

## Grant applications - correspondence

1. X/6. July 1972. Correspondence with County Education Officer concerning application for Further Education capital grant 'in respect of a new hall at an estimated cost of £25,000'. (Later, £30,000).

Not 1972/3 but would be considered in 1973/4. Application form and New Arrangements for Capital Grants to Voluntary Youth Service, Village Hall and Community Centre Projects. Information that the application would be included in list to be submitted to Department of Education and Science.

February 1973 Village Halls. Newsletter published by Hampshire Council of Social Service. Guidance on types of grant available – Capital Grants, Maintenance Grants, Value Added Tax.

18<sup>th</sup> April 1973. Letter to inform that East Meon has not been successful ... only 6 out of 18 applicant villages had received grants.

11<sup>th</sup> June, letter from Lettice Ross asking to receive application form for 1974/5. She informs that planning permission has been granted for three dwellings on site of Institute, vacant possession of Caretaker's Office has been obtained, Charity Commissioners' order for sale of site will be completed, planning permission for new village hall received on 8<sup>th</sup> June 'with conditions for landscaping and access'.

24<sup>th</sup> July. Letter informing that 'the starting of your project without permission from the Authority without prejudice would disbar the project from being considered for grant aid'. Accompanying documentation.

25<sup>th</sup> July. Acknowledge application for grant, which has been forwarded to the County Education Officer for approval..

5<sup>th</sup> August, letter from Lettice Ross to Mr Charles thanking him for 'coming to see us'. Notes of Management Committee:

- a. Mr Charles had informed that East Meon had not qualified for priority in 1973/4 because budget was inadequate and our ability to meet the commitment of building was doubted.
- b. Govt policy on hall grants expected to reduce from 50% grants to 1/3<sup>rd</sup> grant. 1/3<sup>rd</sup> raised, 1/3<sup>rd</sup> from minor authorities.
- c. No allowance would be made for inflation after July.
- d. Repeated that commencing building (or signing contract) would seriously disbar grant for Phase I and seriously affect application for Phase II. We would know in October.

Note from Lettice Ross in November ... Permission to build has to be obtained from Central Government, Department of Education and Science, and not the County. Lynton White had been to see the County to press the case. East Meon was third on the list of priority villages. Lynton White advised to take the risk of signing the contract.

Total costs of Phase I now £30,240. Whole building £42,790.

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, letter from Mr Charles giving permission for work to be started, but that this does not commit the DoE and HCC to provide a grant specifically for the project.

16<sup>th</sup> May 1974. V.W.Emery, Rural Officer, Hampshire Council of Community Service writes to Lettice Ross. 'I am very impressed with your fundraising record and should like to congratulate your Hon. Treasurer on the excellent manner in which the accounts are presented.' Had received note from national Council of Social Services ... cuts have been made in the total amount of money available'. 16<sup>th</sup> May. 'DES have now announced their programme for the above financial year ... £39,500 is a 50% grant, to be supported by local authorities. Asks for latest financial costing.

Letter to Emery on 19<sup>th</sup> setting out financial figures. Balance £13,211.211, Donations £24.60, Sponsored Walk £259.20, Dance 383.10d, total £13,955.67. Payments Building Costs £5,750, plus equipment &c, total £5,809. Balance £8,146.46d. Up-to-date building costs – Fixed price contract with Moulds of £38,897, as at Dec 1973 when contract was signed. (Note that sub-contracting is not at a fixed price – 2.5% a month will be added for sub-contracting and materials ... estimated addition of £1,560. 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1973. Letter from F.G.Standfield to Lettice Ross setting out inflation estimated.

June 1973, HCCS Newsletter lists East Meon Village Hall third in its list of approved schemes, at total cost £36,000. 'Only top three schemes can be grant-aided this year'

4<sup>th</sup> July. Letter from HCC informing that 'Although HCC have not felt able to make provision in their estimates ... they will offer grant on behalf of the Dept of Education and Science at twice that offered by your Local District and/or Parish Council' ..., based on cost of 340,457, and balance sheet of £21,850, grant not to exceed £9,600. Conditions listed.

13<sup>th</sup> July. HCC has not received the money from the DES. Exchange of correspondence on the subject. In November, Treasurer H.C.Franklin expresses concern about grant payments.

15<sup>th</sup> September, Letter thanking for cheque for £2,400. 'The Hall is now well on the way to completion ...'

19<sup>th</sup> March 1975. 'I have found it possible to increase the DES grant by 31,000, making total grant by DES £10,500.

Letter from LR saying 'This has given our Committee the most tremendous boost, especially our Treasurer, S WE ARE AT PRESENT GOING THROUGH A PARTICULARLY LEAN PERIOD.

2. X/7. Rural District Council of Petersfield. 'Physical training and Recreation Act, 1937. Grants for Youth Service, Community Centres and Village Hall'. Will give further consideration when more details are available and the County Council's grant decision is known. Three letters from Lettice Ross, Secretary to Village Hall, in January 1973 containing information. Letter March 1973 informing that East Meon is on their recommended list for 973/4 and that grant aid will be assessed when the monies realised from the sale of the present hall are taken into account.

Letter of 12<sup>th</sup> June states that Department of Education might be prepared to offer up to one-third of costs for 1974/5 if similar amount is contributed by local authorities.

District Council will be willing to grant half the amount provided by County Council, provided Parish Council will make a similar grant.

13<sup>th</sup> July, exchange of correspondence updating on DES grant.

February 1974. Correspondence with Mr Moore and Major Rose from Lettice Ross and Lynton White, saying that County has suspended its share but that approach can be made to DES. Local press had reported that 350,000 was to be spent on car park and public lavatories.

March 1974. Letter from HCCS (Victor Emery) to District Council saying that a) County Councils unable to make provisions for grants in respect of Community Centres and Village Halls, and b) DES can make maximum grant available providing finance is available if District Council will provide 25% on schemes approved by the County Education Officer.

East Hants District Council. 21<sup>st</sup> April 1974. Letter thanking for promise of a grant within the maximum of £6,000, £3,000 in 1974/5, £3,000 in 1975/6.

Letter 6<sup>th</sup> April 1975. Thanks for second £3,000 cheque.

3. X/8. East Meon Parish Council. Detailed letter of application, 24/1/73, followed by request for some more details and then by agreement to provide 12.5% of costs.

June 27<sup>th</sup>, Council will write to Hampshire Education Committee in

support of application for a grant.

March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1974. Letter to Mr Hickson from Lettice Ross thanking for 'unanimous decision to grant £3,000 in grant aid ...)

3<sup>rd</sup> June 1974, letter acknowledging cheque for £1,500.

Letter 9<sup>th</sup> April 1975, thanking for cheque of £1,500.. 'The committee cannot be grateful enough for the Parish Council's help and support ... has been their mainstay ..."

4. X/9 Charity Commission. 4<sup>th</sup> July 1973, Scheme providing permission to proceed with sale of buildings specified in the schedule (i.e. Institute and Cottage). Cash flow projections included. (notes: Increase of cost of Stage I to about £44,000 due to inflation currently running at about 3% a month. Education grant 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of construction costs as at July 1973. Local Government grant ditto.

#### 5. X/10 Miscellaneous

Three newsletters plus circulation lists (WI, Horticultural Society, British Legion, Over 60's, Conservatives, Football and Cricket, PCC, Parish Council, R.C., Methodist Mr Lewis, Headmaster, County Education Officer, Hampshire Telegraph, Architect, Lynton White, Hon William Douglas Home.)

Newsletter 1, January 1973. Estimated cost £30,000, plus 12.5% - 15% increase in costs of materials and labour plus £3,500 plus fees for site. To seat 300. Fund stands at £12,265 (Christmas Draw raised £171.17p.

Newsletter 2, April 1973. Reports AGM, at which overwhelming vote to sell Institute and Cottage (145 for, 5 against). Caretaker's contract terminated.. Fund-raising events – Top Score Coffee Evening raised £93.27, Dance £57.00. Future events include 'Then and Now' exhibition at school.

Newsletter 3. July 1973. Because funding deferred to 1974/5, building work to be phased. Phase 1, Essential parts of hall – main and small hall, kitchen, cloakrooms and boiler house, plus car park and landscaping, to be funded by sale of premises, fund raising and private donations.. Phase 2 to be storage /changing rooms, when funds received. Spring Bank Holiday Fete raised £498.13p, Lynton White donated £500, Tosdevine barbaeuq £130.

Newspaper clippings, Petersfield Post '£844,000 may be spent on car parks' - £50,000 allocated to East Meon. Hampshire Chronicle Jan 1974 'Education Bill Cut by £million'. Bastingstoke Gazette March 1974 'County to get protest over Village Halls'.

18<sup>th</sup> December 1973 Lynton White's letter guaranteeing 'a sum not exceeding £22,000'.

March 1973, Letter from Lettice Ross to Mr Trower (Eleanor Countess Peel Trust?) summarising situation. 'At this date we have no village hall, the new site is all that is vested in them.' 'In May of this year we hope to apply further to the D.E.S. and in the late summer to the C.E.D. again for their grant aid for 1975/6 after its suspension for 1974/5.' 'The village has been fortunate in being able to procure several guarantors for some of the cost of building the new hall without which, and the sale of the old hall, no building could have been started.'

18<sup>th</sup> March 1974. Letter to Mr Trower describing situation, 'owing to national economic crisis, the grant position is extremely uncertain ... substantial shortfall of funds.' 15<sup>th</sup> July, thanks for grant of £500.

July 1974 – Sundry lists of goods ordered, invoices and correspondence with HCC about invoices for material sourced through its central supplies.