

Pensford, Publow and the Stantons Community Trust (“PPSCT”)

Trustees

1. Present Position

Paras. 12 and 13 of the Constitution set out the present position:

- Not less than two nor more than four Trustees to be elected by the members;
- two ex officio Trustees (the Chairs of the two Parish Councils as set out in Para 13.2); and
- two nominated Trustees (one nominated by each of the Parish Councils as set out in Para. 13.3).

2. Concerns

- The Parish Councils may not wish to propose candidates: this has already occurred with Stanton Drew PC on the retirement from the Chair of Judith Chubb-Whittle. This situation is increasingly common in the wider charity world where appointing bodies suggest that appointing to other charities is beyond their own remit or objects; and
- The Councils may put forward candidates who, however unconsciously, bias their thoughts on grant giving towards their own or their Council’s particular preferences or even, in extreme cases, prove not to be “team players”;
- Funding of PPSCT is almost entirely due to the energy and commitment of members. If Trustees are appointed who do not have the confidence of members, funding could dry up to the detriment of beneficiaries.

3. Proposal

Trustees believe that the interests of the beneficiaries are likely to be better met and protected if members alone decide on Trustee appointments.

The following resolution is therefore put to the members at the AGM:

“There shall be not more than eight Trustees.

All Trustees must reside within one of the two administrative parishes of Stanton Drew and Pensford with Publow, and at least three must reside in each of the parishes.

Trustees shall initially be elected for terms of three years, renewable a maximum of twice (so a maximum period of office of nine years consecutively).

One third of Trustees shall retire in rotation every year. The appointment or re-appointment of Trustees shall be approved by a simple majority of members voting in general meeting.

The Trustees may appoint a new Trustee between general meetings but such appointment shall automatically be subject to approval at the next general meeting.

Any Trustee moving principal private residence from the parish of residence when last elected must retire at the next AGM. If the new residence is within the other parish, subject to other constraints within this paragraph, the Trustee may be re-elected.”

The current Trustees support this proposal and recommend it to the members. Should it be passed, Trustees are determined that close relations with the two Parish Councils will be maintained.

If such a proposal is approved at the AGM, the necessary formalities will be completed with the Charity Commission, amending the existing paras. 12 and 13 of the constitution.

6 March 2019