

Walberswick Common Lands Charity

Registered Charity No 206095

INCOME DISTRIBUTION POLICY

The Charity was established more than a century ago as a source of funds for “relief in need” and to “benefit the inhabitants” of the village. Individuals still benefit, some regularly and some on a 'one-off' basis, and projects and groups are also supported. As the owner of land in and around the village, the Charity is also responsible for maintaining and conserving the natural environment.

'Relief in need'

Benefits to individuals take many forms, such as

- regular payments e.g. to cover the rental cost of a telephone or a television licence or for gardening services
- the purchase of essential household items
- the provision of alarm systems for the elderly and for the housebound
- the provision of interest free loans
- adapting a home to suit the needs of someone who has become disabled
- travel expenses to hospital or prison or college
- support for those on a course of study or in a new career

New approaches are always welcome although, as a charity, the Charity must take account of the financial circumstances of the individual and it cannot make payments that are a statutory entitlement, e.g. housing benefit or invalidity benefit.

'Benefit the inhabitants'

Grants to organisations that help the village as a whole include:

- the Children's Christmas Party
- the free minibus
- the Village Hall
- Macmillan Care
- local schools and hospitals
- St Andrews Church, for the upkeep of the churchyard

Individuals may request help for themselves, or their friends or families may do so on their behalf. Two Trustees will visit a potential beneficiary, at a mutually convenient time, to discuss the forms of help available and what can be offered.

Groups wishing to be considered for grants need to obtain an application form from the Clerk to the Charity.

See also the Charity's Reserves Policy

Updated 10.02.16