

Lackford Charities

Annual Report to Lackford Annual Parish Meeting, 13 May 2019

History

Between 1559 and 1771 four major benefactors have bequeathed money and property to benefit the poor of Lackford:

- Richard Firmin (1559), one acre of land at Rattlesden.
- Edward Kirke (1613), five acres of land at Rattlesden.
- Dame Elisabeth Kytson (1628), provided a length of cloth to make two gowns, more latterly, 8 shillings to buy a gown for a man and woman in alternate years.
- John Booty (1771), money vested in Consols.

In 1962 the Charity Commission amalgamated these bequests into a multiple charity, the Lackford Charities (registered number 206672), to be administered by the church.

In 2019 the Charity Commission added a second object to provide for social inclusion.

Object

For many years it has been impossible to identify anyone suffering poverty in the parish, So, for over 20 years it has not been possible to distribute income from the charity's two sources of income. Consequently, the trustees approached the Charity Commission for guidance. After much exchange of correspondence, the Charity Commission advised that the Lackford Charities should adopt a second object, so that now the charity has two objects:

1. The ancient object of relief of poverty in Lackford by grant of money or payment of bills.
2. The new object of promotion of community and social inclusion in Lackford by financial support for hiring community facilities in the village.

Capital

Current assets of the charity amount to around £42,000; made up of six acres of tenanted arable land at Rattlesden, worth about £30,000, 426 Investment Units in the Common Ordinary Investment Fund of the CCLA worth around £6,000 and about £6000 cash in a NATWEST current account

Income

Income amounts to around £600 a year

Public notice

Accordingly, a notice is displayed in the current issue of the Parish Magazine, announcing the change and the availability of the support for events using the new community facilities, and that if anyone wishes to submit a claim they should contact the Trustees, Colin Smith (01284 728316),

*Colin Smith
Churchwarden and Chairman*