

# **LITTLE BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL**

**15 MAY 2023**

## **DONATIONS REPORT**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Council has powers under the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to make donations to voluntary organisations.

The Council set its budget for 2023/24 at its meeting on 7 November 2023:

[Budget-2023.24-Approved.pdf \(onesuffolk.net\)](#)

In view of representations received from Bealings Village Hall and Ropeth Ltd at that time, the Council increased its Donation budget for 2023/24 from £1,300 to £1,700.

At year end, 31 March 2023, the Donations budget for 2022/23 was underspent at £1,170. Donations comprised:

Bealings Village Hall	£250
John Belstead Playing Field	£500
Fynn Lark News	£250
Disability Advice Service East Suffolk	£25
SAVID	£50
British Legion Poppy Appeal	£25
St Elizabeth Hospice	£25

A 'float' donation of £200 for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations was returned to the Council.

The Council traditionally makes annual donations to Bealings Village Hall, John Belstead Playing Field and the Fynn Lark News at its Annual Meeting in May. It has not made any donation to Ropeth to date.

Other donations are made during the year, if approved by the Council. The Council has a policy of supporting charities which have confirmed that they have been active in the parish during the year.

### **DONATIONS FOR 2023/24**

#### **Bealings Village Hall Trust**

In November 2022 the Trust requested an increase in the donations from Great and Little Bealings Parish Councils and supplied the information attached at Appendix 1A and 1B. It added:

"It would be helpful if each Parish Council could increase their donation to the Village Hall by £250. We are facing a deficit of over £4k in running costs, as shown on the

spreadsheet. We have agreed to start a fundraising initiative which, at present, is the reintroduction of pop-up pubs.

We have available funds of £16k divided between the village hall and the playing field. We shall need most of this as match funding for any grants we might be able to obtain towards the costs of replacing the external and some internal doors, which are likely to be in the region of at least £20 to £30k. The main entrance door is becoming worn and potentially insecure and does not meet modern standards for wheelchair users. The exterior door to the Committee Room is rotten, the fire doors to the main hall no longer fit correctly, and the doors into the main hall also no longer fit correctly, leading to loss of heat during cold weather.”

Great Bealings Parish Council resolved not to increase its donation for 2023/24.

Updated costings have been provided by the Trust this month and are attached at Appendix 1C.

## **ROPETH**

In November 2022 Ropeth requested a donation of £250 from Great and Little Bealings Parish Councils. Its request then is attached as Appendix 2a.

Great Bealings Parish Council resolved not to make a donation.

Appendix 2b gives updated financial information.

## **FYNN LARK NEWS**

The most recent financial information is:

### **“2022**

Printing costs for 10 issues amounted to £3378 + £45 distribution costs. Income was approximately £3100 – sources being: Standing orders, advertising, parish councils, including £50 from Grundisburgh pp Culpho, and one or two very generous, anonymous donations. Over-all a loss of around £300

By the end of the year we were down to approx. £500 in our account, hence the recent concern, and our appeal for extra funds, as we knew that costs for the coming year would be around £3600. So we embarked on the year knowing that we needed money from standing orders, full advertising revenues, the usual PC contributions, and additional donations if we were to make it through to the end of 2023. In an ideal world we would have enough in the account to start the year knowing that we had the funds to get through to the end of the year.....

.....pay for the May issue and, after payment for that, funds are currently at **£2046**. We have 6 issues to go @ c £340 = **£2040**. So it's tight! The trouble is that we have so much news - a very good thing! - but additional pages cost money. We will have to watch things closely until the end of the year.”

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Council resolves:

- to make such annual donations for 2023/24 to support facilities/services in the parish as it considers appropriate in accordance with budget provision and its statutory powers.
- whether to retain or amend its current policy for making other donations during the year.