

Independent Living Policy

The Trustees acknowledge that those accommodated in our almshouses should be able to live independently. However, it is recognised that circumstances sometimes arise because of illness, infirmity and frailty that lead to it being inadvisable for residents to continue living in their almshouse. The charity does not provide care facilities for residents in any sense. This policy covers what actions need to be taken when Trustees identify that a resident is no longer able to live independently.

There are certain arrangements that we strongly recommend residents to make. These include:

1. nominating a next of kin or close friend whom the Trustees may contact in case of need. You are to advise the Clerk if you change your next of kin.
2. arranging for a Lasting Power of Attorney, the two forms being Property & Financial Affairs and Health & Welfare. Details of these should be provided to the Clerk in order that the Trustees may be aware of to whom they should refer in case of need. Your next of kin and/or the Clerk should be aware of where these papers are located.
3. You have already provided the Clerk with the name and address of your GP and provided a letter of authority enabling the Trustees to make contact with him or her in case of need. Should you change GP surgery, please inform the Clerk with the new contact details and a new letter of authority.

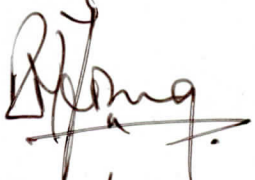
In the case of residents experiencing increased frailty, where practical, Trustees will endeavour to authorise adaptations to their almshouse to make life easier if it remains safe for the resident to live independently. However, Trustees will inform residents that permission must be sought on all occasions before any adaptations are made. If it is necessary for a care package to be put in place, again Trustees will ask the resident to inform the Clerk accordingly.

If increased frailty or ill health makes it impossible for a resident to continue to live independently, after full consultation with the resident, their relatives, if applicable, and medical practitioners, Trustees may feel it necessary to request the resident to move to more appropriate accommodation where care is provided. In cases where residents do not have a next of kin, it is likely that a multi-disciplinary meeting organised through the local authority will need to be arranged.

Trustees are not responsible for the resident's care and that the Trustees cannot permit residents to continue to occupy almshouse accommodation if they are not able to live independently. Regrettably the threat of setting aside the resident's appointment may need to be made, which should be strictly on the grounds that a move to an alternative, more suitable form of accommodation has become necessary.

Gill Williams
19th November 2024

Joint Chair


19th November 2024