

Case study 2022 – 2024

VAAC working with Lillian Holdsworth, Trustee of The Glebelands Centre, Ferring

Nina worked with LH, a trustee of The Glebelands Centre to unpick their legal status and help them navigate the various options.

This referral has taken 18 months of working with LH from May 2022 to help her untangle their current legal status, then plan to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). They originally thought they were a CIC. They weren't. They were a Company Ltd by guarantee but had an unincorporated association's constitution!

After several months of steering them through their preferred options, assisting with explaining about Charity Commission Objects, Trustee responsibilities, policies/ procedures and looking through their draft CIO application forms – they finally became a CIO, November 2023.

What advice did you require?

"I need help please with someone to look over CIO application".

"Would like to discuss VAT issues and exemptions for equipment and building works".

"Safeguarding policies required for Charity Commission / Companies House".

How useful was the advice and information you received?

Extremely

In what ways will the advice given make a difference to your organisation?

"Advice will Help us to convert from a Ltd. company to a CIO enabling us to apply for grants. Nina's 1.1 advice and guiding me through application for CIO has been successful. Charity Status granted on November 15th 2023".

January 2024 referral:

"We wish to create a community vegetable garden for everyone to enjoy with indoor socialising and refreshments. Not yet costed. And looking for funding for upgrading the centre".

Nina helped connect them with Arun and Chichester Food Partnership to find out more about running, funding and establishing a community garden.

VAAC also produced a bespoke funding search for them.

From April 2024 the Centre has installed a new heating system, insulation and organised an open day to explore the thoughts of residents and hirers. A community raised garden beds scheme and other suggestions were suggested e.g. youth groups, car parking, creating a village management committee. They have also recruited more trustees to share the responsibilities.