**Annual Report 2024 of the Whatley Common Good Trust**

**Membership**

The current trustees are Nigel Brock, Olly Goodden (Secretary), Stephanie Greshon (Treasurer), Martin Payne (Chair), Sue Pollock.

**Elections of members**

The terms of OG, SG and SP as trustees ended on 5/1/24.All were willing to stand for a further term of three years. Proposed by MP, seconded by NB. Agreed by all.

**Bids and payments**

Will Palmer on behalf of Whatley Parish Council: Improvements to the path on the edge of the parish field, consisting of wooden border struts from the field to the gate that leads to the large field. Weed suppressing matting also to be laid. Stone hardcore already supplied by Hanson. The path gets very boggy and difficult to walk through in winter. The improvement was requested at a church meeting held in December 2022, to improve walking conditions on the Parish Field, making it easier for parishioners and walkers. It is also part of the overall upkeep and improved infrastructure of the field. Estimated materials and labour in 2023 was £570, however WP estimated this could increase so could be up to £650. Agreed.

Andrew Bramston: Installation of new heating and lighting in Chantry Church. 40 people attended a meeting, following on from a meeting and survey in 2019 to improve the use of the church. An agreement had been reached with the Church of England to develop community use. It was agreed to install infrared heating and LED lighting. Fundraising had started, the target was £45000. £5000 was bid from Trust funds for electrical insulation and agreed by the trustees.

Davin Kenwood: Equipment for Mells Scout Group. Group has no funds since the previous leader left. Mells Fete organisers had asked scouts to take part in axe-throwing connected to the medieval theme. The scout leader is trained in safety etc. Funding needed for a temporary shelter, axes for various fetes etc which will help fundraising. Matched funding had been promised from Tarmac. The intention was to improve recruitment from parish, publicise in parish mag and Facebook. Application to Trust is for £425. Bid agreed.

Ellie Swinhoe: Chantry Snowdrop Festival. Shepton Mallet has a snowdrop festival over three days in February. Allying Chantry to that could attract visitors to village, providing refreshments etc. ES had already worked on existing planting in the churchyard, her time given free to plant and maintain. A grant of maximum £1000 was agreed.

**Finances**

Accounts for 2022-23 and 2023-24 completed by Peter Lugg, signed off by MP and forwarded for audit. Balance in Skipton Building Society was £34,378.76 in June 2024. NatWest balance on 1/7/24 was £2792.49. NatWest account to be transferred to Midsomer Norton branch due to closure of Frome branch.

**Dates of meetings**

The trustees meet quarterly on the first Wednesday of January, April, July and October at 19.00, dates and venues are published on the village website. The AGM is held at the start of the April meeting.

02/4/25