

Working with charities and trusts

Sussex Community Foundation provides an effective means for other charities and trusts to meet their aims by working with us.

Some charitable trusts have established a named fund at Sussex Community Foundation to help them reach areas and address needs they might not otherwise have been able to. The Foundation is able to manage all of a trust's giving, or specific aspects of it. For example, a named fund may be set up to support smaller local community groups in Sussex, while the trust continues to support larger and/or national charities directly (see also information sheet *Setting up a named fund*).

Winding up a charity and/or transferring assets

In other cases, we have helped charitable trusts that have decided to wind up their affairs because they are no longer able to pursue their charitable objectives, their income was not sufficient to continue grant making or support administration, or their trustees were considering retirement.

Reductions in grant funding and increased competition for contracts mean that some service delivery charities are also struggling to find a way forward. For some, this may mean that the trustees have to take the difficult decision to wind up the charity. If there are any assets in the form of cash, investments or property, the trustees then have to decide what to do with them. Charity Commission rules are clear that residual assets must be passed on to another charitable organisation fulfilling similar objects.

In the same way, for those setting up a Community Interest Company (CIC), the 'asset lock' requirement means that, in the 'articles of association', you have to name a relevant community organisation to whom assets would go in the event of closure.

Setting up a named endowment fund

One option to consider in these circumstances may be using the residual assets to set up a named endowment fund at Sussex Community Foundation (see information sheet *Setting up a named fund*). As a local grant-making charity with broad objects, we are able to set up funds to meet any charitable purpose.

For a minimum of £50,000, Sussex Community Foundation can establish an invested fund in the name of the original charity or CIC. The grant-making criteria of the fund can support the original aims, so perpetuating the work of the organisation by distributing income from the resulting fund as grants to relevant local projects.

The original trustees or directors may form a panel to make decisions about individual grants, so maintaining their involvement in the work.



**Sussex
Community
Foundation**
INSPIRING LOCAL GIVING • MEETING LOCAL NEEDS



For further information, please contact Lauren Lloyd 01273 409440

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Westdene Fund



Dr Bernard Eastwell OBE is a local physicist and businessman who built a very successful international company supplying scientific instruments.

He learnt to play the piano at an early age but, despite a continuing interest in many kinds of music, the demands of family life and a growing business inhibited developing his own musical talent.

A man of wide interests such as sailing, flying and gliding, he resumed playing the piano in retirement. Concerned over the lack of public funding for young musicians who showed talent and potential for a career in music, Bernard created the Westdene Trust in 1994 to offer financial assistance to talented young people aged 16-20.

A number of these instrumentalists have successful careers and hold significant positions in well-known orchestras. Other more recent candidates are achieving significant success at music college.

As a result of the increasing age of the trustees, it was agreed in 2011 that the assets should be entrusted to Sussex Community Foundation which would establish and administer the Westdene Fund to run with similar aims and criteria as its predecessor.

Noel Bennett



Noel Bennett was one of the great characters of Sussex cricket, the founder member of Noel Bennett's XI Cricket Club. During World War Two, Noel started an annual game of cricket on his birthday, 25th December. Soon the game was being regularly reported by national and international media. Noel played cricket on Christmas Day into his eighties.

When Noel died in 1994, he left bequests to sporting associations, and the balance of his estate for 'charitable purposes with particular emphasis on the young and the old'. The Noel Bennett Charitable Trust was set up in 1995 and has been awarding annual grants ever since.

In 2008, when the trustees were approaching retirement, they decided to use his legacy to set up the Noel Bennett Fund at Sussex Community Foundation. They have formed a panel to award grants and, in this way, Noel's legacy continues to benefit Sussex.

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