



ECCLESFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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Ecclesfield Parish Council Covid Support and Recovery Fund Policies and Procedures

Members will obviously be aware of the general devastating effect that Covid-19 has had on the economy and well-being of the whole country.

These unprecedented times have had the same negative affect on the residents, businesses, and community organisations with the Ecclesfield Parish area.

Ecclesfield Parish Council has been unable to deliver its normal range of services and this has had a consequent effect on the budget and spending profile.

The Council has a range of statutory powers to affect the economic, social, and environmental well-being of a variety of organisations and constituted groups with the area.

The times we are living in are described as unprecedented and Councillors, officers and the wider community have expressed a strong wish that the Council should rise to these challenging times. Therefore, having regard to a) the effect of Covid-19 on the well-being of the area, b) the serious effect of Covid-19 suffered by local organisations and groups, and c) the ability of the Council to support such organisations and groups, and d) the Council's credit balances the Council agreed in principle at 21st January at its meeting to establish a fund to support groups and organisations most adversely affected by COVID-19. The aim of the paper is to set out on how this Fund might operate in practice as the basis for further discussion and consideration.

- The Parish Council creates a fund to be known as 'The Ecclesfield Parish Council Covid Support and Recovery Fund'.
- £25,000 is allocated to the fund in the financial year 2021/22.
- The Council reserves the right to increase the value of the fund up to £50,000 after taking account of the needs of the other aspects of the Council's commitments and aspirations for the financial years 2019/20 and 21/22.
- The fund will be operated in accordance with the Council's statutory powers.
- Applications will be made in accordance with the Council's established and approved (small) grants making policies and procedures, including monitoring.
- Applications will be made using the Council's agreed small grant application and monitoring forms. These forms application, however, will be amended

slightly to reflect the contents of this paper e.g. a slightly amended title application form and to reflect the eligibility criteria set out below.

- Applications for support from the fund are sought by notifying local organisations and groups directly along with placing an advertisement in the local press.
- The fund will can provide grants of between £5,000 and £10,000 for twelve months.
- It will support groups and organisation in the Parish to 'Continue to deliver activity, supporting existing users and services, responding to the immediate crisis, or undertaking recovery or resilience activity in response to COVID-19 in Ecclesfield Parish'.
- This will be in addition to the Council's main grant programme, which provides small grants and which groups and organisations affected by COVID-19 can also apply to.

Adopted by Council February 2021

Review date February 2022