

COVID-19- Funding Support for the Community Interim Report, 21 August 2020

This fund has been specifically created by The Friends of Fairford and Lechlade Communities (FFLC) to provide urgent financial support to the voluntary sector agencies and individuals requiring assistance during the Covid-19 crisis. This scheme has been funded by a very generous contribution from The Lakes By Yoo and the FFLC.

Following the initialisation of the fund distribution on 1st May 2020, to date we have received 34 applications from 33 individuals and organisations. The Community Support Action Group (CSAG) have continued to meet 3 times a week to review new applications, where appropriate, and are still meeting the designated targets for review and payment. Following on from our initial publicity, we are receiving a number of new applications through word of mouth, but will discuss the need for any further advertising in magazines, email mailshots etc. in the near future.

The current status of applications is:

- 23 of the applications have been approved for payment, or paid, totalling **£37,128**, all of which has been confirmed as received by applicants
- 4 applications are awaiting further information
- 6 applications have been rejected - 1 is out of area, 1 is an umbrella request for 4 organisations (who have been asked to re-submit separately), 2 applicants requested funding for expenditure not related to Covid-19, 1 asked to replace lost income and 1 was asking to set up a business
- 1 application has been withdrawn

The spread of applications, by district, has been split fairly evenly between Fairford (11), Lechlade (13) and the surrounding villages (13). The grants have included provision for hot meals and food boxes for local families, payment of monies for utilities, clothing and technical devices for schoolchildren and support for transport costs for vulnerable members of the community.

The CSAG have reviewed each application, together with supporting documentation, and in making their decision have taken into consideration individual personal circumstances, the accounts of organisations and other information available in the public domain about the organisation.

Following on from the previous report in June, amongst the applications for the Covid-19 fund we have received enquiries from individuals which more relate to our Family Funding Support Service. These we have assessed on similar criteria, with the funds to be taken from the FFLC Family Funding Support budget. This has reinforced our belief that our local area has a broad range of hidden needs, unrelated to Covid-19, which we hope to address going forward.

Further interim reports will be produced, until the end of the grant period.

On behalf of the Community Support Action Group

Please note: Data relating to the applications, including the log of applications, application forms and supporting documentation, is password-protected and held on the FFLC Google Drive; it is for reference purposes only. At the end of the grant period, all personalised data will be deleted and the remaining data on the log will be anonymised (internal reference id, district, amount paid and description of approval process)

