Dorothy House Hospice Grant Request towards an Armed Forces Day Event at Dorothy House, Winsley, from 2-5pm on Saturday 20th June

The amount of grant requested

We are seeking a grant of £500 to support the costs of the event but would thoroughly appreciate any grant value that the council could provide.

The likely total costs of the event are not expected to exceed £600.

If funds are needed in addition to the £500 requested we would need to use charitable funds. This is not our preference given that these funds are primarily for patient facing care.

The £500 would be used towards overall costs but in particular the costs of advertising materials for the event (flyers/posters/banners) and to pay for the Military Wives Choir to perform for attendees (a mix of patients, their family members, workforce (staff and volunteers) and of course Winsley and surrounding community visitors of which we hope there are many. Any additional funding beyond that will pay for refreshments and any ceremonial requirements related to the presentation of Veterans Badges by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant.

Details of the project or activity for which funding is requested

We've had advice from the son of a Winsley resident on making the event a success through his Defence experience related to Armed Forces Day celebrations. He suggested that we contact Winsley Parish Council to ask if it would kindly consider providing contributory funding towards an Armed Forces Day event that we are planning to hold in the grounds of Dorothy House Hospice, Winsley.
Our mission is to ensure that everyone has access to outstanding palliative and end of life care which includes veterans, serving personnel, and their families, many of whom live or are based in the area we cover; the afternoon will be an opportunity to promote Dorothy House's services and strengthen our links with these community groups.

The event will include two performances from the Warminster Military Wives Choir which we are delighted about (one of the choir is a nurse on our Inpatient Unit). In addition to the community learning more about Dorothy House, it is hoped there will be representation from other charities and organisations that support Veterans and the Armed Forces as well as children's entertainment and refreshments so plenty for those attending to enjoy the afternoon in a relaxed environment that serves our community well. Additionally, we plan to present Veterans badges to a small number of our workforce (who have served and yet to receive a badge) and potentially a community member or patient if that is possible too.

Any financial support we receive will go directly towards the costs of the event, helping us maximise the benefit to those attending. We would, of course, acknowledge the support of the Council and welcome anyone from Winsley, and surrounding areas, who wishes to attend and join the celebrations. The event will be a free ticketed event to manage numbers attending and will be promoted on social media.

Thank you to the Parish Council for taking the time to consider this request. Any funding it can offer would be genuinely appreciated and will make a positive difference to those who have given so much service to our country and communities.

Demonstration that the grant will be of benefit to the Parish or residents of the Parish
This event provides a great opportunity for community engagement and is open to anyone across Winsley and the surrounding areas to join and show thanks to those that are serving or have served in the forces, whilst providing an opportunity to learn more about the hospice. If there is a community member that we can present a Veterans Badge to then this provides a unique opportunity for this (we are currently working with the Lord Lieutenants office regarding an appropriate uniformed official to present the badges).

The proportion or approximate number of beneficiaries living in the electoral area
We understand the Winsley Parish population to be in the region of 1900 with the broader Winsley and Westwood area to be in the region of 4900. As a hospice we cover a much wider area of course across Bath, North East Somerset and parts of Wiltshire with a population in the region of 593,000.

Demonstration of a clear need for the funding, including details of any additional sources of income that will be used to meet the costs of the project or activity
The hospice's income was £18.4 million and came from NHS and education contracts, Dorothy House fundraising, our retail shops and legacies left in wills. 20% of our overall expenditure is funded by NHS contracts. For every £1 from the NHS, we need to raise around another £4 to ensure our services can continue. The average cost per patient/family member is £2,846. It costs almost £19m per year to run the entire Hospice. Legacies left in Wills paid for 29% of our care and clinical education. Our shops' income was £5.8 million and Fundraising (excluding Legacies) brought in £4.2 million. With our clear focus on clinical and medical care we strive to seek support from grants and donations for events and activities that sit outwith direct care services hence our request to the Parish Council.

The group's written constitution or details of the group's aims & purpose
The working group bringing the Armed Forces Day event together are a dedicated small group that supports the hospice in working with Veterans in understanding their palliative and end of life needs and what is important to them and their families at a critical point on their lives. The Terms of Reference for this group are attached for your information.

Evidence that the group holds a bank account requiring at least two signatures and a copy of the previous year's accounts or, for new initiatives, a budget & business plan

Please see our accounts through this link: Our reports and newsletters - Dorothy House