

13 Nov 21

Application to Newton St Cyres Parish Council for a Grant

Contribution to General Expenditure

Along with many other organisations, the Parish Hall has been much affected by the covid crisis that has continued far longer than we anticipated.

This led to a prolonged period of closure, but the Hall has been open with restrictions since the middle of May. There has been only a slow increase in the number of bookings, reaching 21 in September and 26 in November. These figures are though still less than half of the 49 and 57 bookings for these months in 2019, before the epidemic. Reduced bookings and more limited fund-raising activities have much reduced income in recent months, whilst major cost items, particularly for caretaking and insurance, have remained unaltered. Fortunately the Hall went into the crisis with good reserves and has received support from MDDC, but our reserves are now falling.

We have made a great effort to fulfil our objectives of **providing and maintaining a village hall for the inhabitants of the Parish of Newton St Cyres without distinction of political, religious or other opinions**. Although not fully reflected in the number of bookings, the reopening of the Hall has been much appreciated, as indicated by the high attendance at coffee mornings and the sell-out for the concert by Steve Knightley.

The Hall much appreciates the support given to us by the Parish Council, including the contribution to the cost of wi-fi and paying for mowing the Hall surrounds. **We wish to apply for a grant of the order of £500** to contribute to our general expenditure. This would make a great contribution, in view of our severely reduced hire income.

Thank you for considering this possibility,

Roger Wilkins
Chairman, Parish Hall Management Committee

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