Report to Shipdham Parish Council from the Thomas Bullock Trust for the financial year 2012–2013

Meeting four times this year, but with additional communication and decision-making via e-mail, Trustees have granted a total sum of over £55,000. In addition to over £20,000 to the village school, over £3000 to Shipdham Playgroup and £670 to organisations, over £30,00 has gone to individual young people from the village. Grants have been provided to support a wide range of social and educational activities including sports and music tuition, speech therapy sessions and school trips for History, Geography, Rugby, Swimming and Skiing. Considerable funding has again gone towards supporting University and F.E. students from Shipdham.

Trust income has improved again somewhat this year and we have felt able to increase grant levels for FE and 6th Form students to £250p.a. We have also set aside monies to specifically assist children from identified needy families in the village.

Trustees have this year completed a thorough review of their existing criteria for grant allocation. Funding for school trips will continue to be set at 50% but now with a £500 max. limit. One extra-curricular activity will now be funded per term instead of per year, but with an annual max. £200 limit. Students following a sandwich degree course will no longer be funded for any period during which they are in paid employment. Trustees have also decided that only first degrees will now be funded.

Mr. Geoff Hinchliffe has recently announced his intention to resign as Treasurer at the end of the current financial year, but Mr Dave Kent, Parish Council representative on the Trust, has kindly agreed to then take on the role. Geoff's experience and expertise will be sorely missed.

Brian Hughes - (Parish Council-nominated Trustee)