

Report for Watton Town Council Meeting 9th May 2023

Stevens Almhouses Charity Watton

The Trustees of Stevens Almhouses Charity wish to express their gratitude for the generous donation of £3,000.00 received in December of last year.

The Almshouses are Grade 2 listed and therefore require specialists to assess and advise on repairs and specialists to carry out the work which can prove costly in time and money.

The Council's kind donation of £3,000.00 has been put towards renewing the rear windows and doors of the four properties, replacing the wooden frames and doors with double glazed uPVC. The security and comfort of the residents is paramount to the trustees.

The Almshouses are managed by a group of volunteers who oversee all aspects of maintenance and occupancy. The Trustees come from all parts of the local community. It is commonly believed that the Charity comes under the auspices of St Mary's Church, but this is not so although the constitution requires that the Vicar and Church wardens be unelected members.

The Almshouses are situated at the end of the High Street next to the school. There are four units which consist of a bed-sitting area, a well-appointed kitchen and bathroom. The Almshouses are for occupancy by people who meet certain criteria and are local to Watton.

The only income for the upkeep of the properties is a Weekly Maintenance Contribution of £60.00 per week.

The Trustees meet once every two months to discuss ongoing maintenance, concerns or future projects.

The Trustees would welcome anyone who feels they would like to join this small group.

The Clerk to the Trustees can be contacted on 01953 885479 or email caroljames743@btinternet.com

Charity No 244567