

## **THE DRINKSTONE EDUCATIONAL CHARITY**

A report to be presented at the Drinkstone Annual Parish Meeting, 11 June 2025.

The Drinkstone Educational Charity was established following the closure and sale of the Drinkstone Church of England School. The money from the sale was used to set up a charity and the interest earned on that money is used to support Drinkstone residents for educational purposes.

All residents of Drinkstone can apply for funding for broadly educational activities. Examples are books and equipment for college and university students; school trips; sports and music lessons; vocational training and equipment for new careers; and local clubs and classes in Drinkstone.

For the year ending 31 December 2024, The DEC had an income of £3,010 and awarded grants totalling £1,223 towards village activities and individual residents.

The awards made were:

- Books and electronic equipment for a university student
- Contribution towards special tuition for a young person in the village
- Photography equipment for a student on a college Diploma course
- Contribution towards Village Hall hire for the Community Choir
- Contribution towards Village Hall hire for the History Club
- Funding of a 25<sup>th</sup> celebration talk to the History Club
- Purchase of boxes for the Archiving Team
- Contribution towards the Village website hosting

(Subsequently, in the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025, the Trustees agreed to award £3000 towards the intended purchase of a 'Cone Climber', a new piece of equipment for the village playground, on provision of the receipt within two years of the date of this meeting.)

The Trustees have continued to promote the Charity within Drinkstone to encourage more applications. For example, a summary of each meeting of the trustees is published in the Parish Magazine; promotion on the Drinkstone Information Services (Jungle Drums); a page on the village website and also on the Thurston Community College website.