

## Requests for Financial Support from Wickhambrook Parish Council

Each year Wickhambrook Parish Council sets aside some funds from its budget to give financial support to local and/or charitable organisations. The power under which a Parish Council may do this is s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Requests have been received in Quarter 4 for financial assistance from:

1. BSEVC – Later in Life Community Connect
2. Fresh Start – New Beginnings
3. Headway Suffolk
4. St Edmundsbury Newstalk Association

(Appendix A refers); and

Funds remaining in the budget line for Charitable Donations are £50.00 against a budget of £250.00, with a further £200.00 held in Earmarked Reserves for Charitable Donation. Thus, the maximum value of donations which could be made in the current financial year is a total of £250.00.

**Recommendation:**

**Councillors are asked to consider which Charitable organisations (1-4 above) to support and the level of support for each request made.**

Hilary Workman  
123 York Road  
Bury St Edmunds Suffolk  
IP33 3EG

October 2021

Dear Hilary Workman

**BSEVC – COMMUNITY AT HEART**

As a Suffolk based charity, BSEVC have been supporting local people for over 35 years, more recently through the provision of community transport.

As is the case for many charitable organisations, the last 18 months have seen huge changes and significant challenges – for BSEVC this has meant adapting and launching new services and support to meet the changing demands of communities across Suffolk.

As an organisation, we have three core areas of service delivery;

- Community Transport (Ipswich & Mid Suffolk primarily)
- Suffolk Carers Matter – family carer support
- Later Life Community - 65+ service

With the exception of the latter, these services are not age specific, although by nature of demand, these services are intrinsically linked and many of our transport passengers and family carers that we support are aged 65+.

It is our aim to provide and facilitate support for individuals, as close to their community as possible – helping to build networks of support, access to services

(not just our own) and ultimately reducing loneliness and social isolation and improving health and wellbeing as a result.

In your parish there are   194   people over 65+, many of whom will have found the last year or more extremely challenging.

In order to help us continue this vital support, we would welcome your consideration in making a donation towards our work.

If you would like further information about our services and how we can support people in your parish, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

*Jenny Day*

Jenny Day

Business Support Officer

Tel: 01449 707030

[Jenny.day@bsevc.co.uk](mailto:Jenny.day@bsevc.co.uk)



Dear Parish Councillors

We would firstly like to introduce ourselves to your Parish, we are Later Life Community Connect within the charity BSEVC and are a relatively new service that launched in February this year. We are a single point of access telephone support service for older people aged 65+ across the whole County, with our telephone line available 7 days a week between the times of 10.00am and 2.00pm. Our aim is to link together routes of support for individuals so that they do not have to make numerous calls or reach out to multiple organisations. The client can make one call in to us, we have a conversation to find out what their worries/concerns are and then with their consent, we make referrals into appropriate services/organisations. It also allows us to identify other areas where support could be offered such as groups/clubs/activities etc that they may not have even considered themselves.

One of the areas we are looking into currently is Befriending and are undertaking a "Befriending Mapping Exercise" to try and establish which villages and towns are offering this type of service whether it be face to face, telephone or both. We have contacted the Good Neighbour Schemes and are now reaching out to Parish Councils to see if you have a village or community group that may be set up through the local church or volunteers within the Parish offering some form of befriending to your parishioners. We would very much appreciate it if you could take a couple of moments to complete our enclosed questionnaire, advising us if your village currently offers any type of befriending services. It is our hope to be able to identify the areas in Suffolk that have no befriending services but may have a need.

We have also enclosed for you a copy of our Service Brief so that you know who we are and what we are about along with one of our flyers in the hope that you may be able to display this on your Parish Notice Board.

Thanking you in anticipation of your help with this matter and please do not hesitate to contact us, Amanda Griffin and Tracy Matthew – Later Life Community Connect co-ordinators if you have any queries.

Kind regards

*Amanda Griffin*

*Tracy Matthew*

Later Life Community Connect Co-ordinators

BSEVC, Red Gables, Ipswich Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1BE

Tel: 01449 614271

Registered charity: 1004198





**LATER LIFE COMMUNITY CONNECT – a single point of access telephone support service for people requiring information or support on issues around later life.**



**01284 334516 (Monday – Sunday, 10am – 2pm)**

### **Why?**

In Suffolk, there are around **170,000 people aged 65 and over** – and this number is increasing at a rapid rate – due to a number of factors.

Suffolk is a great place to live and to retire, people in Suffolk have a longer life expectancy than the national average – but this brings about its own issues. **It is estimated that in the next 20 years, one in three of the Suffolk population will be aged 65 or over** – and this group of people will need to know that there is support and services available for them to access easily, if and when needed. It is often the way that it is not until someone is at crisis point, that they then start to look at the help that is available – at a time which is fraught and stressful, with emotions running high and possibly dealing with extreme grief. It is imperative that people know where to turn **before** it is needed, that they have access to organisations in a more holistic way, so that if that time comes, that contact is made all the easier.

### **What?**

The closure of Age UK Suffolk's Information & Advice Line has left a gap in the provision of support for older people, and this has been made even worse by the pandemic and extended periods of isolation. This is not a replacement service, more a **NEW** and holistic supportline that is available for people to call seven days a week. This single point of access telephone number will be answered physically seven days a week, between dedicated hours (10am – 2pm) - outside of these times callers will be encouraged to leave an answerphone message.

Later Life Community Connect was launched on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February with the support of Suffolk Community Foundation and is co-ordinated by experienced advisors who will have a chat with callers, identify the issue (if there is one) and look to find a solution(s) to help. Often, callers may simply just want a chat, and that's fine too. Where needed, we will refer the individual to other organisations, who will then make contact for support. The important thing to note here is that the older person only has to make **one** call, and our team will follow up with the caller at agreed intervals to check on progress and wellbeing. In addition, we will also be offering to support people with a regular welfare call if required, through the support of volunteers.

### **Why BSEVC?**

We have been supporting communities in Suffolk for over 35 years through a successful community transport service, and in more recent years through support and wellbeing activities for family carers and those living with mental health challenges. We are well placed to work countywide, and with our existing transport service, can also support people in accessing transport solutions that work for them, in a safe and managed way.

BSEVC is under new leadership with a new CEO, with future plans to create a suite of services and support for people in later life, based on experience of working at Age UK Suffolk and developing community development services and support.

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**From:** Carrie Baker <carrie@fsnb.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 13 January 2022 14:53  
**Subject:** Fresh Start new beginnings - Small local children's charity

Dear Parish Clerk,

Fresh Start new beginnings is a small, local children's charity offering a therapeutic service for children aged 0 to 18 in Suffolk and Norfolk who have been victims of sexual abuse.

We work with the children to help them make sense of the confusion they feel, help them work through painful, often very damaging, emotions they experience, and teach them coping strategies to deal with the difficulties they face. We also offer advice, information, and support to their families.

Fresh Start new beginnings helps the children to rebuild their futures, helping them to look forward again and feel positive about their lives. With two hundred open cases and another 137 children waiting for our support, we are always trying to raise awareness of our services and raise funds to help us provide this vital support to all the children who need our help. On average, we need around £2,500 per child to provide this care, and as a charity, we rely heavily on voluntary donations and fundraising events.

I am hoping that you and the Parish Council may be able to help us, perhaps in the form of a donation, selecting us as your civic Charity of the Year, hosting a fundraising event, or displaying our posters where they will reach your community.

We are also in need of new volunteers who could offer us some of their time to help with our fundraising and awareness activities.

Should you be able to help us in any way, or if you have any questions, please do get in touch. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your help.

Kind regards,

Carrie

<https://www.fsnb.org.uk/get-involved/donate/>

**Carrie Baker**  
**Events & Community Fundraiser**

**Fresh Start new beginnings**  
**The Treatment Service for Children**  
**333 Felixstowe Road**  
**Ipswich IP3 9BU**

**Tel: 01473 705111**  
**Mob: 07562 101013**

[www.fsnb.org.uk/](http://www.fsnb.org.uk/)

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**From:** helenm fairweather <helenmfairweather@headwaysuffolk.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 28 October 2021 09:45  
**Subject:** Headway Suffolk

Dear Parish Council

Headway Suffolk is a local charity that offers rehabilitation, support and care to people with an acquired neurological condition including traumatic brain injury , stroke, dementia, MS or other neurological condition.

We provide specialist rehabilitation, therapy and support services throughout Suffolk to help people rebuild their lives. We aim to improve daily living skills, cognitive ability, physical, emotional and behavioural well-being. Our goal is that people increase social engagement, live independently, gain employment and become active members of the local community.

We have two rehab hubs in Ipswich and Bury St Edmunds and run 'satellite' hubs and dementia social support groups in community buildings and hospitals throughout Suffolk.

Headway Suffolk is registered with CQC to deliver specialised home care and community support. We have always received a good rating from their inspections

During Covid-19 we have adapted to support even more people in different ways. We provided additional homecare visits, to free up hospital beds, set up a virtual hub so clients could stay in touch and continue with their rehab, organised food deliveries, virtual counselling, and a helpline. We have opened our day hubs back to normal capacity but have implemented covid safety precautions .

Annually we hold a Cycle Ride/Walk fundraising event, an Awards Dinner for our clients and sponsors. These all had to be cancelled due to covid 19 restrictions. We held a virtual conference in May and are looking forward to May 11th 2022 when we will hold a virtual and face to face conference on brain injury and crime.

Like all charities Covid 19 has hit us hard. We have seen increased work but had less funding. We are appealing to Parish Councils to support us and grant us a donation. Many have always supported us and we ask that you continue to do so, so that we can help people with a neurological condition in your Parish.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Helen Fairweather MA BA ( Hons) Dip Couns

Chief Executive Officer

Tel 01473 712225

Treasurer - David Gooderham  
Cornfields - 14 Old Hall Meadow - Rattlesden - Bury St Edmunds - IP30 0QZ  
Telephone : 07927 624606 | email : davidgooderham@uwclub.net

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14 February 2022

Dear Councillors

As a previous donor, you will already be aware of St Edmundsbury Newstalk, a local charity of 40 years standing, providing a weekly audio news service to 130 registered blind or partially sighted people in the West Suffolk area, some of whom may live in your parish.

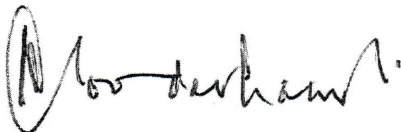
St Edmundsbury Newstalk is run entirely by volunteers but we still have to meet running costs, which in our financial year 2020/21 were over £5,600, and we hope that Councillors will feel able to continue the generous financial support which they have given in the past.

If you are able to make a contribution again to our funds it will be very gratefully received. Contributions should be sent to me please, at the above address, making your cheque payable to St Edmundsbury Newstalk.

If you require further information please let me know.

This letter has been sent by e-mail to save on postage.

Yours sincerely



David Gooderham  
Treasurer