

## Application for a Grant for West Meon and Warnford Parish News

### Years Ending 31/3/23 and 31/3/24

The Parish News is still delivered free of charge 11 times a year to every house in Warnford and West Meon. It is provided by the Parochial Church Councils of both Churches as a service to the community, and includes articles and announcements by villagers, clubs and societies, as well as church news. The magazine is delivered by volunteers. It is now available online as well as being delivered.

Both PCCs consider that a paper copy is useful to many people who would never go online to browse for local information. It was considered more people would read something 'lying on the kitchen table' than would actively look online. It also gives advertisers greater exposure and therefore they have more incentive to place an advertisement. West Meon Parish Council was consulted and they were adamant that they wanted to keep a hard copy. With the departure of Mary Jepp we apologise that no consultation was published in the magazine itself. We could certainly do so this year.

The magazine is funded by advertising revenue, donations and grants from WMP and WMPC. We are extremely grateful for the support from the Parish Council and Parish Meeting. West Meon has given £500 this year to cover the last two years. The remaining shortfall will be met by the PCCs of both churches. Our printers have kept their costs the same. There is however still a likely shortfall this year of approximately £1800 between advertising revenue and production costs.

The role of advertising secretary has fallen on West Meon churchwarden Helena Gomm. She has worked hard to recruit advertisers. She is however unable to continue with her role as she will be travelling abroad for many months. We would be most grateful for someone to take her place.

Because the magazine is provided by the parish churches, the costs and revenue for the magazine are included in the West Meon Church accounts. The Church's year end is 31<sup>st</sup> December.

	2021	2022	2022	2022
		Budget	Actual to 31.8.22	Forecast
<b>Income</b>				
Advertising	4247	4280	3089	3471
Donations	92	278	12	90
Grants	200		500	500
<b>Total Income</b>	4539	4558	3601	4061
<b>Expenses</b>				
Printing & editorial	5748	5800	4273	5920
Distribution	41	26	19	19
<b>Total Expenses</b>	5789	5826	4292	5939
Shortfall	-1250	-1268	-691	-1878

The budget for 2023 has not yet been agreed, but the figures will be similar. In the light of increasing costs both PCCs will be looking closely at the continuing viability of offering this service. I would be happy to supply copies of the Church accounts on request.

Each issue of the magazine carries one page of information from the West Meon Parish Council and the Warnford Parish Meeting and another page of useful details for contacting local government officials as agreed with WMPC and WPM. These pages are an important means of communication which, as advertising, would cost in excess of £1,300 *pa*.

The PCCs are extremely grateful for the donations which Warnford Parish Meeting (and WMPC) has made in the past to keep the Parish News viable and is once again requesting a contribution to the costs of production. The churches are committed to providing this important community newsletter to all in the villages without charge. The continuing support of the Parish Meeting and others is necessary for this to be sustainable in the future.

We would be very grateful if the Parish Meeting would once again make a grant of £200 for each of 2022 and 2023 and very much hope that the Meeting will find this acceptable.

On behalf of Warnford and West Meon Parochial Church Councils

Buffy Morris, Treasurer, West Meon PCC.

17<sup>th</sup> October 2022