

Public Document Pack

Date of meeting Monday, 8th December, 2014
Time 2.30 pm
Venue Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, Merrial Street,
Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 2AG
Contact Geoff Durham Tel (74)2222

Newcastle-under-Lyme Almshouse Charity

AGENDA

PART 1 – OPEN AGENDA

- 1 Appointment of Chair**
- 2 Declarations of Interest**
- 3 MINUTES OF A PREVIOUS MEETING** **(Pages 3 - 6)**
To agree as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 27 November, 2013.
- 4 UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE**
To receive a verbal update on developments at the Almshouses in the last twelve months.
- 5 Report of the Treasurer** **(Pages 7 - 10)**
- 6 VACANCIES FOR TRUSTEES**
There are currently two vacancies. Existing Trustees are asked to nominate someone (preferably from the Cross Heath Ward) or to discuss the best method of selection/recruitment.
- 7 Any other Business**

Members: Councillors Williams, Mrs Williams and Mrs Winfield

Co-optees: Mr and Mrs Butler

PLEASE NOTE: The Council Chamber and Committee Room 1 are fitted with a loop system. In addition, there is a volume button on the base of the microphones. A portable loop system is available for all other rooms. Should you require this service, please contact Member Services during the afternoon prior to the meeting.

Members of the Council: If you identify any personal training/development requirements from any of the items included in this agenda or through issues raised during the meeting, please bring them to the attention of the Democratic Services Officer at the close of the meeting.

Meeting Quorums :- 16+= 5 Members; 10-15=4 Members; 5-9=3 Members; 5 or less = 2 Members.

Officers will be in attendance prior to the meeting for informal discussions on agenda items.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME ALMSHOUSE CHARITY

Wednesday, 27th November, 2013

Present:-

Councillors Butler, Butler and Mrs Williams

15. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Williams and Mrs Winfield

16. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

Resolved:- That Councillor Mrs Gill Williams be appointed as Chair for the ensuing year.

Councillor Mrs Williams in the Chair

17. **CO- OPTION OF TRUSTEES**

The Trustees were advised that the current list of Co-optees required updating and approving. The list of Co-optees requiring renew/action was as follows:

Councillor Mrs G Williams Expired 2012.
Retrospective co-option required for four years to 2016.

Councillor J Williams Expired 2012.
Retrospective co-option required for four years to 2016.

Councillor Mrs J Winfield Expired 2012- Due to becoming a Councillor.
Retrospective co-option required for four years to 2016.

Mrs S Butler Expired 2013.
Renew for 5 years.

There are two vacancies for non-Councillors. Mrs Butler and Councillor Mrs Williams would make enquiries for applicants.

Resolved:- (i) That the appointments be agreed.
 (ii) That two new Trustees be sought.

18. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest stated.

19. **MINUTES OF A PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 November, 2012 be agreed as a correct record.

20. UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

The Chair informed the Trustees that the new resident had settled in to number 21.

No progress had been made with regard to planters in the grounds. This would be further investigated next year.

A ramp for the resident of number 15 had not been done due to costs and location. The ramp was to enable the resident of number 15 to gain access to a washing line. A solution to this would be to locate a rotary line nearer to the property.

Resolved:- That the report be received and the comments noted.

21. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

The Trustees received the Almshouses Accounts for the period ending March 2013 and were advised that the current position gave them £12,000 to spend on any repairs or upgrades.

Resolved:- That the information be received.

22. GAS FIRES

The Council's Maintenance Officer advised that the gas fire within the properties were causing the residents problems and were costly to maintain and repair. In addition, there was a Health and Safety issue as some of the ladies left the fires on overnight to keep their property warm.

A proposal was made to take out the gas fires, make good and replace with an electric fire which would be simpler to operate, easier to maintain and less costly.

It was expected that the work would cost approximately £2000. The Maintenance Officer would provide the Chair with more accurate figures.

Resolved:- (i) That the information be received and the comments noted.

(ii) That, subject to a satisfactory cost being provided, electric fires be put into all of the properties.

23. SITE VISIT

It was agreed that a site visit be arranged to the properties in the near future.

Resolved:- That a site visit be arranged.

24. CHRISTMAS GIFTS

It was agreed that the residents should each receive a cheque for £20 as last year.

Resolved:- That cheques be sent to the ladies for their Christmas gift.

25. **WEEKLY MAINTENANCE CONTRIBUTION**

It was agreed that only a small increase in contributions be made this year.

Resolved:- That an increase of £1.50 per week be made from 1 April, 2014 taking it up to £57 per week.

Chair

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The Almshouses Trust of Newcastle-under-Lyme
Income and Expenditure Account for the Period Ended 31st March 2014

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>2012/13</u>	<u>2013/14</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>2012/13</u>	<u>2013/14</u>
<u>Running Expenses</u>					
Insurance	£ 131	£ 131	Rent	£ 14,172	£ 11,440
Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds	£ 4,212	£ 2,161	Investment Interest	£ 254	£ 259
Water	£ 1,210	£ 728	Sale of Investment Shares	£ -	£ -
Gas	£ 33	£ -			
TV Aerial Licence Fee/Digital Aerials	£ 8	£ 153			
Electricity	£ 151	£ 178			
Publicity	£ 21	£ -			
Council Tax	£ 423	£ -			
Contributions to External Bodies	£ 440	£ 445			
 <u>Gifts</u>					
Birthday, Christmas and Other	£ 101	£ 41			
 Excess of Income Over Expenditure	 £ 7,698	 £ 7,862	 Excess of Expenditure Over Income	 £ -	 £ -
	 <u>£ 14,426</u>	 <u>£ 11,699</u>		 <u>£ 14,426</u>	 <u>£ 11,699</u>

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The Almshouses Trust of Newcastle-under-Lyme
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2014

	2012/13	2013/14
Current Assets		
Investment Shares	£ 12,426 <i>(126.5 at £98.2326)</i>	£ 13,566 <i>(129.61 at £104.6649)</i>
Income Shares	£ 5,705 <i>(7924.038 at £0.72)</i>	£ 6,062 <i>(7924.038 at £0.765)</i>
Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council (Cash in Hand)	£ 7,705	£ 15,567
	£ 25,837	£ 35,195
Current Liabilities		
Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council (Overdrawn)	£ -	£ -
	£ -	£ -
Non Current Assets		
Land and Buildings	£ 336,054	£ 336,054
	£ 336,054	£ 336,054
Net Assets	<u>£ 361,891</u>	<u>£ 371,249</u>
Represented By		
Accumulated Fund Brought Forward	£ 341,073	£ 349,464
Revaluation of Land and Buildings	£ -	£ -
Less Shares Decrease in Value	£ -	£ -
Plus Shares Increase in Value (Income Shares)	£ 693	£ 357
Extraordinary Repair Fund (Investment Shares)	£ 12,426	£ 13,566
Less Excess Expenditure over Income	£ -	£ -
Plus Excess Income over Expenditure	£ 7,698	£ 7,862
	<u>£ 361,890</u>	<u>£ 371,249</u>

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