



Datchworth Parish Council Briefing Note

Agenda item heading Future Funding for Strength and Balance Classes	Date Committee/ Working Group Plough Car Park WG
<p>Why</p> <p>In April 2023 we received £1,992.00 from Herts Sports Partnership to continue funding the Strength and Balance classes. The cost of running the classes is £61.50 per session for the tutor, including travel costs, and £10.50 for the hall hire.</p> <p>We currently have funds in place to support classes up to 2nd Feb, after that no further budget exists.</p> <p>An application has been made for a Community Grant from East Herts Council, for £2,900. The closing date for this funding round is 22 Jan, but no date has been given for outcomes.</p> <p>I had understood that a sum of money would be available from Elderberries that would tide us over until grant funding was received (Minutes of meeting on 28/11/23 PCM 11/06h) but it appears that this is not the case.</p> <p>Therefore, as things stand the class would have to finish on 2 Feb, and would not re-start until further funding could be obtained. In order to maintain the benefits to the participants the class should really be ongoing and a break would be less than ideal.</p>	
<p>How (including Time and Money)</p> <p>It is proposed that the Parish Council provide £504 from current reserves to fund 7 sessions of the class between 9 Feb- Friday 22 March (ie up to the Easter holidays).</p> <p>If permissible to do so, the money could eventually be replaced from any incoming grant funding for the classes.</p> <p>If additional funding is not received by the end of March we will have to consider terminating this initiative, unless alternative solutions can be found. Funding the class until then will give time to consider alternatives and also put the class on notice of potential termination.</p>	

One option for additional funding is to apply to the Parish Magazine, but any grant is likely to be very small, and not be available until late April/May.

Another option would be to make a charge for the class. Indeed, even if funding is available, making a small charge would effectively enable the grant to last longer.

Although the class is at maximum capacity, this is only 15 people in total. To fully fund the class at today's costs would be £4.80 pp

Looking even further to the future, we will need to consider whether we can secure grant funding year-on-year to continue supporting this class.

When

The interim funding of £504 is required with immediate effect.