

GODSTONE UNITED CHARITIES
REPORT TO ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY OF GODSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
TO BE HELD AT PARISH ROOMS, ST STEPHENS, SOUTH GODSTONE
ON MONDAY 20 MAY 2019

Godstone United Charities (GUC) is a Registered Charity with the Charities Commission. There is a total of six Trustees. Generally, appointments are made by the Parish Council, GUC Committee and the Clergy and every effort is made to see that the whole Parish (i.e. Godstone, South Godstone and Blindley Heath) is represented. The present Trustees are:

Mrs Diane Jackson-Grose	- Chairman	- Godstone
Rev Peter O'Connell		- Rector of Godstone Parish
Mr Terry Tomlinson		- South Godstone
Mrs Val Faulkner		- Blindley Heath
Mrs Paula Quincy; Mrs Gill Rhodes;		- Godstone

GUC distributes an amount of money each year to individuals, and to organisations that can help individuals, who live in the Parish of Godstone.

The majority of the money received comes from the Henry Smith Charity; the amount is similar each year; this year it was £6,040. The rest of the income is from funds invested in CCLA Investment Management Ltd, and sometimes from Donations, as this year. The total income for the year was £7,202.76 The Trustees retain a good surplus to ensure that grants can be made throughout each year.

The Henry Smith Charity define their criteria such that we can give to individuals who are poor, elderly and/or disabled; we can give to organisations that **directly** help individuals who live in Godstone Parish and who are poor, elderly and/or disabled; and we can also help with alterations to public buildings when improving their disabled access.

The Trustees meet twice a year, in November and February. Vouchers in exchange for goods are issued at both meetings and delivered to parishioners by the Trustees, to help with extra expenditure at Christmas and at times of heavy fuel bills during March. In December 2018 the vouchers were £50 for each household, with an extra £10 for each child under 18 years. In March/April 2019, the vouchers were £50 per household. The vouchers are exchangeable at local stores for any goods, apart from alcohol. We gave to 36 individuals and to 18 families. Our total expenditure for the year ending 17 April 2019 was £7,564.54.

Organisations who would like a grant should apply in writing to the Clerk directly or via the Parish Council. When considering an application for a grant, particularly from organisations, the Trustees must be satisfied that the Parishioners of Godstone will benefit.

Anyone can apply for a grant or to join the voucher scheme; whether for themselves or on behalf of someone else. So long as the criteria is met, GUC can help with grants for things like school uniform, school trips, essential medical equipment, essential domestic equipment etc. We help by paying directly to the supplier of the goods required, no money is given directly to an individual or family. No application is considered in connection with payment of debts, hire purchase commitments or fines; this is specified by Henry Smith Charity.

Mrs P M Bamforth Clerk to the Trustees -

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