

Walberswick Common Lands Charity

Founded 1901 - Registered Charity No. 206095

PO Box 73, Halesworth IP19 1AU

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30 June 2022

Mr Mark Knight
Clerk
Walberswick Parish Council
The Heritage Hut
The Green
Walberswick
IP18 6TT

Dear Mark

FORMATION OF A CORPORATE TRUSTEE AND CHANGES TO CHARITABLE SCHEME

At their meeting of 13 January 2020, the Council gave in-principle approval to the Charity changing its structure by appointing a corporate trustee. This was subject to the Charity providing the Council further detail in due course, which we provided in our letter of 1 October 2021. As an outworking of the Council's subsequent feedback, the Trustees agreed to maintain the number of Trustee Directors at four Nominated, two Co-opted and one Church nominated.

As part of the proposals from October 2021, the Trustees intended to adopt a maximum term of office for Trustees. This was to be two terms of four years followed by an indefinite number of one-year terms. The idea was to encourage Trustee turnover and avoid incumbents becoming entrenched in their positions. On reflection the Trustees have become concerned that this could lead to unintended consequences. In the worst case six of the seven Trustees (i.e. all except the Church Director) could be up for re-election each year, with a consequent risk to loss of corporate knowledge and the inevitable disruption to normal business during the election process. Instead, the Trustees propose to make the additional terms two-years and to stagger the renewals so that no more than three Trustees would change in any normal year.

The Trustees do not consider this to be a material change, requiring a further consultative process. However, as one of the Charity's principal stakeholders, they wanted the Parish Council to be aware of this change.

I'd be very happy to provide further explanation and answer any questions if required.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James Darkins', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the name.

James Darkins
Chairman