



**EWELME ALMSHOUSE CHARITY
(Registered Charity No 200581)**

Almshouse Information Sheet

Introduction

Each individual Almshouse consists of a sitting room, fitted kitchen, bedroom and bathroom/wc. The size of rooms may vary slightly depending on the particular location (i.e. The Cloisters, Suffolk House, Suffolk Court) and sometimes within each complex. Residents are encouraged to make use of the communal gardens.

There is a guest room available at both The Cloisters, Ewelme and at Suffolk Court, Marsh Gibbon. Residents are permitted to make use of the Guest Room for relatives or bona fide guests, normally for no longer than 4 days but a longer stay may be permitted for relatives visiting from abroad.

A Warden is resident at Ewelme and a local Health Visitor attends at Marsh Gibbon. Each Almshouse is equipped with a 24 hour emergency call system connected to a Monitoring Centre.

Guidance for Applicants

1. Our Almshouses are intended primarily for elderly, retired people of strictly limited means in terms of both income and capital. Residents would normally be expected to have access only to a state pension, benefits and a very small, if any, amount of capital. Applicants who own their own property are unlikely to be considered.
2. Preference is given to persons who are in immediate or early need of sheltered accommodation, or who are currently in inadequate or isolated accommodation.
3. Preference is given to applicants who have spent an extended period of their lives within the localities adjacent to The Trust's estates at Ewelme, Marsh Gibbon and Ramridge (near Weyhill), or have relatives living in those areas, or have strong links with them.
4. At the time of admission Residents must be both physically and mentally self sufficient as The Trust does not provide any care facilities. A confidential Medical Report is to be completed by the applicants GP and must be returned at the time of application. It is desirable that Residents have relatives or friends within reasonable distance on whom they can call for assistance in case of need.
5. If after taking up an Almshouse a resident becomes physically or mentally incapacitated to the extent that they are unable to look after themselves without

endangering either themselves or other residents, The Trust may have to request that other, more suitable, accommodation is found.

6. An Almshouse is essentially a quiet community for elderly, retired people and it is therefore important for The Trust to ensure that the background and lifestyles of all those admitted are compatible. Personal references are taken up.

7. Each resident is required to pay a Weekly Maintenance Contribution. Applicants should be aware that the Weekly Maintenance Contribution paid is not a rent and that a resident in an almshouse does not become a tenant.

8. There is adequate external parking space at each of the Almshouses. Use of the limited amount of garage space is strictly subject to availability and at an additional charge. Residents owning a car are required to check with the Agent prior to admission.

9. Whilst most costs are met by The Trust, residents are responsible for their own telephone bill if connected and for their Council Tax.

10. An Almshouse may not be let or shared with any other person and any resident who wishes to be away from the accommodation for more than 14 days at a time or for more than 28 days in any one year is required to obtain the prior consent of the Trust Manager.

11. In view of the locations of our almshouses we regret that pets cannot be permitted.

The Application Process

After having considered the guidance provided above, those interested in becoming residents are invited to confirm their interest by writing to:

The Trust Manager, Ewelme Almshouse Charity, 126 High St, Oxford, OX1 4DG

or email: trustmanager@ewelmealmshousecharity.org

specifying the almshouse location of their choice.

When the next vacancy for the specified location becomes available the applicant will be sent an Application Form and a Confidential Medical Report form, which they will be required to complete in full and return if they are still interested in becoming a resident. After consideration of all returned applications the Trustees will invite short listed applicants to visit the Almshouse location and to attend an interview. Personal references will be taken up at this stage.