

Grant Application: Works to Memorial Clock

At its meeting in November 2023 (Min. **23.11.18** refers) the parish council considered an application for funding to bring the Memorial Clock back into commission for the benefit of its residents, and

Resolved

The parish council authorise a contribution to the maintenance and repair of the Memorial Clock of not more than £1300 plus VAT.

The meeting further noted the clerk's advice that under s.82, Levelling up and Regeneration Act 2023, the restriction on such expenditure imposed by the Local Government Act 1894 will be removed, when that particular provision comes into force. Section 255(2)(s) of the 2023 Act states that this will be two months after the Act was passed, namely 26th October.

The updated advice note from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) was published 20 December 2023, and confirms that:

The government's view is that its amendment in Section 19A clarifies that the 1894 Act does not affect the discretionary powers of parish councils in England to fund church repairs or improvements or property held for an ecclesiastical charity. NALC recommends that its members adopt the government's view when they receive funding requests. This means councils can use their discretionary powers to fund such property, including that of other Christian denominations and non-Christian faiths. It applies in the case of:

- *Specific powers to fund works — For example, repairs to clocks fixed to church property (section 2 of the Parish Councils Act 1957) and the maintenance of open churchyards (Section 214 of the Local Government Act 1972 (the 1972 Act)).*
- *General powers to fund works where works are not covered by a specific power — Section 137 of the 1972 Act and the general power of competence can also be used by councils to fund requests for works not covered by specific powers.*

The funding (£1300 plus vat) on 8th March 2024.

In January (18th Jan 2025) Paul Bevan of the PCC reported that:

- the clock chimes had stopped again (the weights that the winding motor should raise had not been; hence the chimes cannot work) and that. I don't know if this is an electrical or mechanical failure.
- the clock is due its annual maintenance (the chimes were fixed on 22nd February 2024 and the clock was serviced during the weeks prior to this when various attempts were made to get the motor to work.)

The PCC has arranged with Haward Horological for works to be undertaken (an estimate having been received of £350 plus VAT which has now been invoiced – see **Appendix B**).

An application for grant funding towards the cost of the clock repairs has been submitted by the PCC in the sum of £420.00 (attached as **Appendix C**). A copy of the Grant Awarding policy is attached as Appendix D. A copy of the last years accounts has been requested.

Hilary Workman
Clerk & RFO
February 2025

Powers:

s.2 Parish Councils Act 1957.

Funding:

Memorial Clock £500

Action:

- 1) Councillors are asked to consider whether to make a contribution (and determine how much) towards the cost of maintenance of the Memorial Clock as requested by PCC of Wickhambrook All Saints Church.**

Reports

[WPC.23.11.09](#)
[WPC.23.09.09](#)
[WPC.23.02.08](#)
[WPC.EC.23.02.05](#)
[WPC.22.11.10](#)
[WPC.EC.22.11.02](#)
[WPC.22.02.08](#)
[WPC.21.11.09](#)

Minutes

23.11.18
23.09.15
23.02.13
23.02.11
22.11.19
22.11.11
22.02.13
21.11.17

[Advice notes](#)

20 Dec 2023

Power to fund works to property relating to affairs of the church or held for an ecclesiastical charity (England)

This advice note was written by our in-house solicitors and last updated on 20 December 2023.

The information and commentary in the note do not constitute legal advice for any individual case or matter. For specific advice on your circumstances, we strongly encourage you to seek tailored legal advice.

Introduction

The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act (the 2023 Act) received Royal Assent on 26 October 2023. Section 82 of the 2023 Act amends the Local Government Act 1894 (the 1894 Act) by inserting a new Section 19A into it. Section 19A comes into force on 26 December 2023. The wording of Section 19A is in the Appendix at the end of this briefing.

The government's view is that its amendment in Section 19A clarifies that the 1894 Act does not affect the discretionary powers of parish councils in England to fund church repairs or improvements or property held for an ecclesiastical charity. NALC recommends that its members adopt the government's view when they receive funding requests. This means councils can use their discretionary powers to fund such property, including that of other Christian denominations and non-Christian faiths. It applies in the case of:

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- General powers to fund works where works are not covered by a specific power — Section 137 of the 1972 Act and the general power of competence can also be used by councils to fund requests for works not covered by specific powers.

What will parish and town councils need to consider when receiving funding requests?

Councils need to consider requests for church property or property held for an ecclesiastical charity as they would any other funding request. Funding powers, further to section 19A of the 1894 Act coming into force, are discretionary. Parish and town councils are not under any additional duties due to the 2023 Act and the insertion of Section 19A into the 1894 Act.

Our [advice note](#) sets out the issues councils need to consider when relying on general power. These include the direct benefit of expenditure accruing to a council's area or residents being commensurate with the expenditure incurred in respect of Section 137.

Hilary Workman
Clerk & RFO
February 2025

Appendix

19A — Powers under other enactments:

1. Nothing in this Part affects any powers, duties or liabilities conferred on a parish council by or under any other enactment (whenever passed or made).
2. This section does not apply in relation to community councils (see Section 179 of the Local Government Act 1972).

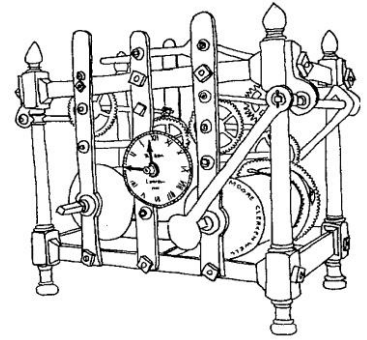


Haward Horological Ltd.

Specialist Clockmaker and Repairer

50 Leopold Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7NP

Tel: 07899946699 E-mail: ian@hhlimited.co.uk



Proud Members of the
BHI

Founder : P.N.Haward
Directors :
I.F.N. and J.P. Haward

Invoice Number: **4400**

Invoice Date : 03 February 2025

Invoice To : **WICKHAMBROOK CHURCH**

Description of works	Price								
To attend site, fully service clock, dialworks and strike hammer, including any squares and leave in good working order, for the sum of	£350.00								
We also adjusted the switch over the wheight.									
<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Total Payable exc.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£350.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less Deposit exc.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Now due exc.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£350.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VAT @ 20%</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£70.00</td> </tr> </table>		Total Payable exc.	£350.00	Less Deposit exc.		Now due exc.	£350.00	VAT @ 20%	£70.00
Total Payable exc.	£350.00								
Less Deposit exc.									
Now due exc.	£350.00								
VAT @ 20%	£70.00								

Barclays Bank
Sort Code: 20-82-75
Acc Number: 60464465

Total Now Due: **£420.00**

Invoice Terms : Strictly 21 days from date of invoice, failure to comply will result in 10% per week or part week there after

Payment Due : 26/02/2025

Att Paul Bevan

Sent Via Email

paul.bevan@gmail.com

WICKHAMBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

c/o The Clerk, Mrs H Workman
3 Farriers Close, Great Barton
Bury St Edmunds IP31 2FP

Tel: 07508 039810

e-mail: parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk

website <https://wickhambrook.org>

APPLICATION FOR A GRANT

Before completing this form, please read carefully the attached document entitled Wickhambrook Grant Awarding Policy. Copies of the form together with the **latest copy of examined accounts** must be submitted along with any supporting documentation requested.

General information for applicants

It is Wickhambrook Parish Council's intention (subject to budget restrictions and available resources) to support initiatives from local community groups and organisations. Priority will be given to applicants who have not previously received grants from Wickhambrook Parish Council. The size of any grant awarded is at the discretion of the Parish Council but will generally not exceed £500 in any one application.

If you have any queries on the completion of this form please contact the Parish Clerk, Wickhambrook Parish Council, 123 York Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3EG.

Email: parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk **Details of Your Organisation:**

Name of Organisation	Parochial Church Council of Wickhambrook All Saints' church
Address:	All Saints' church Church Road Wickhambrook Newmarket CB8 8XH
Contact Telephone No.:	07787 284377
Email:	paul.bevan@gmail.com
Registered Charity No.:	Please see https://www.bansfieldbenefice.org.uk/notices/charitystatus.html
If you are part of a larger organisation, its name	Church of England

Principal aims and objectives:

Our vision is of a Benefice, which cherishes and nourishes its members. We believe that God loves all of His children and that all people are made in his image. Consequently, there are no distinctions between who is or is not a member of the Church. We believe in a broad and central Anglican theology and spirituality, drawing on what is good in all traditions, where all Christians may feel at home.

In our ministry and mission we will endeavour to show ways in which we fulfil the Five Marks of Mission of the Anglican Communion:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Our primary purpose is to worship God in word and deed. We seek to deepen our spirituality and awareness of God's will and purpose, individually and corporately. This will include regularly reviewing our services. As a Benefice of seven parishes we celebrate both our unity and our diversity. We seek to extend appropriate pastoral care to all, and to have particular regard to what more we can do with and for the young and the elderly.

We consider it to be essential to be relevant and accessible to the communities in which we are set and which we serve.

We acknowledge our stewardship of the good things, which God has provided from his bounty. We recognise our responsibilities to Him and to each other to regularly review that stewardship, and also to seek to encourage the communities to be responsible for their Parish Churches, as we pledge to seek ways to make the Church buildings more suitable and practical for their users, particularly for the primary use of worship.

We joyfully acknowledge the ministry of all the baptised to shine as a light in God's world. We, therefore, aim to encourage, equip and enable each Church member to fulfil their Christian discipleship according to the gifts and skills that God has given them.

We acknowledge our responsibilities as Christians in the 21st century, as we acknowledge the privilege and joy of knowing God and belonging to his Church, and the fellowship, which we enjoy in the Bansfield Benefice.

Details of Grant Requested:**Explain your need for a grant with the likely number of beneficiaries and their age Profiles:**

The beneficiaries of this grant will be all the inhabitants of Wickhambrook across all age groups.

Firstly the PCC would like to thank the Parish Council for the annual support it has given the PCC to help in its role as custodians (not owners) of this war memorial to those who gave their lives in the two World Wars. (The clock was purchased and installed following fund raising after the Second World War by the village and as such it is a village war memorial in its own right - <https://www.bansfieldbenefice.org.uk/wickhambrook/history/clock.html>)

Thus the purpose of this application is as follows. The PCC as custodians, not owners, of this clock are looking to the Parish Council for a grant of financial assistance to cover in full the annual maintenance of this war memorial in a similar fashion to the annual maintenance carried out on the war memorial in the cemetery. The regular maintenance keeps the clock in good working order and negates the need for unexpected costly repairs that happen when a component fails in the clock's mechanism or leading off work. (This maintenance, which usually falls in February, has been met by the Parish Council in previous years.). The clock annual

service is £350 plus VAT.


In days gone by the PCC has been able and willing to undertake all maintenance, upkeep and operation of the clock but with both a dwindling congregation and greatly reduced church income the PCC finds itself no longer in a position where it can fund these kinds of repairs. The PCC is happy to continue to ensure the running of the clock and payment for its electricity consumption but now looks to the village to keep this war memorial in a working state honouring the people to whose memories it was installed.

As this type of repair is very specialized there are very few people qualified to undertake such repairs. The only company in Suffolk known to the PCC that is appropriate to undertake these repairs is Haward Horological - <http://www.hhlimited.co.uk>. Haward Horological has repaired and serviced the clock regularly since June 2011.

Grant requested: £420

To go to site and service the clock at a cost of £350 plus VAT

Details of Other Grants:

Received in the last two years: £800 (Servicing of the clock and repair of the striking mechanism motor.)	
Currently applied for: None	

Please use this space for any significant information about your organisation not already supplied:

This grant application is being made and submitted by the PCC of Wickhambrook on behalf of the inhabitants of the village of Wickhambrook.

I certify that the foregoing information is accurate to the best of my knowledge



Signature of applicant:

Office Held: Churchwarden

Date: 3rd February 2025

Grant Awarding Policy

1. Introduction to Policy

Wickhambrook Parish Council has statutory powers to make funds available to local organisations for the overall benefit of Wickhambrook and its residents.

This document outlines Wickhambrook Parish Council's guidelines for awarding. It also formalises the application process to ensure access, openness and fairness to the groups and organisations we aim to support. We will ensure that our grant awarding activity is fair and transparent.

A grant is any payment made by the Council to be used by an organisation for a specific purpose that will benefit the Parish, or residents of the Parish, and which is not directly controlled or administered by the Council. The Council awards grants, at its discretion, to Parish organisations which can demonstrate a clear need for financial support to benefit the Parish by:

- Providing a service
- Enhancing the quality of life
- Improving the environment
- Promoting the Parish of Wonderland in a positive way

2. General information for applicants

It is Wickhambrook Parish Council's intention (subject to budget restrictions and available resources) to support initiatives from local community groups and organisations.

Priority will be given to applicants who have not previously received grants from Wickhambrook Parish Council. The size of any grant awarded is at the discretion of the Parish Council but will not generally exceed £500 in any one application.

2.1 Who is eligible to apply

The following organisations may apply to Wickhambrook Parish Council:

- A Wickhambrook based charity
- An organisation serving the needs of the residents of Wickhambrook
- Resident(s) of Wickhambrook requesting grant aid with a project/event, which will be for the benefit of the local community
- A Wickhambrook based club/association/charity serving a specific section of the community or the community as a whole
- A local branch of a regional or national organisation/group which serves the needs of the residents of Wickhambrook.

2.2 Who is not eligible to apply

We will normally reject applications from:

- Projects which are the prime statutory responsibility of other government bodies who would normally be funded by a local or regional authority
- Projects which improve or benefit privately owned land or property
- Support for individuals or private business projects

- Applications by “for profit” commercial organisations
- From regional and national organisations unless it can be clearly demonstrated that the grant would be used specifically for the residents served by Wickhambrook Parish Council
- From organisations with political affiliations or those established for the purpose of forwarding a party-political agenda
- Applications from organisations or for purposes which parish councils are specifically excluded by law from supporting.

Priority will be given to those applications submitted early in the financial year (which runs from April to March), however the Parish Council reserves the right to delay considering applications, funding dependent, until the end of the financial year.

2.3 What can be funded

The project should be something which will:

- make the local community a better place to live, work and play
- provide a long lasting and sustainable benefit to our local area
- improve the social, environmental and /or economic profile of Wickhambrook.

Priority will be given to those applications which add value over applications for running costs.

2.4 The following are unlikely to be considered as a grant priority

Projects where there is a large shortfall in the funding required to complete the project or projects that simply replace existing facilities with no significant improvement.

3. Grant Application Process

Please complete and submit the Small Grant Application form to:

The Clerk, Mrs Hilary Workman

3 Farriers Close, Great Barton, Bury St Edmunds, IP31 2FP,

or e-mail to parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk

All questions on the application form should be fully answered and additional appropriate information, which supports an application, should be provided.

In addition to the application form organisations will be required to provide the following supporting information:

- a copy of their written constitution or details of their aims and purpose
- full details of the project or activity
- demonstration that the grant will be of benefit to the local community within the Parish
- the proportion or number of beneficiaries living in the electoral area
- demonstration of a clear need for the funding
- a copy of the previous years accounts or, for new initiatives, a detailed budget and business plan.

Please submit to the Clerk any expression of interest for a possible grant application exceeding £100 by 30 September of the financial year prior to the funds being required. This is so that budget provision can be considered. Submission of applications is required by 31 March of the financial year prior to the funds being required.

4. Awarding Grants

The Council will make the decision on which grants to award. All applicants will be contacted following the Council's decision.

The Council has a limited budget each year and guidance can be given to applicants as to how much money is likely to be available in a specific financial year.

Each application will be assessed on its own merits, with decisions based on the following criteria

- General eligibility
- Impact on key local need
- Community support
- Value for money
- Environmental impact
- Community involvement
- Feasibility
- Likely effectiveness.

Only one application for a grant will be considered from each organisation in any one financial year. Grants will not be made retrospectively.

Ongoing commitments to award grants or subsidies in future years will not be made. A fresh application will be required each year.

5. Conditions of Grant

The Council may make the award of any grant or subsidy subject to such additional conditions and requirements as it considers appropriate.

The Council reserves the right to refuse any grant application which it considers to be inappropriate or against the objectives of the Council.

Wickhambrook Parish Council support must be acknowledged as appropriate on all publicity and promotional material including posters, advertisements, press releases and leaflets.

Any grant must only be used for the purpose for which it was awarded unless the written approval of the Council has been obtained for a change in use of the grant monies, and that any unspent portion of the grant must be returned to the Council by the end of the financial year in which it was awarded.

Grants must not be distributed to any other organisation and payments will not be made to third parties.

An organisation should have a bank account in its own name with two authorised representatives required to sign each cheque.

The administration of and accounting for any grant shall be the responsibility of the recipient. All awards must be properly accounted for and evidence of expenditure should be supplied to the Council as requested.

The Council may make the award of any grant or subsidy as it considers appropriate in the event of any unforeseen urgent event.

Nothing contained herein shall prevent the Council from exercising, at any time, its existing duty or power in respect of providing financial assistance or grants to local or national organisations under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 137.