

The Drigg Charity Trustees Report for 2022/2023 For the Charity Commission (Sept 2023)

The Trustees are the Drigg & Carleton Parish Councillors plus one independent Trustee.

The original Drigg Charity was formed when some cottages in Holmrook were left in a will to the Parish Council to set up a Charitable Fund for the parish. These were sold and the Drigg Charity was formed. It was registered with the Charity Commission in 1976. For accounting purposes it is now called the Drigg Society.

The Drigg Charity oversees:-

1. The Drigg Society
2. The Bursary Fund
3. The Drigg & Carleton Community Fund.

1. The Drigg Society: Balance £62,877.65

Its income derives from interest on invested savings and a refund from an earlier project: £7,232.47.

2. The Bursary Fund: Balance £304.97

A sub-committee of the Drigg Charity adjudicates all applications to the Education and Training Bursary Fund. They then make recommendation to the Drigg Charity. Its income was £7,500 which came from the Drigg & Carleton Community Fund and Nuclear Waste Services.

The fund has awarded £9,520 to 13 successful candidates.

3. The Drigg & Carleton Community Fund (DCCF): Balance £365,612.32

This has an annual income from the NDA via the Copeland Community Fund; this year it amounted to £53,045.

Administration of the charity:

A total of £1,623.28 was spent on administration and publicising the fund against a budget set at £5,500. This included expenditure of £191.00 for insurance for liabilities and audit and bank fees. This included £349.98 on the website and software costs, used in communicating the work of the fund to the community, including via the community's parish website.

Project Funding

A Projects Sub-Committee is charged with reviewing project applications, and presenting those projects which are considered to meet the acceptance criteria to the main Charity Committee, which comprises trustees (who are members of the Parish Council) and independent trustees.

During the Financial Year 2022/23 the following annually repeating, ongoing or new project areas were considered and potentially required expenditure of funds.

- Administration of the Fund
- Community Events
- Village maintenance
- Specific, individual project applications (as detailed)

Community Events:

Of the normally expected Community Events or activities, three took place and were supported by the Fund with a total expenditure of £5,003.69:

- a contribution of towards a Bonfire Night event of £350.00.
- a contribution to the annual Drigg Gala of £800.00.

- a contribution to the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of £3,853.69.

Village Maintenance:

A total of £519.11 was spent on planting of tubs and baskets and maintenance of these through the year. An amount of £6,614.00 was spent on grass cutting of communal parish verges, banks and selected hedges through the 2022/23 growing season. This compared to the original budget of £6,000.00 but included extra, approved hedge cutting work (clearing the river bank).

Specific Individual Community Awards and Projects:

In addition to the above, a number of new applications for funding from the DCCF were brought forward and considered by the trustees.

As in the previous year, each new application was assessed by the DCCF Projects Sub-Committee against pre-determined criteria. This assessment includes checking compliance with the NDA socio-economic vision/policy. A check is also applied to establish whether alternative or additional funding routes have or could be sought.

The applicants are then informed of the Committee's decision in writing and they are requested to sign to accept any conditions attached to an award before any funding is released. Once a project is approved and progressing, the Drigg Charity Committee continues to oversee progress and financial spend on a regular basis.

A list of the approved projects, with a total award payment of £19,448.28 is given below, with a more detailed description of the purpose and benefits achieved.

i) Contribution to the Drigg and Carleton Community Bursary Fund:

A contribution of £5,000 was made to the Bursary Fund to underpin the continued availability of the bursary scheme. The pledge and ring fence of funds was in addition to a £2,500 contribution from Nuclear Waste Services who have supported the scheme since its inception. The fund is used to improve access to education or vocational and skills training for members of the local community.

ii) Drigg Young Farmers

Trustees agreed a payment of £900.00 towards the cost of travelling to the finals of a national competition.

iii) Drigg Village Hall Painting

Trustees agreed an award of £5,130.00 to pay for the labour costs incurred in painting Drigg Village Hall. The hall looks much fresher now the painting is done.

iv) Gosforth Nursery

Two awards were made to the Nursery to equip the toddlers with wet weather clothing and to assist an autistic child with complex needs from the parish, with a total of £2,418.28.

v) Renovation and modernisation at St Peter's Church. Trustees supported an award of £5,500 as the second phase of a project to upgrade the electrics and create an accessible multi-use space within the Church building, at an estimated cost of £8,000.00.

vi) Village Hall Stairs

The project to install stairs at Drigg Village Hall to access the storage area above the hallway has been initiated with a report of the structural calculations required to do the job (at a cost of £930, with £500.00 paid by DCCF).

Charity Meeting approval date: 12th Sept 2023

Secretary, The Drigg Charity: Mrs K Warmoth

Vice-Chair, The Drigg Charity: Mr A Pratt

Chair, The Drigg Charity: Mr J Jennings

Fiona Roberts (AAT)

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10th July 2023

The Treasurer
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To Mrs Karen Warmoth

I have reviewed the Financial Statement of the Drigg & Carleton Charity for the year ending 31st March 2023. The bookkeeping records have been well maintained and both timely and properly recorded to produce the Financial Statement.

The records for the accounting transactions reconcile with the bank statements and the payments have been substantiated with appropriated vouchers or invoices and recorded in the minutes of the charity.

Kind regards



Fiona Roberts (AAT)