



## **GRANT AWARDING POLICY**

### **Introduction**

The Parish Council welcomes and values the work of local voluntary groups and organisations. The Council has a policy for making grants to groups and organisations which contribute to the welfare of the community by improving or supporting facilities and/or activities. Applicants must be able to demonstrate a clear need for financial support.

### **Guidelines**

An overall limit for the annual provision of grant aid will be determined as part of the Council's budget setting process and approved in January of each year.

Applicants will be able to apply for a grant between 1 March and 30 April each year.

Applicants must complete a grant application form which will include details of the need for the funds and the number of residents expected to benefit. The completed form will be returned to the Clerk of the Council by the end of April each year for decision at the following June Parish Council Meeting. Grants awarded will be paid by end June.

If the application is for a particular project or activity, any Grant awarded will generally not exceed 50% of the cost of the project or activity.

As a condition of receiving a grant, recipients will be required to acknowledge the Council's support in any publicity material.

The Council will not normally support commercial organisations, major charities, bodies considered to be self-funded or provided for by other authorities.

In exceptional circumstances, a grant may be awarded outside the grant timetable at the discretion of the Council. The Council reserves the right to offer an alternate amount to that originally requested or to refuse any grant application.



## **APPLICATION FOR GRANT ASSISTANCE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL - 2018/19**

### **Full Name of Club / Organisation**

Action Against Abuse

### **Details of your Club / Organisation's requirements for financial assistance. If this is in connection with a specific project please provide full details, including any estimates you have received**

AAA is a support service which helps people and their families who are experiencing Domestic Abuse (DA), obtain protective orders at court such as Non Molestation Orders (NMO). These Orders can stop an abusive partner from contacting or harassing you, or stop them from coming to your home, work and perhaps a child's school. A breach of a NMO by a perpetrator constitutes an arrestable offence and if found guilty could lead to 5 years in prison. In most cases, a NMO is an extremely effective deterrent to further offending.

For maximum protection a NMO must be put in place as soon as possible. The victim's risk level will remain high until an NMO is in place which is why AAA ensure that court applications are made within a matter of days.

So why aren't they being used more often? The problem is that individuals have relied on solicitors to apply for NMOs. Solicitors are prohibitively expensive to most clients, but even if clients can find a legal aid solicitor with capacity, the whole process can be incredibly slow, with legal aid often taking up to 6 weeks to be approved, therefore meaning applications can take 2 months to get to court meaning a significant risk of harm or homicide to the victim.

We will support in the preparation of an individualised application (including a Witness Statement), assist in all the paperwork and attend court with the client, sitting next to them in court, advising, supporting and taking notes. We have extensive experience in making these applications to court and clients will be expertly supported throughout. Our CEO has made over 400 successful applications for NMOs over the last 5 years with 100% success rate.

Stopping the perpetrator from coming to the home, work place and school means that the abused family can stay and contribute to their community rather than flee to a refuge often miles away. They can keep their employment, children can stay in their schools and

families can be near their support network. It is the perpetrator who has to change their behaviour. These orders can stop repeat offending and save lives.

Our caseworkers and support workers are volunteers. The volunteers write court applications, risk assess victims of domestic abuse, safety plan accordingly and accompany victims to court, acting as McKenzie Friends. The volunteers ensure that adequate safeguarding is in place in court, such as separate entrances, exits and waiting rooms and screens up in the court room so they do not have to see their perpetrator. The grant will contribute to expenses for volunteers to get to court, paying for petrol, parking or train fares. It will also be used to get victims to court, often it is not safe for a victim of domestic abuse to travel by train, so we do need some funds for taxis. Often, when victims of domestic abuse apply for a Non Molestation Order, it means they are being stalked, with their perpetrator turning up at their home or workplace, so it is not safe to travel by public transport. This can be a barrier to them getting the life saving protective injunctions.

This grant would pay for 16 victims to be supported to get Non Molestation Orders to protect their families, each court appointment costs us £28.

**£ 488.00**

**Amount of Grant you wish to be considered for or leave blank if it is a general application**

**Reasons why your Club / Organisation cannot meet the expenses as detailed above**

Please see budget below:

	<b>AAA- BUDGET FOR PROJECT SUPPORT NMO</b>	
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>REASON</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Donations	Office space 1 day p/w, laptops and printer, email domain costs, PO Box costs	£3,250.00
Lionessess	Donation	£229.00
Bank Compensation	For admin errors on their part	£250.00
Loans	Given by trustees to be paid back once organisation has achieved this sum in unrestricted reserves	£2,200.00
Grant	Crowborough Town Council - to be paid 30/04/25	£1,600.00
Grant	Bexhill Town Council	£496.25
Sponsored Walk	Fundraiser	£1865.00

Quiz night & Auction	Fundraiser	£3,610.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>£13,500.25</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Project Manager annual salary	7 hours p/w plus ERNIC and overheads at 15%	£7,607.14
Website hosting		£205.00
Employer's Liability Insurance		£281.12
Microsoft fee		£104.99
Oasis Database	Set up and annual subscription to DA data management system	£1,752.00
Volunteer & staff expenses	Travel to court, client meetings etc	1048.00
Phone contracts and Sim cards	Staff phone plus one volunteer phone	£400.00
Office sundries	Stationery, postage etc	£450.00
Quiz night & Auction	Cost - food / prizes	£2,100.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>£13,948.25</b>
<b>SHORTFALL</b>		<b>£448.00</b>

We are a new charity, having registered in Sept '24, but are already under huge demand. We need to grow this charity to meet increasing demand.

**Any other relevant information in support of your Club / Organisation's application (including number of residents expected to benefit)**

1 in 4 women will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime. AAA will support anyone suffering from domestic abuse in the parish of East Dean and Friston who is suffering from domestic abuse. There is no service like this in the whole of Sussex.

Every week 2.5 women are killed, 3 commit suicide and every day 30 women try to kill themselves as a result of domestic abuse.

AAA do not means test, we will help anyone suffering domestic abuse within 48 hours of them being referred to us at no cost to themselves. This service through a solicitor would cost between £3000 and £10000. Without this service, victims often have to flee to refuges or emergency accommodation, which is likely to be out of county for safeguarding reasons, meaning families have to leave their communities and support networks in order to ensure their safety. These orders have exclusion zones meaning that perpetrators are not allowed within 100m of the family home, workplace or school. Without these orders, children are often forced to move schools, leaving their friends and impacting severely on their education.

These orders dramatically reduce re-offending rates of domestic abuse as a breach can lead to a criminal record and up to five years in prison.

**If successful in your application how would you like the Grant monies paid, by:-**

**a) cheque payable to:**

**b) **BACS** to:**     **sort code:** 54-21-25     **a/c no.** 31162800  
    . Name of account : Action Against Abuse

Elaine Adkins

**Your Name**

CEO

**Position in Club / Organisation**

PO Box 734  
Kent  
TN9 9WN

## Address for Communications

elaine@actionagainstabuse.org.uk

**Phone**

07887 722034

**Email**



**Signed**

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**East Dean & Friston Parish Council considers all grant applications at its June meeting each year, the payment of any grant being made by the end of June. Applications must be received by the Clerk to the Council by the end of April. Applications received after this date cannot be considered until the June of the following year.**

**Please return to: The Clerk to East Dean & Friston Parish Council, The Old Cottage, Lewes Road, Laughton BN8 6BQ**

**e-mail: [clerkedfpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkedfpc@gmail.com)**

**tel: 01323 811870**