



## THE BLETCHINGTON CHARITY

### GRANT APPLICATIONS

### GENERAL INFORMATION

#### Background and purposes

The Bletchington Charity is a registered charity (registration number 201584) founded in the seventeenth century under the Will of Leonard Poure. It is now governed by a Scheme of the Charity Commission dated 17 December 2013.

The charity holds land and other investments which produce an income which must be used to relieve need, hardship or distress in the parish of Bletchington, Oxfordshire. The trustee of the charity is the Bletchington Community Foundation (registered charity number 1154891) and the grant making activities are administered by a committee.

#### Who can apply for a grant?

1. You can apply for a grant if you are a resident or run an organisation in the Parish of Bletchington and can demonstrate that you are eligible under the Charity's conditions listed below.
2. The trustees only make grants for a specific project that has demonstrated a charitable purpose which meets the purposes of the charity. In case of grants to organisations the trustees will ask the organisation to report on how the grant was used.
3. The trustees are not able to commit to long term projects or contribute to general administrative expenses such as salaries.
4. The trustees prefer a specific purpose for grants, supported by estimates or quotations where possible.

#### How much can I apply for ?

5. Individuals can be considered for grants up to a value of £500 in exceptional cases.
6. Organisations may apply for grants exceeding this figure.
7. It is important to note, however, that the Charity funds are limited. A grant request may be refused or the amount reduced if the budget is exceeded.

#### When can I apply?

The Charity Committee sits at least 4 times a year but will also consider urgent applications if deemed necessary. Grants can be awarded retrospectively if approved.

Below are some examples of situations where grants might be awarded.

1. Grants of money to or for the benefit of persons in need, hardship or distress in the form of –
  - (a) weekly allowances for a limited period to meet a particular need, or
  - (b) special payments to relieve sudden distress, sickness, or infirmity, or
  - (c) payment of travelling expenses for such persons entering or leaving hospitals, convalescent homes or similar institutions, children's homes, and prisons, or for relatives visiting such persons in such institutions particularly where more frequent visits are desirable than payments from public funds will allow, or
  - (d) subscriptions to secure the admission of such persons (or to benefit such persons when admitted) to homes or hostels for the residence or care of old, infirm or homeless persons
  - (e) payments to assist in meeting energy and water bills
  - (f) payments to assist in meeting the costs of tuition and living expenses at universities and colleges of higher education.
  
2. The provision of items for such persons which may well be –
  - (a) gifts of furniture, bedding, clothing, food, fuel, heating appliances, or
  - (b) more rarely, expensive equipment such as television sets, computers and washing machines
  
3. The provision of facilities for such persons as –
  - (a) the supply of tools or books or payment of fees for instruction, examination, or other expenses connected with vocational training, language, literacy, numerical or technical skills, or travelling expenses so as to help them to earn a living,
  - (b) arrangements for a recuperative holiday or change of environment
  - (c) equipment and funds for recreational pursuits or training intended to bring the quality of life of the beneficiaries to a reasonable standard.

For the old, sick, convalescent, disabled or infirm, whether mentally or physically –

4. The provision of items either outright or, if expensive and appropriate on loan, such as
  - (a) special food, medical or other aids, nursing necessities or comforts;
  - (b) television or radio sets or computer equipment for the lonely, bedridden or housebound;
  - (c) television licenses;
  - (d) washing machines;
  - (e) medical equipment (such as wheelchairs).
  
5. The provision of services such as bathing, escort services, exchange of library books, foot care, gardening, hair washing, shaving, help in the home, essential house decorating, insulation and repairs, clothes washing, child-minding, meals on wheels, nursing aid, outings and entertainments, physiotherapy, reading, shopping, travelling companions.
  
6. The payment towards the cost of adaptations to the homes of people with disabilities.
  
7. The provision of facilities such as transportation, or arrangements for a period of rest, recuperation or change of environment in or through any convalescent home or other institution or organisation or for temporary relief for those having care of the person concerned or arrangements for close relatives to visit or care for patients.