

## **NOVEMBER 2021 NEWS:**

**The Trustees of the Benevolent Fund meet six times per year and the most recent meeting was on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021. All Trustees were present, save one who had sent apologies.**

**It was a busy meeting, with 40 cases considered, including nine where a loan or grant was approved and 13 cases that had been turned up for two-yearly review. The remainder of cases were followed up from the previous meeting or from correspondence received.**

**Grants totalling £40,819 were awarded to five applicants and loans totalling £75,536 to four applicant. The total awarded at the meeting was thus £116,355. These awards included confirmation of awards made by the Emergency Committee in five cases. The Emergency Committee has limited, though usually effective, authority provide help where waiting until the next meeting of Trustees might create more difficulties for an applicant.**

**Two of the awards were made to beneficiaries living in Britain and two were made in local currencies to beneficiaries in Circles outside Britain.**

**Three loans were repaid in full since the previous meeting in September, to a total of £44,382.**

**Two “thank you” letters were received from brother that the Trustees had helped at previous meetings. The Trustees are always pleased to receive such letters. Sometimes they come from a brother or other beneficiary who has recently received help: some come as a follow up to full repayment, either as a lump sum or in instalments.**

**Notice has been received from Virgin Money Giving that they would cease to accept donations on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021 prior to closing down the operation altogether. An alternative supplier to connect with the “Donate” button on the website is being sought.**

**The next meeting of Trustees is on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**