



## **Grant Working Party 6 September 2011**

### **Bardwell Parish Council: Reallocation of Grant Funding**

1. Bardwell Parish Council applied to the Rural Areas Community Initiatives Fund in October 2010 for £2,374 towards emergency works to protect the Village Hall (Tithe Barn) from further water damage, by installing a protective drain at the side of the hall.
2. Their application was assessed via email by the Grant Working Party, and a decision in favour of the application was made on 25 October 2010.
3. The emergency works were completed as planned. However during this process it was discovered that the source of the flood water was from a mains water supply beneath the floor. This had not been obvious initially since it was very difficult to find the source.
4. Bardwell Parish Council submitted an insurance claim, however the insurers did not initially accept it since in its judgement the flooding was due to an increase in the natural water table. However, the insurers later accepted the claim when the source of the water was identified, and have since paid in full the cost of the renovation and complete replacement of the floor, which was in excess of £16,000.
5. Bardwell Parish Council claimed £1,833.50 out of the available £2,374 grant money available from the Rural Areas Community Initiatives Fund, leaving a balance of £540.50. A lower amount was drawn down since the final costs associated with the initial emergency works were lower than initially anticipated.
6. Since drawing down some of the grant money, Bardwell Parish Council's insurers agreed to fund half the cost of the Suffolk County Council Street Works License that was required as part of the emergency works. This has resulted in £145 that can be returned to the Rural Areas Community Initiatives Fund.
7. After allowing for the return of £145, the balance of the initial grant is £685.50, and Bardwell Parish Council has made a request for the £685.50 to be put towards other works.
8. The Bardwell Tithe Barn Management Committee has taken the opportunity to propose other repair work while the hall is out of action. The ceiling tiles are in poor condition and will require replacement sometime in the near future, so it is proposed to replace them now at a cost of £2,224.

9. Since the Grant Working Party approved the grant under the Rural Areas Community Initiatives Fund rules, the Parish Council at this time was able to apply as many times as they wanted. In the light of this, the Grant Working Party may wish to consider approving a reallocation of the remaining funding to assist Bardwell Parish Council in carrying out repairs to the Tithe Barn ceiling tiles.
10. It is **RECOMMENDED** that the balance on Bardwell Parish Council's grant allocation of £685.50 be reallocated towards the replacement of the ceiling tiles at the Tithe Barn.

For further information, please contact:-

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