

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

The Educational Foundation was established by a Scheme made by the Secretary of State for Education and Science in 1969 and revised in 1972.

The object of this charity is to promote the education (including social and physical training) of residents of the ancient (original) parish of Gestingthorpe by means of financial grants towards the cost of such items as tuition fees, study books, educational materials or any activity which the trustees consider to be educational. Preference is given to applicants under the age of twenty-five.

Charity trustees during the year 2024 were:-

Mr A. Cooper - appointed by Essex County Council -chair of trustees

Mrs C.R. Brown - co-opted trustee for a 12 months term from 3rd April 2024

Mrs Claire Craig –appointed by Gestingthorpe Parish Council 3rd April 2024

Mrs A. Nolda - ex-officio trustee Church Warden

Mr P. Nice - ex-officio trustee Church Warden

Mrs D.T. Nott - co-opted trustee

Mrs H Padgett - co-opted trustee

Rev. Beverley Vincent-vicar of Gestingthorpe

The trustees have taken advantage of the amendment of the Constitution which permits the appointment of up to 3 additional co-opted trustees for a limited term of 12 months to appoint Corinna Brown.

Applications for grants are discussed and allocated twice a year at Trustees meetings in the Spring and Autumn.

The charity is funded partly from the rent of approximately 12.5 acres of arable land at Cock Road, Little Maplestead (known as Rents field) and partly by interest and dividends from investments. The Fund which held GEF's Blackrock Ethical investment terminated on 11th March 2024. At a meeting of Trustees on 17th February 2024 it was agreed to split that investment in 3 ways- still being mindful of ethical considerations-and review performance and growth in 12 months' time. The funds were to be split and re-invested as follows:

- Blackrock Charities Growth and Income Fund class A GBP -Distributing - £8k plus any balance
- IFSL CAF ESG Income and Growth Fund £4k
- Epworth UK Equity Fund for Charities £4k

The trustees noted that a change of investments would, in the short term at least, reduce income available for grants. The charity's investments are reviewed at each meeting of the trustees.

A group of trustees inspected the charity land on 27th April 2024. The date of the inspection varies each year so that the seasonal changes can be appreciated. The Trust arranges Public Liability insurance for the charity land. The advice of SB Surveyors of Sudbury is sought periodically.

During 2024, 16 grants totalling £1,500 were made in support of various individual activities for the benefit of 22 young people.

Signature Ashley Cooper

Date 27/3/2025

Chairman Authorised to Sign on behalf of all Trustees

Under the provisions of the Charities Act, a member of the public has a right to obtain a copy of a charity's accounts, on written request. A copy of the Educational Foundation's accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, Jane Crumpton-Taylor jane@crumpton-taylor.com or 01787 460277 - price 20 pence