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Melksham Town Council

Town Hall, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 6ES
Tel: (01225) 704187

Town Clerk Tracy Predeth BA(Hons) MPA, FLSCC

To: Councillor A Westbrook (Chair)
Councillor J Oatley (Vice-Chair)
Councillor P Aves
Councillor G Cooke
Councillor G Ellis
Councillor J Hubbard
Councillor T Price
Councillor J Westbrook

17 February 2025

Dear Councillors

Please find attached additional item for the **Asset Management and Amenities Committee** meeting of the Melksham Town Council.

Yours sincerely

Mrs T Predeth BA(Hons), MPA, FSLCC
Town Clerk and RFO

Melksham Town Council
Asset Management and Amenities Committee

Monday 24 February 2025
At 7.00 pm at the Town Hall

AGENDA SUPPLEMENT

18.3 Friends of Shurnhold Fields (Pages 1 - 6)

For decision on approval of payment for tools.

The Friends of Shurnhold Fields made the attached application to the parish council's Grant Funding scheme for 2025/26.

This is the resolution from MWPC on Monday evening

31. Friends of Shurnhold Fields: It was noted that this group had applied for funding for additional tools to aid the maintenance of Shurnhold Fields. The Clerk explained that as this was for the maintenance of the field, expenditure for this could come out of the s106 maintenance contribution, which was held in the parish council's accounts for the joint project with Melksham Town Council. It was noted that the town council did not give any delegated powers to the Shurnhold Fields working party to approve spend so any new spend from this fund would have to be considered by the town council. As it is considered that this funding request could come out of the maintenance fund, the parish council refuses this application. It was agreed that the council would contact the town council for their approval to spend money on items as detailed in the group's application for the maintenance of the field.

MELKSHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

First Floor
Melksham Community Campus
Market Place, Melksham
Wiltshire, SN12 6ES
Tel/Fax: 01225 705700
Email: admin@melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk
Web: www.melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk

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APPLICATION FOR GRANT AID

1. Name of Organisation: Friends of Shurnhold Fields
2. Name to which cheque should be paid to, if different from above: as Above
3. Name and Address of Secretary/Correspondent:

[Redacted Name and Address]

4. Is your work National/Countywide/District/Locally based?

Local

5. How will the grant benefit resident living in Melksham Without? **NB: No grant can be given unless it directly benefits residents living in the Melksham Without Parish.**

FOSF are a group of volunteers who maintain Shurnhold Fields for community use. It is an open space available to be used by both local and neighbouring residents as well as visitors. The space is used by young and old who want to enjoy a large open space, dog walkers, families that have little or no garden space, adults and children alike who like to explore nature with the stream an added bonus and those who just want to take advantage of the picnic spots to sit and enjoy the natural environment on their doorstep. It was totally invaluable during the pandemic when deprived families needed some outdoor space on their doorstep, bringing the community together, and has become the focal point for some exercise along with social interaction.

6. Amount of Grant requested: £...2000.....

7. Purpose for which grant is required. Please provide a statement on how the money will be used; give details of when work will be done and date by which the project will be completed, along with details of how this benefits resident of the Parish (for example number/ percentage of people taking part in your organisation or activities who live in Melksham Without).

At present we are a volunteer group of approximately 10. The group arrange regular working parties to maintain the fields to make it an enjoyable, free, open space to visit for all local and neighbouring residents.

Ongoing planting/staking/pruning and maintaining trees continue, grass cutting walkways between features, access paths to the stream etc, cleaning picnic benches, upkeep of the wild flower meadow, maintain a tree nursery (raising trees to plant out when established) and general clearing of vegetation, weeding and stream clearing etc..

The money will be used for public liability insurance. Servicing our lawn mower. We also require additional garden tools/sundries as the team expands/tools break/get worn etc.

Garden tools to include - wheelbarrows/watering cans/ buckets

General garden hand tools to include – spades/forks/trowels

Tools for tree maintenance - secateurs/ tree loppers/pruners.

Tools/sundries for working in the stream – waders/ waterproof gloves

*We have been keeping tool purchase to the minimum at the moment due to a storage issue. Hopefully we will get a shed/lockup in place this year.

NOTE: Should your application be for a value exceeding £2,000 it is a requirement for the recipient to provide a written report on how the money was used within 12 months of the date of the grant. (This can be in the form of an annual report or set of accounts which clearly identify the manner of spending).

8. Other grant aid requests during the last 12 months:

Source	Amount	Outcome of request
Wiltshire Council /Area Boards	6600	For Mower – asked to withdraw
Town & Parish councils	1000	Received

Any other bodyNational Lottery.....	8000	Approved – a mower and trailer were purchased
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9. Apart from grant aid applications, what has your organisation done to help itself by raising funds?

We held two free activities at the fields that ran over several weeks. An easter egg hunt that had over 120 entries, also a tree hunt that was also popular. We felt the events should be open to all and rather than ask for payment for entry forms we set up a Go Fund Me page and advertised the link along with the activity. We raised over £200. We will run similar activities again this year.

If you would like a link to your organisation's website from the Parish Council website www.melkshamwithout-pc.gov.uk give website address here:

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date: 15/1/25

Please return your completed form, together with a **copy of your latest audited accounts** to Melksham Without Parish Council at the above address.

NB: Closing Date for Applications: 31st January 2025.

Please note: Grant awards will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting, date and venue tbc.

Privacy Statement

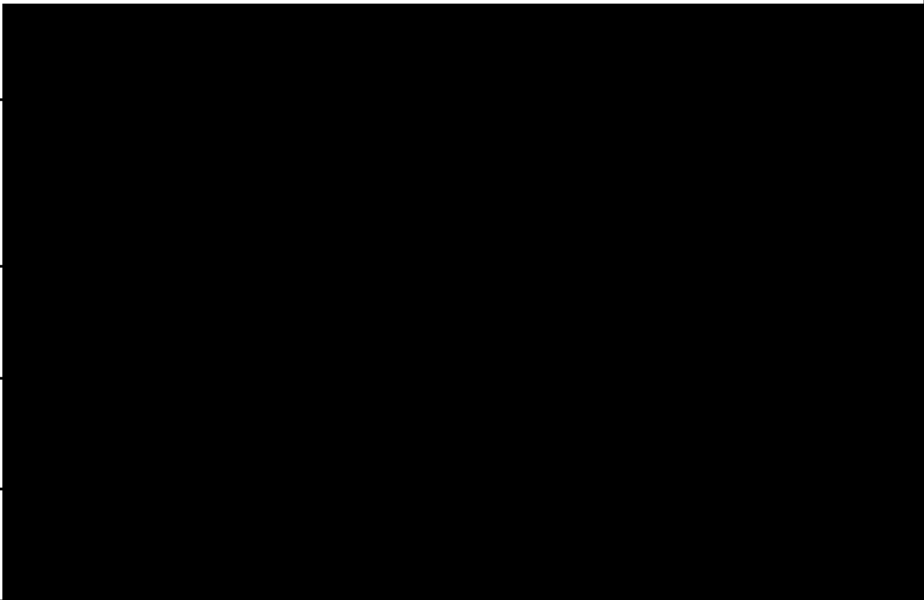
In line with the General Data Protection Regulations that came into force in May, please find below the Parish Council's privacy notice which contains details relating to your personal data being stored by the Parish Council. Can you please sign and return the Consent form.

I agree that I have read and understand Melksham Without Parish Council's Privacy Notice. I agree by signing below that the Council may process my personal information for providing information and corresponding with me.

I agree that Melksham Without Parish Council can keep my contact information data for an undisclosed time or until I request its removal.

I have the right to request modification on the information that you keep on record.

I have the right to withdraw my consent and request that my details are removed from your database.

Name	
Address	
Telephone No.	
Email Address	
Signature	
Date	15/1/2025

Friends of Shurnhold Fields	
Treasurer's Account No: 38625868	1st November 2023 – 31st October 2024

1st November 2023 – 31st October 2024

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