Hacheston United Charity

Hacheston United Charity (HUC) was formed in 1953 from several ancient village charities which had been set up to provide for the poor of the village.

Trustees:

The Vicar and 2 churchwardens of All Saints Hacheston, a trustee nominated by Hacheston Parish Council, (not necessarily a councillor) and the secretary.

Assets:

HUC owns 3 parcels of land in the village.

Church Field (7.3 acres) incorporates Fairfield Green, the children's playground and Hacheston Village Hall.

Allotments (3.26 acres) situated behind the ex-council houses and adjoining Church Field

Whitbread meadow (1.5 acres). Rented farmland across the river Ore behind Garnett's Gardens.

The charity also has investments of approximately £14000. Its yearly income is approximately £400.

Distribution:

Two thirds of income to All Saints Church Hacheston. One third is available as grants to residents of Hacheston in need.

Current Situation

For several years the charity has found almost impossible to distribute its income to benefit the poor of the parish although we have made grants to applicants for educational purposes. It is essentially a church charity but Hacheston Church has lost its church wardens and only recently acquired a new vicar. At the same time the work of running the charity to comply with Charity law can be arduous.

In these circumstances it is not surprising that the Trustees have discussed closing the charity. This would involve selling the land it owns and this is a matter of serious importance to the community. Church Field and the allotments are the only community spaces in the parish and it is essential that they are protected in the event that HUC is wound up.

I am prepared to continue as your nominee but at this critical moment in the Charity's history the Parish Council may wish to nominate a serving councillor who would work to ensure the long term security of our community assets.

Adrian Revill 3rd April 2024