Valentine Goodman Charity: Activity Report May 2023 -2024.

The Charity has had an interesting year, although more applicants for grants would be welcome. It remains in a strong financial position even after purchasing a rental property which provides a solid monthly income.

Highlights of this year's activities are as follows:

* There have been no new or retiring Trustees this year.

* Bringhurst, Drayton & Gt. Easton continue to receive annually three shares totalling £1500.

*A 3-bedroomed detached house with single garage on the Oakley Vale estate, Corby, was purchased in May 2023 and let at market rent to a family of 4 in mid-July. A property check carried out by the agent in October 2023 showed the property is being maintained to a high standard. There is, however, an issue with flooding in the property's rear garden: after discussion between the Trustees the agent is obtaining quotes for remedial works to be carried out.

*Farmer Chris Stokes of Drayton successfully took over the tenancy of the barn at Drayton - which had previously been rented for several years by his father - in late 2023.

*The Charity continues to let out 5 parcels of land with a total annual income of £12,100.50. None of these parcels has changed hands since the previous report, and the land agent recommended no changes in rental charges.

*Valentine Goodman Charity has attempted to raise its profile by monthly advertising in the Parish magazine, with a full-page advert appearing in the Dec/Jan edition, although with limited success.

* 2 applicants from the Bringhurst, Drayton & Great Easton areas have come forward since the previous report, and the Charity is pleased to have helped provide driving lessons for a young person and financial assistance to a local community facility.

The Trustees will next meet at the 2024 AGM to be held at 7.30pm on 16th May at Hallaton Church: all welcome!