

Grant Applications 2023 – 2024 – UPDATED.

£1,850 is allocated for grants in the Budget for 2023 - 2024.

The following village organisations have applied for a grant:

Winniford River Action Group	£1,000
Chideock Village Hall	£925
St Giles Parochial Church Council	unspecified.

There has not been an application from the Chideock News.

At the Parish Council meeting held on 27 February it was agreed **IN PRINCIPLE** to make the following grants, totalling £2,625 which exceeds the budgeted amount of £1,835 by £790. It was **INFORMALLY AGREED** that any shortfall will be taken from the expected budget underspend and if necessary money will be vired from the General Contingency Reserve which stands at £4,735.00.

Winniford River Action Group	£1,000
Chideock Village Hall	£925
Chideock News	£300
Bridport Citizen's Advice Bureau	£400

Obviously if councillors agree to make a grant to St Giles Parochial Church Council the amount to be vired will increase.

The following grants were made in 2022 - 2023: -.

Bridport Citizen's Advice Bureau	£200.00
Chideock News.	£700.00
Chideock Village Hall Repair Grant	£700.00
Winniford River Action Group	£1,000.00
Total	£2600.00

Information from St Giles Parochial Church Council.

"On behalf of the PCC of St Giles Church, Chideock, I wish to apply for a grant in your next financial year, to be used for the updating of the heating in the church.

The present gas heating is old and inefficient as well as costly to run. We wish to update the heating in order to preserve the fabric of our Grade 1 listed building as well as keep our congregation warm. It is important that the fabric of the church is kept in good condition as our village church dates from the medieval times and needs to be looked after, as it is such a very important part of Chideock village history.

We have been investigating solely electric heating in line with the greener initiative proposed by the Government. We would like to install solar panels on the church roof on the South Porch behind the castellation so they wouldn't be seen from the road. This would ensure that the cost of the electricity would be affordable. Salisbury Cathedral have installed panels on their roof, so they are unlikely to refuse us.

We have had two quotations so far, for electric heating, but have not yet got any for the solar panels. Our heating committee is still investigating suitable firms.

Any contribution towards this would be very much appreciated.

Information from the Winniford River Action Group.

“We have some grant money in the bank that will support this work until June but beyond that we will require funding. In the longer term there is a CROWD initiative to set up a laboratory in the Bridport area to facilitate low-cost bacteriological testing. It is hoped that this will be operational in 2025 and, if so, would much reduce the funding required for future work. For this year though we estimate that a sum of £1000 (added to our current assets) would provide us with sufficient monies to purchase the required number of E. coli and Enterococci tests and, in addition, two sets of riverfly monitoring equipment.”

Information from the Village Hall Committee.

“On behalf of the Chideock Village hall committee I wish to apply for a maintenance grant in your next financial year to be used only for major repairs or improvements to the Chideock village hall. We have identified in a recent Health and Safety risk assessment that the fire escape hand rail at the rear of the hall is not fit for purpose and is potentially dangerous so needs changing. The current price to supply and fit is £925 including VAT as per attached spreadsheet. However, due to the age of the hall throughout the year other major work is often deemed necessary to be carried out for example as itemised on page 2 of the spreadsheet - these are lever taps for the ladies and gents toilets. The current taps are the standard design and are very difficult to use for older people with arthritic hands so will need to be changed to make them user friendly. Finally, some of the ceiling tiles (as spreadsheet 3) need to be replaced as they suffered when we had condensation in the loft area which has now been resolved.”