families or groups on the basis of exceptional or challenging circumstances;
- Bursaries to young people to help them broaden their experiences and accomplishments;
- Partnerships with groups seeking similar goals to our own;
- Sponsorship of projects that will be of general benefit to the community

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Achievements and Performance

- In the financial year to 31st December 2016 the Trustees have given **£6897.66** in the form of grants and bursaries to individuals and groups.
- We have acted as a resource and enabler in giving advice and help to bring together contacts for individuals and groups to further assist in achieving goals.
- We have helped mitigate the isolation that rural living sometimes produces, by continuing with our project of supplying emergency alarms to the elderly. These are currently installed in four homes.
- We have strengthened communication links with the Parish Council and the community by providing regular reports on our activities.
- We have given full support to the Parish Council's successful launch of The Llanfair Times. We expect to work with the Parish Council and the Editorial Board to ensure that this vital means of communication within the Parish & Environs continues to flourish.
- We have helped improve the environmental legacy of Community Trust land in the following ways;
 - Turbary
 - English Moorland with right to roam
 - High level stewardship with Natural England
 - Wildlife site designated by Shropshire Wildlife Trust.
 - Hordy field

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- Entered into an entry level scheme with Natural England with conditions to enhance diversity by cattle grazing.
- Surveyed and accepted as wildlife site by Shropshire Wildlife Trust.
- Gravel field
 - English part of the land entered into an entry level scheme with English Nature to protect the meadow grasses
 - Part of the field near the river Teme is designated an SSSI.

Policies

The Trustees have adopted and reviewed the following policies:

Policy	Date Adopted	Reviewed
Induction	11/02/13	Jan 2016
Mission Statement	05/03/13	Dec 2015
Equal Opportunities	09/09/13	Jan 2016
Data Protection	09/09/13	Jan 2016
Conflict of Interest	09/09/13	Jan 2016
Finance	17/10/13	Jan 2016
Summary of Working Practices	19/10/13	Jan 2016
Complaints	16/01/14	Dec 2015

Copies of these policies are available on request.

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Financial Review

The 2016 Accounts for the period 1/1/2016 – 31/12/2016 show:

Combined cash balances of the charities @ 31/12/2016	~	£ 63,496.50
Value of invested endowments @ 31/12/2016	~	£ 1,160.40
Total income for the year	~	£ 7,681
(consisting of: Bank interest	~	£ 382
Investment income	~	£ 58
Donations	~	£ 100
Land income	~	£ 6,760
VAT and TAX Refunds		£ 381)
Total expenditure	~	£ 8,107
(consisting of: Charitable grants and Bursaries	~	£ 6,898
Administration costs	~	£ 781
Land Management costs	~	£ 428)

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Financial Management

Underlying income in the year – with exceptional items deducted has remained steady, with slightly higher land income offsetting reduced bank interest – due to ever lower interest rates.

The Trustees continue to adopt five-year rolling budgets which enable us to set realistic spending targets that can spread the effects of annual under- or over-spends over the following four years; it also enables us to augment current income with a controlled draw-down of the very considerable cash balances that have built up over the previous decades. A small under-spend over the past two years allows the target spend to continue at £45,000 over the next five years.

The present five-year budget includes a rate of draw-down of accumulated unapplied income still set at 4% per annum of the cash balances, which raises the spending target by approximately £2200 above each year's projected current income. Part or all of the cash balance can of course be applied at any time, depending on circumstances and applications for funds; this part of the budget simply lays out a plan for reducing the surplus of unapplied income over approximately the same period of time that it took to accumulate – but it will be reviewed and adjusted on a regular basis.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

47 acres of agricultural land

The Vedw sports and recreation field

Permanent endowment held as 82 units of M and G Charifunds, value at 31/12/2016 of £1160.40

Cash balances of unapplied income held in HSBC, Dudley B.S. and Virgin Charity Deposit Account – total at 31/12/2014 of £63496.50

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Reserves Policy

The purpose of an appropriate reserves policy is to mitigate fluctuations in income and expenditure in such a way that present and future beneficiaries are neither unduly favoured nor unduly disadvantaged. It should enable the trustees to make fair and reasonable strategic funding decisions.

The income of the charities has been relatively consistent and predictable since 2013. However, the Trustees are mindful of the very particular and considerable uncertainty that hangs over both market prices for produce (and, therefore, grazing) and future levels of Agricultural subsidies and Environmental grants from 2020 onwards. The income of the Trust is extremely dependant on these things: they are therefore minded to agree a reserve figure which – other unexpected calls on Trust assets aside – will enable them to defray any drastic reduction in current income by drawing down a larger proportion of the accumulated unapplied income for a suitable period. To this end they will shortly consider setting a reserve of £20,000 – that representing five years of minimum expenditure.

This policy is reviewed annually and can be altered immediately – should circumstances change.