



Hurstpierpoint & Sayers Common Parish Council
Email: office@hurstpierpoint-pc.gov.uk
Website: www.hurstpierpoint-pc.gov.uk
Telephone: 01273 833264

Village Centre
Trinity Road
Hurstpierpoint
West Sussex BN6 9UY

SMALL GRANT APPLICATION (Please ensure you are using the correct application form)

Please note that this application should be accompanied by a copy of the financial details of the requesting organisation. Where relevant we will need to see account details showing income, expenditure, and the level of balances. If annual accounts are not available, copies of the bank statements or receipts for expenditure should be enclosed.

1.	Name of Organisation	Befriended
2.	Name, Address and Status of Contact within the organisation	Gail Millar [REDACTED]
3.	Telephone number and Email Address	0300 772 7703 gail@befriended.org
4.	Is the Organisation a Registered Charity? If yes, then please provide charity number	Registered Charity. 1175623
5.	Amount of Grant Requested	£500
6.	For what purpose or project is the grant requested, what local need does it address and who would benefit? Please be as detailed as possible about how exactly the funds would be spent. If for a specific project, when would you anticipate that to complete/how long would the funds last? (Continue on a separate sheet if necessary).	Befriended Community Choir Please see attached documents
7.	What will be the total cost of the project?	£7500
8.	If the total cost of the project is more than the grant, how will the residue be financed?	Donations from attendees Grants Befriended funds

9.	Have you applied for a grant for the same project to another organisation? If so, which organisation and how much?	No
10.	Approximately how many/what percentage of those who will benefit are parishioners?	The choir will be promoted in Hurstpierpoint and outlying villages and will therefore totally benefit 100 percent parishioners
11.	Have financial details been enclosed with the grant application?	A budget is enclosed
12.	Please list any other supporting documents that have been included.	Befriended Choir Details Befriended Choir Budget

You may use a separate sheet of paper to submit any other information which you feel will support this application.

Signed..... *Gail Millar*Date.....24 July 2024.....

Please return this completed form, together with all relevant accompanying information to:

Office@hurstpierpoint-pc.gov.uk or via post:

Clerk to the Council

Hurstpierpoint & Sayers Common Parish Council

Trinity Road, Hurstpierpoint

West Sussex, BN6 9UY

DATA PROTECTION

We take the protection of your personal data seriously. If you contact or communicate with us we may hold your contact and other details. We will only use this information for the purposes of carrying out our Council business with you. We will not pass your details to any other person or organisation without your express permission. We are registered with the ICO (Information Commissioners Office). For details of our full privacy notices please go to our website.



24 July 2024

Dear Hurstpierpoint and Sayers Common Parish Council,

Befriended Community Choir – *sing for joy*

Befriended is a charity based in Mid Sussex whose vision and aim is to end loneliness and isolation amongst older people living in our communities. Many of our clients are frail and vulnerable who are living alone or with a carer.

The issue

Loneliness and isolation is caused by three main issues – bereavement, change in health or change in living circumstances. Having lived through a pandemic many of our older people stopped all social activities and it has taken a few years to build confidence, stamina and courage for them to rejoin groups and activities. Grief and loss have affected a significant number of older people which has exacerbated their loneliness but also there is an increase in the number of carers caring for their loved ones who are living with Dementia.

The Response

Befriended has responded over the past couple of years to the need to gather people together and have launched various activities addressing health and wellbeing, spiritual care, emotional support and social interaction.

Our new services include telephone befriending, Acts of kindness, Balance exercise classes, monthly tea parties, bereavement courses, Bereavement café, Bereavement social group, Befriended bus trips, and chaplaincy services.

All these services have grown our client base exponentially and we have evidence through surveys and stories the difference Befriended has made to so many older people's lives.

Befriended Community Choir

Music and singing are the most popular forms of entertainment at all our events and many of our clients asked us to form a community choir.

In September 2023 we launched a community choir in Burgess Hill and it has been a phenomenal success.

The choir is accessible to all including those caring for and living with dementia, people with sight loss, hearing loss, learning difficulties, and mobility issues.

The choir has become a community of friends. People who were complete strangers now send messages to one another via our community WhatsApp, meet up for coffee, and care for one another.

At our choir we encourage older people to come and sing no matter what experience or ability. The choir's main purpose is to create community around the enjoyment of music, building community friendships, and improving health and well-being.

The choir is led by a professional experienced choir master who has specialised in working with people with special needs and dementia. The choirmaster encourages participants to learn songs and words, and join in with actions.

Due to the success of our Choir in Burgess Hill we decided to launch a choir in Hurstpierpoint. The choir will complement our existing services in the village – bereavement café and our monthly tea party due to start in September as well as encourage other older people to come and sing for joy, and reach more of our vulnerable and frailer clients.

Befriended is a known and trusted charity around Mid Sussex which has a reputation for doing things well, being inclusive, fun, and enjoyable. All our clients appreciate the effort put into the detail of our activities, but they also know that at the heart of all we do is friendship, kindness, love, joy and laughter.

The outcomes we will be looking for from the community choir will be

- Reduction in Loneliness and isolation amongst older people in Mid Sussex
- Improved well-being in those who attend
- Improved breathing, stamina, and general health through singing
- Improved cognitive health due to learning and remembering words and tunes
- Community cohesion - working together with other organisations to provide, promote and refer clients to the choir
- Support for carers of those living with Dementia
- Increased joy, happiness, and reason for living
- A sense of belonging - identifying with a group

Please find enclosed the choir costings which are for 1 year. We hope to continue to run the choir after a year and will seek further funding. We plan for it to be an addition to the services we already provide.

We very much appreciate your consideration of our application for £ 500 enabling us to make life richer, stronger, and better for our older but wonderful people.

Kindest regards

Gail

Gail Millar

CEO Befriended



Befriended Community Choir Budget

	Weekly x 40	Termly	Yearly	Total	Income
Choir master	£100			£4000	
Choir assistant	£20			£800	
Venue hire	£21			£840	
Refreshments Tea/coffee/cakes	£10			£400	
Song Software licence			360	£360	
Marketing		£50		£50	
Administration	£20			£800	
Design and production of flyers/printing		£50		£50	
Events			£200	£200	
Donations	100				£4000
Total				£7500	£4000

Notes

1. Choir Master is a professional singer/choir leader @£100 per session. This includes preparation, planning and production of any shows/events.
2. Each session will be 1.5 -2 hours with refreshments
3. Refreshments and social time is a central and very important part of the Befriended community choir. Refreshments to include Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, water, squash. Biscuits, cakes, Fresh fruit for snacks.
4. Some administration time has been included to cover promotion, registration, follow up and session preparation.

Befriended Community Choir -

Welcoming attendees, serving of refreshments, first aider, insurance, piano, setting up and down of venue will be covered by Befriended.