



Your

Hever Parish Council

PROUDLY REPRESENTING HEVER, MARKBEECH & FOUR ELMS

Any questions? Please contact clerk@hever.org

Hever Parish Council – Community Support Grant Application Form

Each year HPC allocates a limited amount of funding to support parish projects and assets. If you wish to apply for a grant please complete the application form below and return to the clerk at least 2 weeks before the next meeting. Please note, if funding is no longer available, your application will be considered in the next financial year

Section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972 allows a local authority to incur expenditure which in their opinion is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area or any part of it or all or some of its inhabitants.

Section 19(3) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 gives a local council the power to make grants to voluntary organisations.

Name, address and contact number of main contact	Marie Moorey, We Are Beams, Allsworth Court, St Davids Road, Hextable, BR8 7RJ. 01322 668501 option 5.
Name and address of Organisation requesting grant	We Are Beams, Allsworth Court, St Davids Road, Hextable, BR8 7RJ. 01322 668501
Description of project / intended use for funding / date the funding is needed	<p>We are requesting a donation towards the running costs of our family advice service.</p> <p>The Family Service within We Are Beams are a team of experienced advisors who offer support to families of disabled children aged between 4 – 19 years. The children usually have one or more learning difficulties, complex needs, physical or sensory impairment as a result of their disability. Our service is offered in the Dartford, Sevenoaks and Gravesham areas. . We are the first point of contact for parents and carers who need help coping with their child's disability and behaviour. Caring for a disabled child 24/7 is challenging and can cause stress and take a toll on mental and physical health. Many families are at crisis point, suffering from exhaustion and despair. We guide and advise parents to make the best choices for their disabled child. We offer a Telephone Help-line, Home visits, Drop-in Advise Sessions, Support Groups and deliver educational Parenting Programmes. We are relatable and empathetic, we are able to put parents at ease by making them feel less nervous/anxious and more relaxed and comfortable. We offer a range of advice from education, health, financial matters to mobility and transport concerns. Families are usually referred to us by their GPs paediatrician and education professionals. Our outcomes are to improve the health and wellbeing of parents and their children, prevent a family from falling into crisis, increase confidence dealing with disability, teach new parenting skills/coping strategies and provide children with better educational outcomes. We help to build strong relationships with other families in the same position which reduces isolation.</p>

<p>Details of individuals / groups involved in planning</p>	<p>Our family advisors plan our offer and have the following experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 staff members have personal experience of living with a disabled child • Institute of Leadership & Management qualifications • 27 years' working knowledge of SEN & disability law • Experience of multi-agency /partnership working Autism Spectrum Disorder Trainer (Cygnet Parenting Programs) • Substantial involvement in strategic planning for disability services in Kent. • Kent Safeguarding Board Member • Ofsted registered • NVQs in Health & Social Care • TQUK Level 2 Mental-Health awareness • SEN Law • Makaton signing • National Autistic Society CPD • IPSEA – Further SEND Law Training • MHFA England - Youth Mental Health Aware • Suicide awareness training • Headstart - Resilience conversation training • Future Learn - Psychological First Aid • Child protection training • Diplomas in Social Care for Children/Families <p>We work together with other charities to make sure that families of disabled children in Kent get the support they need. We work beside Homestart, Little Buddies, and Demelza Hospice to provide the best possible facilities and services. We also work closely with Kent County Council to deliver commissioned services for disabled children. Our Direct Payment Service is fully commissioned, and our 6-bedded respite facility has a spot purchase agreement. We have collaborated with The Elliot Holmes Memorial Fund which provides access to mental-health & counselling for young people 13-18 living in Gravesham.</p> <p>Ofsted & Care Quality Commission found that too many children/young people with SEND in Kent don't get the support they need. At least 41% of these children have a diagnosis of ASD, which is higher than the national average of 30%. Beams has recorded at least 80% of calls are about education support.</p> <p>With governments funding cuts families are feeling lost, frustrated and unsupported. Kent Needs Analysis Report 2022 recorded that The Sevenoaks District has the highest percentage (5%) of under 25s with special educational needs and disabilities, physical and severe learning difficulties and social and emotional health problems. Too many young people with SEND do not get the support they need in Kent. CAMHS has a 4 year waiting list The ongoing lack of support has had a detrimental impact on disabled children's lives. If the correct level of support is not put in place by services, not only are disabled children unable to reach their potential but families are left to plug the gaps in support. This means that the whole family is restricted in their opportunities. Wider research indicates that parents and carers spend around 60 hours a week looking after their disabled child. Compared with other carers, parents of disabled children are twice as likely to care for more than 100 hours per week. As a result, less than one in four parents or carers are able to work full time. (https://contact.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/caring-more-than-most-full-report.pdf)</p> <p>Beams has seen a significant increase in the amount of calls on education support and at least 80% of calls to the service are on this topic.</p>
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Total project cost	£196,649.30
Amount requested from HPC	£1000
Other sources of funding considered / applied for	We are applying to other parish councils that our service users reside in, along with town councils and other grant providers.
Who will benefit from this project over what time period? How will this be demonstrated?	Any resident with a disabled child or young person is able to access our full offer and currently there are families within the parish that already access our family advice service. The award would support the running of this service for a year from the date of award. We will be able to demonstrate the impact this has on our families via our mid-term and long term surveys that we have in place.

Hever Parish Council annually sets a community support budget in order to provide financial assistance to a range of organisations, projects and activities which provide services for local residents.

The budget is discretionary funding and as such is separate from any other services which the Parish Council may fund under contract to fulfil statutory obligations or the delegated works of its Committees.

Hever Parish Council & The Clerk is available to anyone in the parish to assist community groups / projects in a number of ways;

- with further grant searching through local, regional and National bodies
- assistance with project planning
- A local council may also make loans to voluntary organisations in relation to running village halls (this may be a direct loan during the current year, from accumulated revenue, or unspent capital receipts).
- A local council which purchases equipment or building materials or pays for building work for a village hall, may reclaim VAT under section 33 of the VAT Act 1994, provided a number of conditions are met.
- A local council can also give practical help to the running of a local charity in many ways, for example; encouraging local people and organisations in the area to use and support activities and events
- calling a parish meeting to help organise fund raising activities
- facilitating use of parish noticeboards
- providing information and advice about other local authorities / groups
- raising the profile of the group / project

The Parish Council may wish to seek evidence against all or some of the following criteria:

- there is clear evidence of local need or demand for the proposed project/activity
- the grant will help provide a facility or service that will be of real and direct benefit to local residents
- the project/activity is properly thought through, is viable, of good quality and will ensure proper use of public funds, providing best value and value for money
- the organisation/project demonstrates clear knowledge and commitment to equal opportunities and Health & Safety.

The focus of the bulk of the grant process will primarily be for organisations/projects located within Hever, Four Elms and Markbeeceh Parish

BUDGET FOR GRANTS/DONATIONS

Please do come to the meeting to present your application if you would like to.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The development of monitoring and evaluation systems, particularly in respect of outcomes, is an area of good management practice all voluntary sector organisations should be prioritising. The Parish Council would welcome the provision of findings from grant aided organisations/projects.

Please contact in the first instance the Clerk and Financial Officer to Hever Parish Council (clerk@hever.org) and see the website (hever.org) for more information and dates of full council meetings should you wish to attend.