WARBLETON PARISH COUNCIL

GRANT APPLICATION

IMPORTANT
Please read guidance notes on page 3 before filling in this form

Name of Organisation……Warbleton Housing Association Ltd

Contact Person…Clyde Young, Treasurer & Vice Chair

Address…Osborne House, Rushlake Green, Heathfield, East Sussex. TN21 9QL

(Personal address: Pond Cottage, Rushlake Green, Heathfield. TN21 9QN)

Tel No/Email…07847.571202 / clydeyoung@btinternet.com

About Your Organisation
Briefly explain the aims and objectives of your organisation……..

At Osborne House, WHA Ltd provides senior living accommodation in single or double occupancy flats for local independent senior-aged persons. Accommodation, at a reduced market rent, is available to people of retirement age who have a connection with the local parish area and where there is a genuine financial need for such accommodation.
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1. Are you a registered charity?…No, but we are treated by HMRC as an Exempt Charity. For tax purposes therefore we are treated as a charity. We are registered as a Mutual Society under the Cooperative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 and Regulated by the Prudential Regulation Authority. Our accounts can be found on their Mutuals register and our Reg No. is 15901R

   If yes, charity no ……

2. Are you a commercial or non-profit making organisation?

   Commercial, but treated as a charity.

3. How many members do you have? 9 Committee Members (all volunteers) and 13 residents (11 single plus 1 married couple) in a total of 12 flats.

   How many are juniors? None.

   Age range: Committee Members aged 42 to 80 / Residents aged 66 to 93

   How many are seniors: All……

How many are disabled: None……

How many live in this Parish: All……

About the Grant

4. What is the grant to be used for (include a brief description of who/what will benefit from the grant……

To improve the garden, throughout the year, for the benefit of the residents.

We have recently purchased some garden furniture and have planted hundreds of bulbs and filled the flower beds with plants that will provide all year-round colour. To provide some privacy and more interest we are having a bespoke rustic trellis made which will be covered in roses, clematis, and honeysuckle. A new silver birch will provide some shade with wildflowers planted beneath it. In the spring, the flower borders will be extended with lavender and rose trees.

In addition to the above, we are looking towards including a pergola and we aim to replace the existing, deteriorated, garden shed.

Background Information: In 2019 WHA Ltd bought the freehold of the property from The Chichester Diocese and immediately drew up plans to refurbish the Residents Lounge (also known as The Community Room). The Committee then decided to embark upon a Garden Project with the aim of improving the garden for the benefit of the residents whether they wished to walk around the garden or simply to look out on to it from their own individual flats.
The original project was to involve considerable groundworks with an overall estimated cost of circa £10,000. As WHA Ltd had insufficient funds available to fund this project, it was decided to hold some fund-raising events and to ask local people for donations. This strategy got off to a good start with a "Wine-Tasting" evening which raised a good level of money plus personal donations. Unfortunately, all further events had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At the time, it was hoped that fund-raising events could be resumed sometime later in the year, but it then became apparent that this would not be possible. Rather than put the project on hold until 2021/22, the Committee decided to proceed with a less-ambitious and more pragmatic alternative at a much-reduced estimated outlay.
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5. Sum requested £ Any donation would be gratefully accepted.

   Total cost of project: £3,750.

6. What other sources of funding have you investigated and what amounts have been raised?

   £1,860: Personal donations from local residents (£1,560) plus Gift Aid (£360)
   £1,171: Net proceeds from a Fund-raising event in February 2020.
   £3,031: Total amount raised.

7. What would happen if this request for a grant is unsuccessful?

   We will have no option but to delay the implementation of some of the plans until such time as they can be afforded.

Additional Information

8. Please give any additional information which you feel to be relevant, including detauils of any funds received from public bodies during 2020, due to the CoVid-19 epidemic.

We have not received any funding from any public bodies due to the COVID-19 epidemic.

Whilst our accounts will give the appearance that we could afford to fund this project, I would like to point out that, in addition to the normal running and general maintenance costs, we have the following financial considerations to take into account:

- It is sound business practice for us to retain a "reserve" of 3 months expenditure (circa £12,000) in case of rental voids.
- The Chichester Diocese gave us a loan of £25,000 to enable us to help buy the freehold which is to be repaid over the next 5 years.
- With 10 residents aged 80 to 93 there is a strong likelihood that, in the near future, some of them will need to go into a care home and, at that time, we will be faced with refurbishing those flats at some considerable expense.

WHA Ltd has provided a valuable service to the community since its incorporation in 1965. Since buying the freehold from the Chichester Diocese in June 2019, the Committee has embarked upon a number of improvements to the building and to its working practices to ensure that they are appropriate for the 21st century.

Not only does Osborne House provide accommodation at reduced market rent to the independent elderly but The Community Room (now renamed The Residents Lounge) has been regularly used (and will continue to be used as soon as COVID-19 restrictions are removed) by members and groups of the village church and also by many local residents at the Coffee for Company mornings. It is also an ideal venue for an evening of Christmas carols and mulled wine each year, which is made available for the whole of the village.

Date.....28th October 2020.....

Signed .....M Young.....

Grant Application – Guidance Notes

1. The Parish Council, when considering grants, will give priority to those groups and organisations which can demonstrate that other fund-raising efforts have been made.
2. Grants will normally only be given towards specific items of expenditure – i.e. equipment or capital projects and will only be paid on production of a receipted invoice. They will normally not exceed 50% of the total cost of the project.
3. Requests for grants must be accompanied by either audited accounts, (in the case of a Registered Charity to include a copy of the Trustees Annual Report to the Charity

Commission), or a business plan for a new organisation or group. Please note: if accounts were submitted as part of a 2019/20 application, this will be regarded as sufficient

4. Grants will not normally be made available to commercial or national organisations, statutory bodies or groups from outside the parish unless there are identifiable benefits to residents of the parish.
5. If part or all of the grant is unspent, the Parish Council reserves the right to request that any unspent funds are repaid

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For office use

Date

Received.....Approved/Refused.....

FGP

Date.....Conditions.....

Accounts Received.....

Date Paid.....

Forms to be returned to (by email if possible):

Jackie Cottrell, Parish Clerk
Warbleton Parish Council
4 Kingsmarsh Cottages, Five Ashes, Mayfield, East Sussex, TN20 6JE

Email: 6

WPC/grantapplicationform/2020