

### May 2022 News

**The Trustees of the Benevolent Fund meet six times per year. The most recent meeting was on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022, the first meeting of the new financial year 2022/23.**

**An apology for absence was received from one Trustee.**

**Five awards were made, with grants totalling £25,950 and loans £15,000: total £46,390. Two of the applications had required the consideration of the Emergency Committee in advance of the meeting. Two further applications were received. One was declined and one was deferred pending further information. On this occasion, all applications received were from beneficiaries living in Britain.**

**Twelve cases were reviewed. These are cases where a loan has been made previously and remains outstanding. The Trustees review such cases at intervals of no longer than two years.**

**Occasionally, a beneficiary might offer to start making repayments; more often, it is appropriate to offer additional assistance; most often the file is put away for a further review in two years time.**

**A further 23 cases were considered, either as a result of actions arising from previous meetings or correspondence being received. One loan had been repaid in full.**

**Six "thank you" letters were received. 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. They come as letters, cards and emails. All are genuine expressions of thanks and some are quite moving. They are always a delight to receive.**

**Following the closure of Virgin Money Giving, the Trustees had previously decided to go ahead with Stockcrowd to set up a facility for making one-off online donations via the Benevolent Fund website. The facility is expected to be available shortly.**