

Minutes

Raymond Trust Fund charity registration number 305523

Date	Tuesday 20 June 2023
Time	7 pm-9.25 pm.
Venue	Hospital of St John, Heytesbury.
Councillors present	Cllr Caroline Barker Bennett, Cllr Patricia Fellowes, Cllr Susan King , Cllr Karen Riggs, Cllr Vanessa Sturmey, Cllr Nicholas Williams, Cllr Anthony Wilson.
Chair	Cllr Vanessa Sturmey.
Also present	Administrator, 15 members of the public
Public participation	Five members of the public spoke during public participation, subjects included: i.) byelaws of the charity; ii.) management and oversight of the investment assets; iii.) proposal to respond to Heytesbury Estate ; iv.) proposed letter to the Sassoon Trust and Heytesland Ltd ; v.) proposed position statement ; vi.) the relation of the charity and trustee to the parish council; and vii.) recommendations of the trust working group.

23/033	Apologies
	It was noted Cllr Jacinta Peel was absent.
23/034	Declarations of interest
	None.
23/035	To approve the minutes of the meeting on 18 April 2023
	Approved unanimously and signed by the chair.
23/036	To note the bank statement of the Trustee Account on 20 June 2023
	£7742.24 balance was noted. 0.19p balance in the Business Bank Instant Account was also noted.

23/037	To note the investment assets on 2 June 2023: a) Income Account £89464 b) Capital Account £93936
	Noted.
23/038	To note the receipts and payments 26 September 2022 – 9 June 2023
	Noted.
23/039	To approve payment of £20 to Hospital of St John for room hire
	Payment agreed unanimously.
23/040	To consider additional bank account signatories
	It was agreed unanimously to appoint Cllr Vanessa Sturmeay.
23/041	To consider the following received from the Finance Working Group meeting on 2 May 2023: 1) We were unable to agree on how to interpret and apply clause 3.1 in the byelaws: The trustee shall apply the clear income of the trust as it thinks fit for any charitable purposes for the general benefit of the inhabitants of Heytesbury, Knook and Tytherington and the immediate vicinity. The question must be returned to the committee. 2) We propose that grants be agreed on one fixed date a year. 3) We felt unable to come to any conclusions about applying for grants. It was decided to try and recruit someone in this field to give advice and Cllr Trish Fellowes agreed to approach someone. 4) We considered how to cut admin costs. The only obvious way to do so would be to have less meetings but in view of present discussions this is not the moment. 5) We agreed that there was presently no oversight by us of investment policy and performance. We need people who understand this field. Cllr Trish Fellowes agreed to approach some suitable people to liaise with Cllr Nicholas Williams.
	Following discussion it was unanimously agreed as follows: i.) grant applications to be received by 30 September and decisions on grants at the next meeting; and ii.) to appoint a non-member of the trustee to the Finance Working Group to provide advice on the investments and Cllr Fellowes to arrange.

23/042	To consider the following proposal from Cllr Anthony Wilson: We need to resolve what is meant by ‘in the immediate vicinity’, I propose a choice. Immediate vicinity to include Upton Lovell and Corton, or Upton Lovell, Corton plus Sutton Veny and Codford.
	Proposal not supported.
23/043	To consider the following proposal from Cllr Anthony Wilson: I propose that a key element of deciding grants is : does the applicant benefit local inhabitants? So an applicant might not geographically be in one of those villages but would still be eligible if meeting that requirement.
	Proposal failed. Two votes in favour and five against.
23/044	To consider the following proposal from Cllr Anthony Wilson: I propose applicants be allowed to present in person to the trust their case for a grant and answer questions about their written application.
	Proposal supported by a unanimous vote.
23/045	To consider the following proposal from Cllr Caroline Barker Bennett and Cllr Anthony Wilson: We propose that the attached letter is sent to a trustee of the Sassoon Trust and a director of Heytesland Ltd.
	Proposal supported by a unanimous vote with the following amendments to the wording of the letter: i.) paragraph two :‘Its charitable purpose is to provide land or buildings for use as a village hall’; and ii.) final paragraph: ‘ We would very much like to arrange a meeting between representatives of the Trust and the Sassoon trustees to discuss the future of the 12 acre parkland’.
	It was also agreed unanimously the letter is published on the website.
23/046	To consider the following proposal from Cllr V Sturmeay: I propose the attached position statement from the Raymond Trust Fund.
	Proposal supported by a unanimous vote with an amendment to include the following paragraph: ‘We have small grants available, local non-profit making groups can find our grant policy and application form on the website. Applications to be received by 30 September’.
	It was also agreed unanimously the position statement is published on the website.

23/047	To consider the proposal from Cllr V Sturmey to respond to Heytesbury Estate as follows: Thank you for your email of 3 May. As you will read from our letter to you, we have started some work on consultation with the community. We do have more work to do in finding out exactly what the beneficiaries, the inhabitants of Heytesbury, Knook and Tytherington want from the Raymond Trust Fund, in terms of an indoor community space, in this day and age. Perhaps we could arrange a meeting with you or your representatives to discuss possibilities further.
	Proposal supported by a unanimous vote with wording as follows: Thank you for your email of 3 May. We are glad your position has not altered. As you will read from our previous letter to you, we have started work on consultation with the community. We would be grateful if we could arrange a meeting with you or your representatives to discuss possibilities further. It was also agreed unanimously Cllr Sturmey as chair would send the response and it is published on the website.
23/048	To consider the proposal from Cllr Anthony Wilson for an article to the Parish News about the Raymond Trust Fund
	Proposal withdrawn.
23/049	To receive the minutes of the trust working group meeting on 18 May 2023 and consider the recommendations
	It was agreed unanimously to support the recommendation to consult the beneficiaries (inhabitants of Heytesbury, Knook and Tytherington) on what they want from a village hall or community facility and Cllr Sturmey to explore further.

Signed:	Date:
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