

## 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 for financial assistance from:

- [Suffolk Accident Rescue Service \(SARS\) - attached as Appendix A](#)

Other Charitable organisations which the parish council has previously received requests from, which have not requested assistance in this financial year (to date) are:

- [Arthritis Action \(from whom the pc receives regular updates\)](#)
- BSEVC – Later in Life Community Connect
- Citizens Advice Bureau
- East Anglian Children’s Hospice (EACH)
- Fresh Start – New Beginnings
- Headway Suffolk
- St Edmundsbury Newstalk Association
- Suffolk Community Foundation
- Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association

Charities local to Wickhambrook include:

- [Connecting Communities](#)
- [Curwen Print Study Centre](#)
- [Julian Support](#)
- [Reach Community Projects](#)
- [Richmond Fellowship](#)
- [Success After Stroke](#)
- [Suffolk Historic Churches Trust](#)
- [The British Sporting Art Trust](#)
- Wickhambrook United Charities
- [YOPEY Befriender](#)

Additionally, the parish council may wish to donate charitable funds to one or both of the organisations below which the Late Mary Evans (our former District and County Councillor) supported, in memory of her work for an support of the parish:

- [Rural Coffee Caravan](#)
- [Suffolk Community Foundation](#)

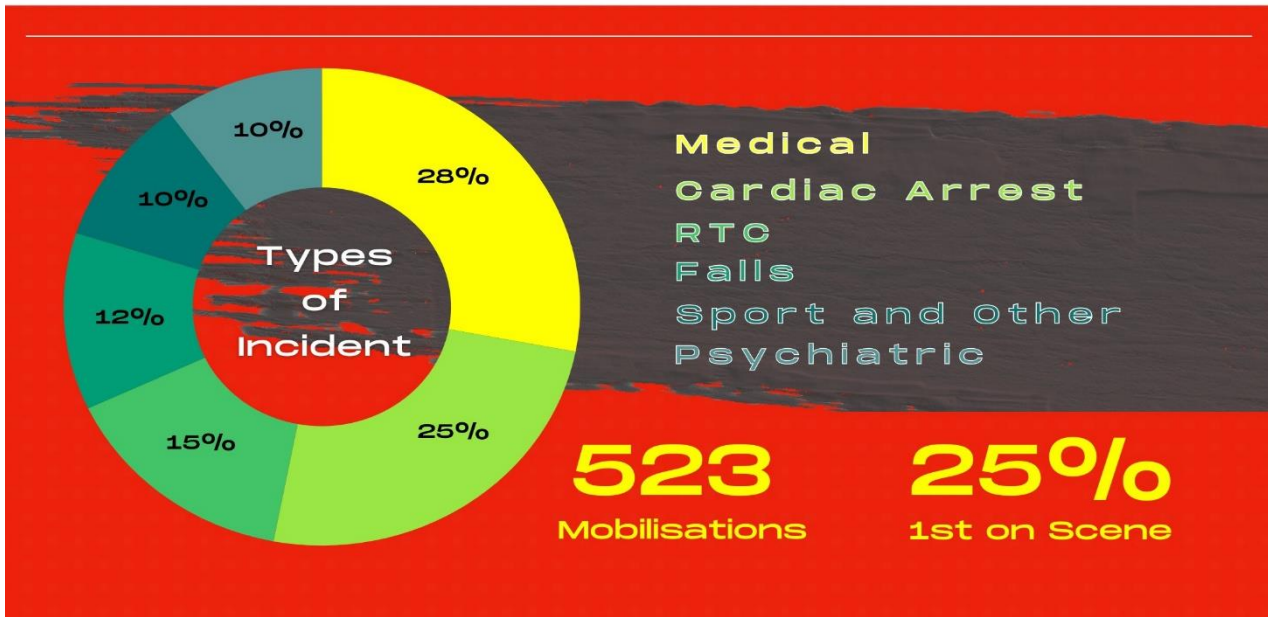
Funds remaining in the budget line for Charitable Donations are £200.00 against a budget of £250.00, with a further £50.00 held in Earmarked Reserves for Charitable Donation.

Unspent budget for charitable donations could be transferred to Earmarked Reserves, either for future requests for Charitable Support, or for Support for local organisations.

### **Action:**

**Councillors are asked to consider which Charitable organisations to support and the level of support for each request made.**

Hilary Workman  
Clerk & RFO  
February 2024



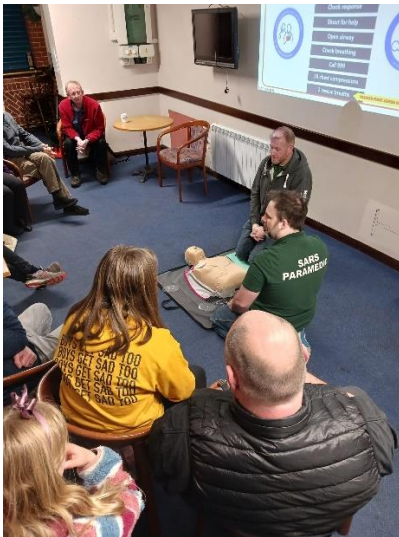
We have been very grateful for the support of our local councils in recent years. SARS receives no central government funding and your grants have helped us bring four new clinicians into the charity this year. These three doctors and one paramedic have already undertaken multiple team shifts and contributed to an overall increase of our team activity in 2023. We are also pleased to say that one of these clinicians has also been set up a solo responder based in the Ipswich area. He has already had a positive impact responding to over 50 calls for assistance in the last few months of 2023. Your support has also enabled us to make further investments in our infrastructure. Last year we purchased major equipment items including a ventilator, an ultrasound and an advanced monitoring unit. We have also funded numerous other medical equipment and drugs and purchased additional training equipment for our clinical volunteers. This has significantly increased our resilience and is ensuring that we continue to maintain the best possible levels of prehospital care for the patients that we treat. Thank you!

In 2023, SARS clinicians responded to 523 call outs mobilising to time-critical medical incidents in multiple locations across all the districts of our rural county. In around 25% of the incidents they attended, SARS volunteer responders were the first medical resource on scene. Our clinicians were able to offer a wide scope of advanced treatment to patients, which would not normally be available outside the hospital environment. These included advanced airway management, anaesthesia and sedation, specialist pain relief (analgesia) and surgical procedures. The presence of a SARS responder helped achieve many positive patient outcomes including genuinely life-saving interventions.



A quarter of our current clinical activity involves responding to patients in cardiac arrest. Therefore, for several years we have offered free sessions to the public to highlight the importance of learning CPR and understanding how to use a defibrillator. Last year saw SARS increase its public education programme delivering sessions to schools, businesses and community groups across the county.

Over 1000 people attended our CPR and defibrillator awareness programmes. We are very proud of this achievement and hope that it will make a difference in encouraging our local communities to understand the value of this basic life-saving skill and through that help save lives.



Over the coming months we want to continue to expand our clinical cohort. We hope to recruit at least six new SARS clinicians during 2024-25. The addition of these volunteer responders will boost both our team resources and in the long-term enable us to set up extra autonomous responders in specific areas of Suffolk. By taking these steps, we will be able to treat more patients and increase the number of positive patient outcomes in our local community.

This increase in resources will require the funding of more equipment, uniform and training and we hope that you can help us achieve these aims by continuing to support our charity. SARS volunteer clinicians have been operational across Suffolk for over 51 years and helped save countless lives. This has only been possible through the combination of your support and the commitment of our volunteer doctors and paramedics.

Together we can continue to make a lifesaving difference to so many local people for years to come.

For further information about our activity and impact, please visit our website [www.sars999.org.uk](http://www.sars999.org.uk) or contact us at SARS HQ [admin@sars999.org.uk](mailto:admin@sars999.org.uk) 01359244186.

Our Annual Report and Impact Statement can be found on the Charity Commission website by following this link, <https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/5076117>