

BEAUDESERT & HENLEY IN ARDEN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL



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9th November 2022

To all of the Societies listed herein – sent by email for expediency and posted on the JPC website, social media and the Henley Focus

Dear Head of Society,

APPLICATION FOR JPC GRANT FOR PERIOD 2023 – 2024

After due deliberation following formal interviews conducted by the Grants Committee and subsequent consideration of certain additional records, and in accordance with the instructions placed on me by the JPC, to inform you all of their final decision, subject to a majority vote conducted at the JPC Ordinary Meeting held on Monday the 7th of November 2022 at the Memorial Hall.

The outcome of the Grant Awards process are as follows; it should be noted that those who did not receive support this year will be asked to apply again in October next year where the process of support will be conducted for the year 2024 -2025.

The grants exceeding £2,000.00 will be paid in TWO tranches, the first no later than the 31st of March 2023 next, the second no later than the 30th of September 2023 next.

Hereunder I record the applications received along with the purpose for the funding request, the amount requested and awarded along with the Grants' Panel brief conditions on which the award was based.

The theme adopted by the JPC regarding this round of grants is one of lifting the restraints which determined the grants last year, following a worrying period in the history of our country and rewarding these groups and societies in our town, who deserve stronger support in the coming rather austere months ahead.

The total reserve set aside for this year is **£41,400.00, virtually 30% up on last year** and made possible by prudent expenditure by the JPC in the 7 months gone in the fiscal year.

I would remind you that we have placed a reserve for £5,000.00 for mini-grants and I am pleased to tell you that an award of **£500.00**, has already been made available to **Henley Bowls Club** to cover urgent repairs to the club house roof before winter sets in.

I now tabulate the award outcomes for your information and this letter will be posted on the JPC website, social media and in the December issue of the Henley Focus.

Society	Grant Requested	Grant Awarded	Purpose of Grant Request
Guild Hall Trust Arts4All	£4,180.00	£3,000.00	The Grant is critical to Arts4ALL taking place. We recognise the Independent Theatre Council recommendations on pay and accordingly, given the size limitations of our performance venue, the quality of performance and performers (including West End principle performers) and our commitment to ensuring the whole community is engaged, financial challenges are inevitable but we have an established record of being able to face these challenges via realistic promotional and ticketing prices, sponsorship channels and of course Community Grant Support.
Henley War Memorial Trust [The ARC]	£5,816.00	£5,000.00	Project 1: The Outfield shares the same space as Football pitches 2 & 3 and they changeover in May & September overnight, so it is impossible to find any time for long term maintenance. Consequently we try to vary the football pitches location so that the Goal Area, which gets most use & is therefore badly worn, is rotated to different places. This requires moveable Goal Posts. Project 2: The ARC Pavilion roof has been completely renewed & insulated to save energy and the Pavilion has been completely re-furbished, as you are all aware. We now wish to improve visibility of the whole area by installing a new window and improved Double Glazing.
Henley Christmas Lights	£4,500.00	£4,500.00	To continue to provide Christmas Lights for the Town and Christmas Tree, new energy efficient light bulbs, electricians, charges [capped at 2021 price levels].
Combined Churches	£900.00	£700.00	Illumination of town clock tower, cost of notices in the Henley Focus and re-ordering the churchyard, including new turf to existing graves.
Guild Hall Trust [Gardens]	£10,343.88	£6,000.00	Rent and Letting income, combined with donations is slowly recovering following the pandemic and we are on target to raise a total just short of £20,000 during this coming financial year and the same in the forthcoming year. All of next year's income will be absorbed in the fabric of the actual Guild Hall Building maintenance and the Trust faces significant challenges in being able to position itself to be able to replace the existing roof for which estimates in excess of £100,000 have been received. It would lack good sense and judgement to not prioritise getting the roof replaced and there are other essential building repairs that are necessary too. It is therefore impossible to meet the cost of maintaining the gardens out of the current income. As a trust we need to pursue other external funding sources and, with the help of the Court Leet have set up an appeal fund for this purpose. However, if the gardens are to remain open and in their current condition, we need to recoup the shortfall on this year's expenditure

Dementia Café	£500.00	£500.00	John's Church Hall have allowed Memory Lane Café to use the hall at a reduced rate on a temporary basis. We are seeking financial assistance to cover the increase in rental costs for the next financial year
Community Fridge	£2,000.00	£1,500.00	A Community Fridge is a site where local people can share food; this includes surplus from supermarkets, local food businesses, households and gardens (e.g. allotments). There is no cost for the food, anyone can use the facility (no food vouchers needed unlike a food bank) and a community fridge can help reduce food waste. Fridges are run by community groups in shared spaces (e.g. the Methodist Church/Henley Community Library). Nationally, the Community Fridge Network is coordinated by Hubbub. It is a support network for groups running fridges, offering guidance and support. Henley Methodist Church is seeking funds towards the cost of a commercial fridge which will be located at the Methodist Church and will be the site for Henley Community Fridge. The plan is to open in January 2023 with support from local businesses to provide food surplus. Opening will be in line with library opening hours as well as some evenings a week.
Friends of Henley Station	£6,600.00	£5,000.00	As described above, the unit will provide a service for passengers on the trains and allow us to promote the renovation project and gain donations to help pay for some of the items not covered by the large building grants. We see this an opportunity for ongoing investment into the railway project, in addition to providing a valuable service to the town and to the railway commuter. The lease is due to be signed in the next week or two. As you are aware, this has taken some considerable time to organise and now we have the go ahead, we are keen to press on with our plans. The unit is mobile and as such could be used by other organisations in the town.
Community Library	£9,500.00	£7,000.00	The JPC grant would be used to help cover the running costs of the library – rent, insurance and electricity are our biggest annual costs and it's of course essential we can meet these in order to stay open and continue to provide the community service we are currently able to offer.
Baptist Church Hall [Warm Hub]	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	The intention is to provide warmth and opportunity for social interaction at no cost to those who attend the warm hub. This means that Henley Baptist Church will be underwriting all the costs. The particular costs will relate to publicity, energy for heating and appliances and sundries for refreshments, cleaning etc. However the church relies on rental income from the Church Hall and although we would not want to consider any rental costs for this venture, we are aware that we will lose rental income (normally £25/30 per session) from other sources, as the hall will no longer be available for other use. There will be a need to purchase some additional items for those who would wish to engage with an activity e.g. puzzles, toys.

Baptist Church Hall [Evergreens]	£200.00	£200.00	The grant will be used for providing lunches prepared by Sue Dalby where folk can meet and spend time together in a warm and friendly environment. Gordon Trinder
Henley Branch Royal British Legion	£1,250.00	£1,000.00	To help fund a Community celebration event for the Kings Coronation May 2023. Hall hire, Musicians, Bar. Armed Forces Day Parade. 2023 musicians and light refreshments Remembrance Parade 2023 musicians and light refreshments
Mini Grants Provision	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	
Totals	£53,189.88	£41,400.00	

Finally, payments will be made by bank transfer using data provided in your application. May I on behalf of the JPC wish you good luck in your endeavours during this new year in building up a happy and well cared for community here in town. Sincerely Ray Evans Parish Clerk & Proper Officer, JPC

Yours sincerely



Ray Evans
Clerk & Proper Officer to the JPC