Rolleston United Foundation
(Reg. no. 528492)

Clerk to the Trustees:  Mrs Verity Conner

50 Meadow View, Rolleston on Dove, DE13 9AN (🕿01283 813414)

Introduction

In recent years, readers of Rollestonian, the Parish Magazine & the Village noticeboards will have noticed the annual advertisement inviting grant applications to this Charity.

Donations are also invited from any persons or organisations interested in helping Rolleston United Foundation to continue to fulfil its purpose for future generations.

In 2018 a very generous donation of £3,500, as a result of a very successful Transport Day, was given by T.R.E.A.T.S.

The Chairman, Audrey Gordon & the Trustees were delighted to accept this gift to help to provide grants in future years

History

The Rolleston United Foundation dates from 1923 when it was created from a consolidation of much older village charities.

There were three main elements –

The Rolleston Educational Foundation which was the educational endowment of the Old Grammar School (the room in the churchyard) and subsidiary endowments.

The Foundation of Florens Caldwell 1612 for the Schoolmaster.

The Educational Foundation of William Roulston and others, comprising the educational endowment of the Poor’s Land Charity, the Poor’s Money Charity and William Roulston’s Almshouse and Charity.

The charity applies to the Ancient Parish of Rolleston which, today, means the parishes of Rolleston, Anslow and a small part of Tatenhill.

This results in the appointment of six Trustees: –

One by the Rector and Churchwardens of Rolleston St Mary’s
One by Rolleston Parish Council
One by Anslow Parish Council
One by Tatenhill Parish Council
Two by Staffordshire County Council, as the Local Education Authority.

When it was set up, the Foundation’s money could be used for the benefit of boys only, but in 1978 the Trustees made application to the Secretary of State, under the Sex Discrimination Act of 1975 for girls to be included in the scheme.

From 1923 until the Education Act of 1944 the Foundation used its income to fund a series of scholarships to Burton Grammar School. These consisted of school fees, books and a season rail ticket to Burton. The last recipient was Mr David Allen who died in September 2004.

In 1945/6 the Trustees looked for alternative uses for their income and responded to requests from Rolleston and Anslow schools for radio gramophones and new pianos. They also made grants to the Rolleston and Anslow Youth Clubs. From then on until 1959 much of the income was used to provide book prizes to local boys gaining entry to Burton or Uttoxeter Grammar Schools. This was then considered inappropriate and the Foundation gradually became moribund in the 1960's.

In 1973 a new initiative was set up with consideration to be given to university students, sixth form pupils and the physically and mentally handicapped. Much use of the Foundation was made by students from the old Forest of Needwood High School for assistance with foreign exchange travel, trade apprenticeships and university entrance.

Today

The trustees receive some requests for assistance with apprenticeships but the growing and overwhelming majority of requests arrive from university students.

The Future

The trustees face the common problem that their investments, approved by the Charity Commissioners, have not kept pace with inflation and they have only a modest income from investments each year for distribution.

The rapid growth of further education and the imposition of charges for university courses have resulted in a large increase in applications. Any assistance that the Foundation can give will continue to be modest.

The Trustees would always welcome charitable donations from any individuals or organisations wishing to support the physical, vocational or academic education of our local youth.

Student Grants Available

Are you leaving school this summer and going on to some form of higher education?

If you live within the parishes of Rolleston or Anslow perhaps we can help you. Application forms (revised 2018) can be downloaded as a [Word](http://www.rolleston.org.uk/ruf/RUFgrantapplication.docx) or [pdf](http://www.rolleston.org.uk/ruf/RUFgrantapplication.pdf) document.

Forms should be completed in handwriting and should be returned to Mrs Verity Conner at 50 Meadow View, Rolleston on Dove, DE13 9AN by 31st August. The Trustees will meet to consider applications in early September.

Any queries please contact:

 Mrs Verity Conner

🕿 01283 813414.

or Verityconner1@gmail.com