

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.

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| Name, address and contact number of main contact | Penny Lawne [REDACTED] |
| Name and address of Organisation requesting grant | Tunbridge Wells & District Samaritans 7 Lime Hill Road Tunbridge Wells TN1 1LJ Our branch covers Hever and Mark Beech |
| Description of project / intended use for funding / date the funding is needed | A contribution towards budgeted expenditure for the running costs of our branch |
| Details of individuals / groups involved in planning | Our branch is entirely staffed by volunteers. The trustees oversee the running of the branch. |
| Total project cost | Our running costs last year were around £30,000 |
| Amount requested from HPC | £250 |
| Other sources of funding considered / applied for | We receive no funding from the central charity Samaritans to which we are affiliated, or from central government. We have to raise all our own funds to cover the running costs of the branch and any planned expenditure. We receive modest grants from various parish and town councils in our area as well as donations from some charitable trusts. |
| Who will benefit from this project | Samaritans seek to reduce the incidence of suicide in our community and to alleviate distress and despair, by providing a confidential and non judgemental environment to explore |

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| <p>over what time period? How will this be demonstrated?</p> | <p>feelings. We provide this by telephone, face to face, email and webchat. We are available 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Samaritans nationally respond to a call for help every 10 seconds and last year our branch answered 26, 000 calls. Most callers report a significant reduction in distress after calling us, and for one in ten we are there only support. As our service is confidential we cannot estimate the number of Hever residents who may have contacted us or will do so in the future; however it is reasonable to assume that members of your community have and may contact us. Our branch also offers talks on mental well being to all local schools, community groups, and deliver training on site at, for eg. Railway stations and school communities should it be needed following a suicide.</p> |
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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.