

Sweffling Annual Parish Meeting 2021 – Townland Trust Report

The Townland Trust has evolved from two charities, one established in 1568 and the second in 1699, with the aim of benefitting the poor of the village with money for bread and coal, and for the benefit of the village church.

Each year the Church receives a grant from the Trust, but the terms of the charity state that the money can only be spent on items that benefit the church in the village.

The charity currently owns the land of the Townland meadow, the pavillion, and Rodwell's Cottage. During 2020/2021, some maintenance has been required to both the pavillion and the cottage, i.e. the pavillion has had a new gable end and some of the boarding replaced whilst the cottage had a new flat roof on the extension and a new central heating boiler.

At Christmas, the Trust gave Waitrose vouchers to those in the village over retirement age who were happy to receive them, and made a number of monetary donations.

Anyone from the village in any form of need can apply to the Trust for assistance. The amount of grant given is at the discretion of the trustees and is confidential. Grants do not have to be repaid if the applicant's circumstances change at a later date. As people do not always like to approach the Trust themselves, if you are aware of anyone who might benefit by help from the Trust, please have a quiet word with one of the trustees, who currently are The Rev. Percival, Andy Franklin, Sandy Rowe, Veronica Southey and Sheila Tesh.