

**Minutes of Gressingham Village Trust (Old School Room trustees)
Wednesday 23 January 2019 7.30pm in Gressingham Old School Room**

1. Present: Michael Hampson, Heather Bell, Rosie Smith, Louise Stevens, John Hamlett. The meeting is quorate.
2. Apologies: Martin Brooks, Mary McClements. Both have reviewed the agenda and expressed themselves content for the meeting to go ahead in their absence.
3. Appointment/confirmation of officers

MH was confirmed as chair, RS as secretary, and HB as treasurer. Agreed by all present.

4. GVT CIO Constitution

Noting that:

- i. Gressingham Village Trust CIO was registered with the Charity Commission as registered charity number 1181569 on 15 January 2019; and
- ii. the *de facto* trustees of Gressingham Old School Room ('Gressingham School Managers') up to the registration of the CIO were MH, HB, RS, LS and MMc, operating under the 'Draft Constitution for the Gressingham Village Community Centre' in use continuously since 1954; and
- iii. the key terms of the 1954 draft constitution are incorporated into the CIO constitution; and
- iv. the trustees appointed by the Parish Meeting no longer need to include a member of the Parochial Church Council, and this change has been approved by the Parochial Church Council;

the trustees now present, in their capacity as *de facto* trustees under the 1954 draft constitution, and in their capacity as the trustees of Gressingham Village Trust CIO, determine that:

- a) Gressingham Village Trust CIO is to be regarded, where appropriate, as the same organisation as Gressingham Village Community Centre (also known as Gressingham Old School Room and Gressingham School Managers) and, where appropriate, as the successor organisation to Gressingham Village Community Centre (also known as Gressingham Old School Room and Gressingham School Managers), continuing in or inheriting (as appropriate) all the assets, rights, obligations and liabilities of Gressingham Village Community Centre (also known as Gressingham Old School Room and Gressingham School Managers); and
- b) the bank account in the name of Gressingham School Managers shall be renamed to carry the name Gressingham Village Trust, in accordance with the bank's standard terms and conditions, with the indications of CIO status, registered charity status, and registered charity number, added or not as the bank advises; and
- c) if the bank is unable to rename the Gressingham School Managers account, a new account shall be opened at NatWest bank in the name of Gressingham Village Trust, in accordance with the bank's standard terms and conditions, with the indications of CIO status, registered charity status, and registered charity number, added or not as the bank advises, with the former Gressingham School Managers account being kept open alongside for the time being; and
- d) that the insurance company and the utility companies be advised of the change of name, new bank details, and new registered charity status, as appropriate; and
- e) that a printed copy of the CIO constitution be delivered to every address in the area of benefit so far as practicable with supporting information, and made available online.

Agreed by all present.

5. Feasibility Study

Noting that the Pearson Trust Working Group in Gressingham is investigating the feasibility of creating new community facilities inside Gressingham Parish Church, and without taking a view either way at this stage on whether or not to support the proposals, the trustees determine that they are willing to support the ongoing investigation of the feasibility of such a project by:

- a) consenting to the Parish Council applying for a *Community Right To Build Order* which affects the Old School Room, in order to trigger a village referendum on the proposals (noting also that a positive outcome to such a referendum does not place any legal obligation on this Trust or any other party in the village to support or pursue the proposals); and
- b) authorising grant applications (including, but not limited to, applications to the Architectural Heritage Foundation) to be made in the name of this Trust by the Pearson Trust Working Group under clause 14 of the GVT CIO constitution on condition that no obligation (financial or otherwise) shall be attached to any such application beyond any which the Pearson Trust Working Group is itself able to fulfil; and
- c) supplying to the Pearson Trust Working Group copies of recent minutes, bank statements, audited and unaudited accounts and balance sheets and any other relevant financial information.

Agreed by all present.

6. Land Registry and Tenancy

This Trust mandates the chair to pursue, with legal support from JWK where appropriate, the registration of Gressingham Old School Room (including the upstairs apartment and the grounds) in the name of this Trust at the Land Registry, and the establishment of a secure tenancy for the occupant of the apartment. Agreed by all present.

7. Any other business

HB has arranged for Castle Fire to service the fire extinguishers and also to inspect the flat upstairs and make recommendations.

8. Next meeting to be confirmed