

# **Pensford, Publow and The Stanton Community Trust**

Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (“CIO”) No. 1160279

## **Chairman’s Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020**

It is now five years since incorporation and I am pleased to report on a further busy year.

The success of the 100 Club, our major source of funds, and which continues to be fully subscribed, is a great tribute to the public spirit of so many people, their identification with the projects we finance, and the fellowship engendered at the monthly meetings. I thank both the members and the organising committee led by Phil Townshend, Clarke and Sue Osborne and their indefatigable Treasurer, Ken Payne.

### **Grants**

Grants paid in the year were as follows:

- |                                     |                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|
| • St. Thomas Becket Tower, Pensford | safety measures to allow access | £630   |
| • Pensford School                   | playground climbing frame etc   | £7,500 |
| • Pensford Hall Field               | “mushrooms” for play area       | £1,166 |
| • Stanton Drew Cricket Club         | general support                 | £200   |
| • Stanton Drew Parish Council       | finger posts                    | £2,175 |
| • Stanton Drew Women’s Institute    | centenary tapestry              | £596   |

The loan in the previous year of £1,212 to Pensford Local History Group for the production of the flood anniversary book was repaid in full in the year, an excellent example of the Trust being able to use its financial strength to support projects that can stand on their feet financially given facilitating funding.

The range of projects we are able to support is very wide. One of the smaller, in financial terms, this year was the Stanton Drew WI tapestry. Our funds enabled the dedicated and skilled work of the 40+ members to come to fruition and the unveiling day was unforgettable, a true village event. Of the other projects, most are self-explanatory but the finger posts deserve special mention too – they show a village that really cares.

Grants approved but not paid by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020:

- Two further finger posts in Pensford parish: held up still by complexity of access to sites
- Stanton Drew handbells : £1,279 paid since 31<sup>st</sup> January

Pending projects:

- Discussions are ongoing with Pensford Local History Group over funding the archiving and making available to the public of the late Robert Bailey's very extensive collection of materials relating to the historic coal mining industry in our villages. This is a very important project. Beyond this, the group are also keen to research the wider history of our villages so it may be that a series of projects will be forthcoming in due course.
- We are hopeful that Pensford Memorial Hall will come forward with a project to improve sporting and changing facilities but this seems some way off at present.
- Stanton Drew War Memorial project.
- A defibrillator for Stanton Drew.
- An artificial pitch at Stanton Drew Cricket Club to facilitate wider use of the ground, particularly for youth and ladies' players.

## **Finances**

Our financial statements show available funds of just under £7,000 once committed awards and our strategic reserve are taken into account. This, however, does not show the underlying position as the 100 Club has a further £13,000 which is available to the trust as soon as required. Thus, whilst we distributed our underlying income for the year, our position is very strong, enabling us to respond at speed to requests.

## **Trustees**

Your Trustees met four times during the year and I pay tribute to a committed, hard-working group of seven. Ken Payne retired following last year's AGM and I am very grateful for his work in establishing our sound financial framework. Liz Richardson picked up the reins of the finances during the year. She and I appreciate Simon Whittle taking on this role next year.

Sue Osborne and Liz ensure the smooth running of our affairs, including our very good website [www.ppsct.org.uk](http://www.ppsct.org.uk) and I am grateful to them and also to Mark Finn, our reporting accountant.

I repeat my thanks to you, our members, for the time, money, enthusiasm and support you provide to this increasingly important local charity.

Andrew Hillman  
March 2020