



Re: Stancombe Quarry Community Fund

1 message

February 2024 at 23:06

Hi Bob,

Many thanks for your reply, via Lisa, about my email to the Parish Council regarding a letter of support for funding a portaloos at St Nicholas Church, Brockley. Thanks also for the advice and clarification.

St Nicholas Church is redundant and although owned by the Churches Conservation Trust it is at risk of closure and possible sale if we can not find a use for it in the community. The 'Friends' of the church are trying to keep the building alive as a community venue. The catchment area seems to be mainly in Backwell. Cleeve is much further away than Backwell and Brockley is a very small hamlet. I discussed this with Vickie Watts before Christmas and she did tell me that the fund was intended to benefit specific villages and that Brockley is outside the boundary. However she also mentioned that while the fund was set up to provide facilities and services for the benefit of communities within the parishes of Flax Bourton, Backwell and Barrow Gurney it does not specify that help can't be given if sufficient numbers of Backwell residents make use of a facility outside the immediate village boundary. It was suggested that a letter of support from the P.C. could go a long way to helping the application, but obviously there was no guarantee of success

This is the reason that I contacted Backwell P.C. rather than just making an application. A large percentage of our supporters and helpers are from Backwell and there have been a number of bookings by Backwell residents who use the building as a venue for niche activities such as choral groups. When we have the occasional church service – the building is no longer owned by the C of E - many in the congregation are also from Backwell. Due to GDPR I don't keep names and addresses and only have an email list, but from personal knowledge I know that we have a great deal of support and indeed the Church was part of the Backwell diocese and still makes use of St Andrews Choir, clergy and Church Office. When we hold a fund raising event, again most of the attendees seem to come from Backwell. I do appreciate that this is not a very scientific approach, but St Nicholas is so entwined with St Andrews and the residents of Backwell that I feel we could be described as honorary residents. St Andrews also administer and own our churchyard!

I have already approached the Airport but their PRO flatly rejected any thought of an application. I don't know why, as they did support us a few years ago, but it may be that the idea of a 'church' put them off.

We get no help from the local councils, other than a dedicated £200 contribution to grass cutting in the churchyard (that we don't own), and are operating this historic, partly mediaeval, church as a venue to keep it from closing and being sold off. We are slowly building funds towards buying a loo but have had to have the organ repaired urgently and also make a substantial payment for repairs to the church clock. If we were to put all our funds towards the loo project, and have an appeal, we might just manage to buy something, but it would clean us out for any other urgent matters or for putting on more fund raising events. I am very happy to include a copy of our rather depressing accounts with the application.

We desperately need an on site loo if we are to continue with fund raising activities and recently lost a mediaeval music booking as the organiser said that she didn't want her group to be forced to walk a ¼ mile and cross a muddy farmyard in the dark to use the nearest outhouse facility. Hence my request.

If we apply for help, the total cost of the project would be under £3000.00, including VAT but obviously any amount would be gratefully received. Our fund raising is ongoing.

It seems a long time since we were both on the Westleigh Board of Governors. I've not been back there for years. It used to be fun and very rewarding, especially cleaning out the gutters with Mrs B having kittens that I would fall off the roof!

Best regards,



I have been asked to send you this email. Please see below:

'My Name is Cllr Bob Taylor and have been the representative for Backwell PC on the Tarmac Community fund for over 10 years and suggest you put in your application to the fund and let them decide if you are eligible.

It would help if you can prove Backwell residents are among the beneficiaries, also what support you have received from your local council and also how much funding they are giving including what funds you have raised yourselves towards the project.

But I need to point it out to you that the rules are very specific as they come under a 106 agreement with Tarmac and NSC who actually hold the funds.

The rules are quite clear that

.....to provide facilities and services for the benefit of communities "WITHIN" the parishes of Flax Bourton, Backwell and Barrow Gurney.

The way the system works is each of the 3 councils have 2 votes each and it's down to each council representative to sell that application to the rest of the trustees including several Tarmac management people who then vote on it and indicate what funds can be allocated bearing in mind there is an average at least 7/8 applications

In other words it will be down to me or my replacement to speak about the application and sell its merits within the Community Fund rules.

I hope this helps explain the position but should you need further advice please don't hesitate to contact me

Cllr Bob Taylor'

Kind regards





Stancombe Quarry Community Fund

16 February 2024 at 11:46

Dear Ross,
I have been asked to send you this email. Please see below:

'My Name is Cllr Bob Taylor and have been the representative for Backwell PC on the Tarmac Community fund for over 10 years and suggest you put in your application to the fund and let them decide if you are eligible.

It would help if you can prove Backwell residents are among the beneficiaries, also what support you have received from your local council and also how much funding they are giving including what funds you have raised yourselves towards the project.

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In other words it will be down to me or my replacement to speak about the application and sell its merits within the Community Fund rules.

I hope this helps explain the position but should you need further advice please don't hesitate to contact me

Cllr Bob Taylor'

Kind regards

 council





Stancombe Quarry Community Fund

at 15:14

[Redacted]

Hi Lisa Perhaps you may like to pass this email onto Ross regarding his request for support for funding for a Toilet facility..

My Name is Cllr Bob Taylor and have been the representative for Backwell PC on the Tarmac Community fund for over 10 years and suggest you put in your application to the fund and let them decide if you are eligible.

It would help if you can prove Backwell residents are among the beneficiaries,also what support you have received from your local council and also how much funding they are giving including what funds you have raised yourself towards the project.

But I need to point it out to you that the rules are very specific as they come under a 106 agreement with Tarmac and NSC who actually hold the funds.

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In other words it will be down to me or my replacement to speak about the application and sell its merits within the Community Fund rules.

I hope this helps explain the position but should you need further advice please dont hesitate to contact me
Cllr Bob Taylor .

[Quoted text hidden]





Backwell Parish Clerk <clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk>

Stancombe Quarry Community Fund

Backwell Parish Clerk <clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk>

15 February 2024 at 13:53

[REDACTED]

Dear both,
Please find below original email from [REDACTED] which I'm not sure if you have seen already.
Kind regards
Lisa

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ross Floyd** <rossfloyd@farvis.co.uk>

Date: Wed, 10 Jan 2024 at 12:31

Subject: Stancombe Quarry Community Fund

[REDACTED]

[Quoted text hidden]

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses of the members of the committee. The names are listed in alphabetical order, and the addresses are listed below each name. The list includes the names of the members of the committee, their titles, and their addresses. The list is as follows:





Support for funding for toilets at Brockley Church

1 message

1:15

Dear Cllrs

At the Full Council meeting on 1st February this request was discussed under agenda item 7. Communications from the Chair and minute number 008 from that meeting states:

"Brockley Church were seeking support for a grant application for temporary toilet facilities and a discussion arose as to the best source of funds for such a project."

Marie contacted the applicant and let them know that "The Council recommends that Bristol Airport is approached for funding towards the portaloo."

The applicant has responded as follows:

" Many thanks for your response to our enquiry.

I think perplexed rather than disappointed is the best way to describe my reaction.

We are not asking the Council for funding, merely for a letter of support. This was suggested by the coordinator of the Quarry Fund to add some weight to an application for help financing the portaloo.

As I explained in my original letter, a large number of our users and supporters come from Backwell and will thus benefit directly from the project. It seems rather strange that the Council doesn't feel able to pen a few words in support.

As funding the loo is an ongoing saga in our Newsletter, I would be really grateful if you could let me have the reasoning behind the decision not to support us so that I can at least explain to our supporters who live in Backwell.

The Airport are not remotely interested in helping with this project - I have no idea why.

Kind regards"

Please let me know if you wish me to add this to the agenda for the meeting on 7th March?

Kind regards
Lisa





RE: Stancombe Quarry Fund

3 messages

9 February 2024 at 14:56

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Backwell Parish Council discussed your email re applying for Stancombe Quarry Fund. The Council recommends that Bristol Airport is approached for funding towards the portaloo. [REDACTED]

I hope this is not too disappointing.

With kind regards,

Marie Horton

Backwell Parish Council

[REDACTED] 10 February 2024 at 11:51

Hi Marie,

Many thanks for your response to our enquiry.

I think perplexed rather than disappointed is the best way to describe my reaction.

We are not asking the Council for funding, merely for a letter of support. This was suggested by the coordinator of the Quarry Fund to add some weight to an application for help financing the portaloo.

As I explained in my original letter, a large number of our users and supporters come from Backwell and will thus benefit directly from the project. It seems rather strange that the Council doesn't feel able to pen a few words in support.

As funding the loo is an ongoing saga in our Newsletter, I would be really grateful if you could let me have the reasoning behind the decision not to support us so that I can at least explain to our supporters who live in Backwell.

The Airport are not remotely interested in helping with this project - I have no idea why.

Kind regards,

Ross

[Redacted]
Chair of Friends of Brockley Church.

[Redacted]
[Quoted text hidden]

[Redacted] ry 2024 at 13:11

Good morning,

Please can the Ross's email be circulated to the PCC?

As the airport are not interested in funding the portaloo at Brockley Church, can this request be an agenda item on the next PC meeting?

Many thanks,

Marie

[Redacted]
[Quoted text hidden]

[Redacted]

Hi Lisa,

Please can you check that Cllr Horton has received the information as I've not heard from her and we are about to plan our fundraising events for '24. A decent loo is a fundamental part of the project, especially for the ladies !

Many tx,

[Quoted text hidden]

9 February 2024 at 09:44

Thank you Marie.

I can see from the minutes of the meeting on 1st February:

" Brockley Church were seeking support for a grant application for a temporary toilet facilities and a discussion arose as to the best source of funds for such a project"

Please could you contact Ross and update him. I believe that there was a suggestion that he should contact the airport for funding instead of Stancombe?

He has chased again this morning.

Many thanks

Lisa

[Quoted text hidden]

9 February 2024 at 14:56

Hi

Many thanks.

I have just emailed Ross.

Kind regards,

[Quoted text hidden]

Backwell Parish Clerk <clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk>

13 February 2024 at 09:58

Thank you Marie.

That is great.

Kind regards

Lisa

[Quoted text hidden]

Chair – Friends of Brockley Church.

Backwell Parish Clerk <clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk>

1 February 2024 at 12:22

Dear Marie,
Please see email from Ross Floyd below.
Were you able to contact him as it sounds like he has had some problems with his emails?
I will let him know that you will be trying to contact him again.
Kind regards
Lisa
[Quoted text hidden]

Backwell Parish Clerk <clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk>

1 February 2024 at 12:27

Dear [redacted]
Thank you for your email.
Cllr Marie Horton is the Backwell Parish Council representative on Stancombe Quarry, so I have asked her to make contact with you to discuss.
Kind regards
Lisa Galpin
Office Assistant
Backwell Parish Council
[Quoted text hidden]

To: Backwell Parish Clerk <clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk>

February 2024 at 14:10

Hi [redacted]

I sent a response to Sarah on January 11 suggesting this is discussed at the PCC meeting.

In principle, I have no objection, but there may be issues and concerns I am unaware of.

With kind regards,

Marie

[Quoted text hidden]

To: Backwell Parish Clerk <clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk>

7 February 2024 at 19:24



Backwell Parish Clerk <clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk>

FW: Stancombe Quarry Community Fund

8 messages

29 January 2024 at 19:26

To: clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk

Hello,

Please can you confirm receipt of my email of 10/1/24 ? I had a batch of emails go astray and this might have been one of them.

I do appreciate that the content will need to be discussed at your next meeting before a decision is made, but don't want the message to have been lost in the ether !

Many thanks,

Sent: 10 January 2024 12:31

To: 'clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk'

The Clerk to Backwell Parish Council,

Backwell.

By Email.

10th January 2024



~~_____~~

~~_____~~

~~_____~~



Stancombe Quarry Community Fund

3 messages

10 January 2024 at 12:31

[REDACTED]

The Clerk to Backwell Parish Council,
Backwell.
By Email.

10th January 2024

Good morning Backwell P. C.,

I write to request your assistance in making a grant application to the Stancombe Quarry Community Fund. This supports community projects in villages neighbouring Flax Bourton. The Friends of St Nicholas Church in Brockley are raising money to acquire an accessible 'portaloo', either static or possibly trailer mounted. The Church is just outside the catchment area for a grant application but I am told that this could be considered if there is support from the Parish Council, especially as many of those involved with the project live in Backwell.

As you probably know, St Nicholas Church is part of St Andrew's parish but is now under the care of the Churches Conservation Trust as a community resource, but 'redundant' in that it is no longer in mainstream use as a religious building although still consecrated. It is partly medieval and can be used once or twice each year for services. It was once part of the Smyth Piggot Estate which included land from Bristol to Weston and thus very much part of the Backwell area.

The church has a large following of Backwell residents and the majority of our supporters and visitors live in the village. Rather than let the Church fall into disuse and be closed, we are promoting the building as a niche venue for music and cultural activities and this

is well supported by local people, again mostly from Backwell. The 'Friends' are a local group, operating with the agreement of, and overseen by, the CCT who are a registered charity and own the building. We fundraise to improve facilities while maintaining the ambience and appeal and regularly hold meetings, talks and musical events which have a good attendance. The church is also open for small community activities on a 'contribution to costs' basis. We have a kitchenette that was part funded by Bristol Airport and are becoming known for excellent catering at events. [REDACTED]

However, what goes in must eventually come out and we don't have an onsite loo! The only available facility is a long walk across a muddy farmyard with many potholes and deep puddles. This isn't good in Summer, but on a Winter's night it is a deal breaker for events and a major challenge for our older visitors and anyone disabled. We are thus looking to remedy the situation. An on site facility will also be a huge benefit to local walkers and casual visitors to the church as the current farm outbuilding has to be kept locked unless in use.

As the building is grade 1 listed there is no realistic chance of installing a loo on site without seriously altering both the layout and appearance of the church and disabled access would require digging up part of the graveyard. Clearly this can't be done, but we do have plenty of space to have a portable disabled toilet unit that can be brought in for events and removed for local storage afterwards. We usually hold one or two events each month in summer with additional 'group' activities and larger community meetings in winter. Hiring a unit would not be economic due to delivery charges and long term hire is too costly but an outright grant aided purchase would only involve ongoing service costs and occasional maintenance by the Friends and this is financially sustainable.

A portable 'accessible' loo could easily be positioned within the church grounds but outside the actual churchyard – we don't think having a working loo in a graveyard is very respectful! Emptying and service on an ad hoc basis is not expensive and can be easily met by revenue from events. The 'Friends' have space to store and facilities to transport a portable unit when not needed and can deliver and remove it by trailer as necessary at no cost. Quotes received for purchase are about £2500 for a fully accessible unit and rather more if it were trailer mounted, although that could be done at a later date.

Would the Council be prepared to support an application to Stancombe Quarry Community Fund to assist with the purchase? It would be a great benefit to Backwell residents and also the wider community.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

Chair – Friends of St Nicholas Church, Brockley.

[REDACTED]

Cfi:

Stancombe Quarry Community Fund.

Churches Conservation Trust

Jen Thyer – FOBC Secretary.

From: Stancombe Fund [mailto:stancombequarryfund@gmail.com]

Sent: 18 December 2023 06:58

Subject: Re: Community Grants

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks so much for your email enquiring about the Stancombe Community Fund. You are correct that the fund is there for the benefit of the Backwell community.

[REDACTED]

Do you think that you would be able to demonstrate that the Backwell parishioners are benefitting from the facility? I don't know the area but am wondering, if there is no other facility offering what Brockley Church is, then that may help your cause.

I wonder if you would like to give me a call on 07971 516916 so that we can discuss the project further? I work odd hours but the phone is always on so please do feel free to call.

Kind regards

Vickie Watts

Administrator

Stancombe Quarry Community Fund

On Tue, 12 Dec 2023 at 21:07, Ross Floyd [REDACTED]

Good Evening,

I am Chair of a small group who are repurposing a redundant church into a community facility and centre for niche social activities, mental health groups and performing arts. We are in Brockley, just a stone's throw from the Backwell parish boundary with a large membership from Backwell. We desperately need funding for a portable disabled toilet as we don't have a loo on site and a lot of our members and visitors can't visit.

Being just over the boundary line I don't want to waste everyone's time by making an application that has no chance of proceeding, but if you could consider us then I will go ahead and fill in the paperwork.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]
Chair – Friends of Brockley Church.

[REDACTED] 11 January 2024 at 12:25

Dear Marie

As our representative on Stancombe Quarry Liaison, please could you give the below some consideration and let me have your response by next Tuesday?

Kind regards

Sarah

[Quoted text hidden]

[REDACTED] 11 January 2024 at 12:49

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for your email. In principle I am able to support this bid.

It would be useful to discuss this with the full committee at the PC meeting as there may be issues and concerns I am unaware of.

With kind regards,

Marie

[Quoted text hidden]