**Kettlestone Charities Trusts**

**Annual Report 2015 – 2016**

*1. Trustee Body*

Members were very pleased to welcome Maurice Jones as the newly appointed Trustee, from February 2016. There were no other changes to the Trustee Body membership, or the Clerk to the Trustees.

*2. Almshouses Charity* *(Registration number 810337)*

The weekly maintenance contributions for both Almshouses were subject to the usual annual review and the amounts were agreed, within the national guidelines.

1. *Schuldham Almshouse, 80 The Street, Kettlestone*

The 2015 Quinquennial Report had identified repairs that were needed to the fabric of the building; in particular to the pitched and flat roofs. The Report recommended installation of smoke and heat detectors (wired in rather than battery operated) and an extractor fan in the bathroom. All of which were fitted along with the regular electrical installation test. The Report also found that some alterations were needed to realign external pipework; pointing of brickwork and other minor works. Estimates were obtained and work is due to start in the summer, 2016.

*b) Kettlestone Almshouse, 114-116 The Street, Kettlestone*

Maintenance items this year were relatively few, although the Trustees were surprised that the cooker had to be replaced at just four years old (cheaper to replace than repair); and the refrigerator door hinge needed repairing.

*3. Other Charities* *(Joint Registration number 206079)*

As is usual practice, the Trustees gave consideration to the provision of grants for those in need, as defined within the terms of the Charity Trust’s aims and objectives; and in the Scheme issued by the Charity Commission.

*a) Education Grant* The Trustees received two enquiries:

i) The applicant did not return a completed application form to the Clerk, nor respond to prompts from the Clerk to do so.

ii) An enquiry was received for school funding, which is outside the terms of an education grant. The Clerk referred the enquirer to the appropriate body.

*b) Fuel Allotment/Heating Cost Grant* No grant applications were received this year. Registration of the Fuel Allotment with the Land Registry was completed.

*c) Discretionary Grant* None was awarded during 2015/16.

*4. Finance*

The Almshouses Charity continues to repay the National Almshouse Association (NAA) loan that was granted in 2010 for the refurbishment of the Kettlestone Almshouse, 114-116 The Street.

Annual Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016 were checked and agreed for presentation to Kettlestone Parish Council, for information and copied to the Charity Commission, as required. A copy of the 2015-2016 Annual Accounts for the Kettlestone Almshouses Charity was sent to the NAA.

*5. General*

The Kettlestone Charities Trustees fulfil their regulatory commitments by filing an annual return to the Charity Commission which includes details of Trustees and annual income and expenditure.

The Chair wishes to thank her fellow Trustees for their ongoing support and commitment to uphold the objects of the Kettlestone Charities Trusts. The Trustees recognise and wish to thank the Clerk for her valuable contribution towards the effective operation and administration of these Charities.

*Anna Long*

*Chair, Kettlestone Charities Trustees*

*26 April 2016*