

Grant Application: Warm Winter Wednesdays

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

In November 2023 an application was received from the Wickhambrook Carnival Committee (attached as Appendix A) asking for assistance towards the series of Warm Winter Wednesdays to be held in January and February, in the form of:

- Rent costs total £180.00 for the use of the WI Hall for 3 hours, on 6 consecutive Wednesdays in Jan/Feb 2024.
- A fund of £180 which can be allocated among the volunteers to help with the cost of basic provisions for the café.

A Christmas Warm Winter Wednesday was put on, on 13th December, with many people attending and carols from pupils at Wickhambrook Academy.

A parish council is generally able to make payments for services and supplies under the powers conferred upon it by relevant legislation. Where no such power exists, (e.g. Charitable donations) then a parish council may incur expenditure either under

- the General Power of Competence in s.1 of the Localism Act 2011 (which does not apply to Wickhambrook Parish Council, it not being eligible), or
- s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (LGA1972), for any purpose, except one which is subject to a statutory prohibition, restriction or limitation¹.

Funds remaining in the budget line for grant/local support are £628.24 against a budget of £850.00 for the current financial year. There is a further £620 in Earmarked Reserves for Local Support and Village Organisations

Action:

Councillors are asked to consider whether to award a grant of £360 towards the cost of a run of six Warm Winter Wednesdays in early 2024.