

The Dittisham Charity

Why set up a charity

To give community projects better access to grants and donations.

Legal advice is being taken on the best legal structure and to write the governing document.

Objects

“to provide or maintain any public amenities or facilities that are charitable in law for the benefit of the inhabitants of the parish of Dittisham”

The proposed objects would allow the Parish Council to improve or maintain the playing fields or to provide a defibrillator, and to provide any other facilities that are for the public benefit.

Structure?

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

- limited liability,
- no funds turnover requirement prior to registration

Two types of CIO - Foundation Model and Association Model

Both have both members and trustees (in the same way as a company must have shareholders and directors)

Recommended:

Association Model CIO

- wider membership that elects trustees from amongst the members
- membership of the CIO will be open to anyone who lives in Dittisham so that it is a “community charity”
- trustees must report to the members at an annual general meeting and the members have the power to remove a trustee before the expiry of his or her term of office
- any decision to alter the constitution or to wind up the charity must be taken by the members

Alternative:

Foundation Model CIO

- the members and the trustees are the same people
- all the members are trustees and no-one can be a member unless they are a trustee
- most decisions will be taken by the trustees, but some decisions must be taken in their capacity as members, notably any decision to change the constitution of the CIO or to wind up

Trustees

Legal advice suggests:

- five trustees, two appointed by the Parish Council
- minimum number of trustees of three
- quorum of three