

Compton United Charities

Charity no 200150

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TRUSTEES Held Friday 9th November 2018 at 10.30am at Compton

Trustees present: Sandra Billinge and Martin Foran. Apology: Peter Barnett due to illness.

1. Martin Foran chaired the meeting.

2. **Current status of the Charity**

The chairman rehearsed the various discussions that had taken place about the United Charities future and that we had been inactive for several years now due almost entirely to Trustees inability to identify parish residents who needed or could qualify for our help. This despite careful enquiries locally and through the Parish Council and Village Association etc. These enquiries also established clearly that there were many local residents in the wider, immediate local areas of Farncombe and Godalming (within post code areas GU3, GU7 and GU8) who would greatly benefit from our assistance and would qualify in terms of the Charities' existing Deed and Rules. Discussions with the Parish Council, Village Association and local charities over more than a year have established very strong support for widening the geographical area where we might assist suitable cases in real need.

3. **Moving to the Future**

- a) The chairman reported he had discussed these questions with the Charities Commission and had established we could amend our Deed by following the statutory procedure for Charities of our sort. A change to increase the geographical area of operation would be a change to the Charities' objectives and as such would require the CC's prior consent.
- b) Trustees discussed further and resolved to apply to the CC to make this change under section 275 of the Act by amending para #16 of the Scheme dated 5 August 1936 to read:

16. *General Benefit of Poor.* Subject to the payments aforesaid the yearly income of the Charities shall be applied by the Trustees in making payments, under one or more of the following heads, for the benefit either of the poor of the Ancient Parish of Compton and the adjacent areas of Farncombe and Godalming (all falling within post codes GU3 and GU7/8), or of such poor persons resident therein, as the Trustees select for this purpose, and in such a way as they consider most advantageous to the recipients, and most conducive to the formation of provident habits --

Trustees authorised the chairman to apply to the CC to make this change.

- c) The chairman further reported that there were then practical difficulties with para #17 (4) which requires grants etc to be prior approved at a Trustees' meeting which could be 6 months or more ahead. Most cases would be urgent, hence the problem. The CC had advised that, as it was an administrative matter, this requirement could be altered by resolution of the Trustees and then reported to the CC – which then had the right to object to the amendment.
- d) The Trustees resolved to delete para #17(4) and to replace it with:
“ (4) The appropriation of the benefits of the Charities shall be made by Trustees from time to time at meetings of their body, except that in cases of urgency or immediate need any two Trustees together may agree a payment or loan which must then be reported to, and approved at, the next meeting of their body.

- e) It was noted that para #7(3) specifically provided that Trustees could consider cases identified by other charitable organisations, eg the local CAB. A suitable procedure would need to be set up.

4. **Henry Smith Charity**

Trustees noted an informal meeting had been arranged for Monday, 3 December for the Chairman and Clerk to meet with a representative of the Henry Smith Charity (this charity's funder) to discuss our proposals and gain their agreement to them.

5. **Action**

Mr Foran to apply to the Charities Commission for their permission to change the objective of the Charity, as above and also to advise them of the resolution to change the admin provision in para #17(4) as above.

The chairman thanked Trustees and the meeting ended at 11.30am