

Report to the Parish Council re: Charity of John Plummer

27th April 2021

The Charity of John Plummer was established through the will of John Plummer in 1736 for the “*benefit of the second poor*” [ie: no relief or parish pay] of the two neighbouring parishes of West Harptree and Priddy.

Today, the Charity is controlled by 8 trustees – 4 from the parish of West Harptree and 4 from the parish of Priddy.

The Charity’s income is solely derived from dividend and bond receipts on investments after the sale of the farm in 1975 and is managed on the Charity’s behalf by Charles Stanley & Co Ltd, one of the oldest firms on the London Stock Exchange.

2020 was a difficult trading year for the trust’s investments on the LSE. After an initial bumpy ride which saw the asset value drop by around 30% - typical at the time - the investments have slowly and steadily bounced back.

All receipts in the year are distributed equally between Priddy and West Harptree and must be used for purposes which fall within the objects of the Trusts deeds. Despite the income for the Trust being very much lower than in a normal year, the Priddy Trustees were able to hand out Youth Grants and helpful payments to the sick of the Parish to a tune of £2,000.

Ian Jennings

Secretary to the Trustees