

Edwards & Hinckesman's Foundation

Registered Charity Number 528320

Report to the Parish Electors' Meeting
31st May 2023, 7.30pm at Neen Savage Parish Hall

The current Trustees of this Charity are:

Reverend W A Buck (ex officio as Vicar of St Mary's Church, Neen Savage)

Mr Peter Dolphin (appointed by Shropshire Council, June 2021)

Mrs Emma Haywood (appointed by Neen Savage Parish Council, June 2021)

Mr Simon Harris (Shropshire Council, appointed June 2021)

Mr Charles Whitworth (appointed by Neen Savage Parish Council, June 2021)

Summary of activity in 2022-23:

- (1) **70 years of grant-making:** over the winter the Clerk conducted a study of the Foundation's archives. These show that a total of 110 young people have been supported by grants over the last 70 years; typically each beneficiary receives support over more than 3 successive years; the average size of each grant has been more than £600 since 1953, meaning that more than £250,000 has been distributed since that year (all figures adjusted to 2023 prices). This is pretty remarkable for a parish of just 140 households. The Trustees feel excited at the prospect of building on this record.
- (2) **Meetings:** the Trustees met in August 2022 to interview applicants for awards; they met again in March 2023 to review the business of the charity and plan fundraising for 2023-24.
- (3) **Grants:** at the August meeting, grants totalling £2,600 were made to 5 young people of the parish, two of them pursuing post-GCSE studies at secondary school, and three of them studying for tertiary degrees at university. Other income was reinvested.
- (4) **Charity Commission:** the Trustees are grateful to Olwen Sales for examining the Foundation's annual accounts (up to 31st March 2022) and these have been duly submitted to the Charity Commission (www.charitycommission.gov.uk), Charity No. 528320).
- (5) **Finances:** income is generated from an investment in the charities official investment fund (COIF) managed by CCLA; other income is generated from occasional donations and legacies.
- (6) **Fund-raising:** over the last 10 years a total of £13,000 has been raised in donations or gifted to the Foundation from members of the Parish; not only has this allowed capital to be protected, it has also reversed a trend of grants becoming smaller and smaller since a peak in the 1980s and 1990s.
- (7) **Support:** the Trustees believe it is vital to maintain a proactive approach to fundraising, and their strategy for 2023-24 is to engage with former beneficiaries and their families to raise awareness of the Foundation (via the Vital Link) and to encourage giving, both one-off and regular.

- (8) **Gift Aid:** the Foundation is now registered with HMRC and can therefore make any gift from a UK taxpayer stretch 25% further.
- (9) **Key dates:** the deadline for applications this year is Monday 1st August (application forms are downloadable from the 'Useful Information' / 'Community Grants' tabs of the Parish Council website (www.neensavageparishcouncil.org.uk) or can be requested via e-mail from the Clerk at edwardshinckesman@gmail.com . Interviews will take place in the Parish Hall in the early evening of Wednesday 30th August 2023.

Charles Whitworth, *Trustee and Clerk*