

Working for you

# Harrogate Borough Council Community Chest



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## INTRODUCTION

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Harrogate Borough Council's Community Chest is a small Community Grants scheme, funded from the Council's under spends.

The fund to date has been allocated annually from the Council to the Community Chest and open for grant applications for amounts up to £3,000\* are welcomed from local voluntary and community groups. When the fund is launched annually, usually around July time, we announce this in local newspapers, community newsletters and to the Community and Voluntary Sector's email database.

The grant applications are then assessed against a selection of criteria by a panel of councillors, voluntary and community sector representatives supported by officers.

The allocated money, usually around £30,000, is split between successful bids and must be claimed within 12 months.

The Community Chest Grants Scheme has been running since 2007 and in that time it has received 170 applications and has awarded just under £130,000 to 60 different organisations across the Harrogate District.

***As chairman of the voluntary sector I am pleased that Harrogate Borough Council has been able to provide these funds over the***

***last 4 years to provide a start up and support for our small local charities' very important projects.***

***I look forward to Harrogate Borough Council being able to continue this valuable support in the current economic climate.***

**Councillor Ian Galloway**, Chair, Harrogate Borough Council  
Voluntary & Community Sector Forum

\*The maximum grant for applicants was changed in 2010 from £5,000 to £3,000.

The following report is a summary of some of the projects supported and delivered over the last two years awarded from December 2009. The full list of grants awarded can be found in Appendix A and B at the back of the report.

## GRANTS ALLOCATED IN 2009

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In 2009 Community Chest grants were awarded to 13 community groups, totalling £32,500. The following is a summary of some of the projects which received funding:

### BISHOP MONKTON ENTERTAINMENTS GROUP

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**Awarded:**  
**£4000**

Bishop Monkton Entertainments Group is a small theatre company which is open to every resident of Bishop Monkton village. It is a long established society which includes local residents from 7-70 years of age.

The group was selected to receive a grant based on the cultural benefit that it brings to a rural village.

*'We thank you whole heartedly for your generous grant'*

The grant has provided the entertainment group with new lighting and sound equipment which they hope will make their productions more professional.

### GREAT OUSEBURN VILLAGE HALL

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**Awarded:**  
**£3000**

Great Ouseburn Village Hall's Committee were awarded a grant for their project to install an outside lift which would allow disabled access to the clubroom. Sue White, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee said *"a big thank*

*you to Harrogate Borough Council for its sponsoring the committee on this project"*.



*The new lifts in place at Great Ouseburn Village Hall.*

### HARROGATE SAMARITANS

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**Awarded:**  
**£680**

The Harrogate branch of the Samaritans was awarded a grant to purchase IT equipment. The laptops purchased are now being used for outreach activities such as talks, presentations to groups and during recruitment and training of volunteers.

In their feedback regarding the grant the Samaritans stated that the equipment purchased has helped to enhance their effectiveness, given them a professional approach and strengthened their work in partnerships with other organisations such as North Yorkshire Police, Harrogate NHS Trust, Harrogate Borough Council and Wealstun Prison.

## HARROGATE SKILLS FOR LIVING

**Awarded:**  
**£3000**

Harrogate Skills for Living Centre were awarded a grant of £3000 to pilot a mentoring scheme for new volunteers wanting to work with people who have learning disabilities.

The project was successfully implemented and the Centre reported that over the course of the project volunteer numbers increased, particularly among the younger age group and they felt more supported and reassured about working with clients with multiple disabilities.

***'This kind of assistance makes all the difference for small community organisations'***

*Stephanie Kirkman Meikle –  
Harrogate Skills for Living*

## MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT BOOK GROUP

**Awarded:**  
**£632**

Harrogate's Mental Health Project was awarded money to fund the running of a book group, offering a friendly, supportive learning opportunity for volunteers and people with mental health problems.

***"The Book Club has helped me in communicating with people after being fairly isolated for some time"***

*Book club attendee*

Since being awarded funding the Book Group have purchased new reading materials for attendees and have continued to host a monthly book club and talking space for those affected by mental illness.

## NIDDERDALE VISUAL ARTS

**Awarded:**  
**£3500**

Nidderdale Visual Arts were awarded funding to undertake an education project at Nidderdale Museum.

To date the project has promoted collaborative working between the heritage sector and the visual arts sector. Through the workshops both in the museum and in Gallery Number 6 it has introduced new audiences to new skills and a greater awareness of the virtues and problems associated with bird/bird egg collections.

It has also given individual artists the time to develop ideas and without exception produce work which has stretched them professionally, and in one case gave an artist the confidence to develop further work on the same ideas by making an application to the Arts Council Development grant scheme.

## DRAWING ON THE PAST a journey



Moira McTague - Printmaker



Hester Cox - Printmaker



Sue Harrison - Fibre Artist

Artists in Residence at the Nidderdale Museum.

## POTT & AGILL STUDY GROUP

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**Awarded:**  
**£3808**

The study group, based in Masham, was awarded funding to complete a booklet and school project aimed at informing the community of the rich Anglo-Scandinavian heritage of Mashamshire.

The group launched the book 'Beneath Your Feet, The Story of Masham's Lost Cemetery' in March 2011 and have arranged several school talks. They have also funded a memorial stone, in memory of the men, women and children whose remains were excavated from a cemetery discovered in Masham.



## ORB COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE

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**Awarded:**  
**£1966**

The Orb Community Enterprise in Knaresborough was awarded a grant to install double glazing to their new premises.

The installation has been completed with sound proof glass being used so reducing sound penetration to the outside of the building and increasing the energy efficiency and heat retention of the building.

## RIPON SAILING CLUB

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**Awarded:**  
**£1935**

The club, which was formed in 1957, applied to the Community Chest for a grant of £1935 in order to purchase a fleet of training dinghies, specifically for children from the ages of 8 to 15 to develop their skills before moving into larger boats

Once purchased, the boats were put into service immediately on a junior sailing course and they have been on the water every weekend since.

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***'Just a very HUGE thank you from all the children who have benefited from your generosity'***

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## SCOTTON SCORCHERS

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**Awarded:**  
**£4000**

Scotton Scorchers Junior Football Club were awarded a grant of £4000 towards their new sports pavilion at Percy Field, Scotton. The club, with membership of around 176 young people previously had no permanent toilets or changing facilities.

Since being awarded the grant the new pavilion has been built, giving the club a home and an identity and demand for places continues to rise. The pavilion has proved to be of benefit to the whole community as it has also been used by village organisations, clubs and the school.



## HARROGATE AND KNARESBOROUGH TOY LIBRARY

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**Awarded:**  
**£4214**

Harrogate and Knaresborough's Toy Library provides all young local children and their families the loan of a wide range of therapeutic, educational and stimulating toys, equipment and activities.

The Library was awarded a grant of £4214 to launch an initiative in conjunction with Harrogate College, to use the college's new outdoor natural space to pilot 'stay and play' outdoor sessions.

Funding enabled the Library to purchase equipment for use at these sessions and for loan to children for continued enjoyment of the outdoors.

## GRANTS ALLOCATED IN 2010

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**In 2010 Community Chest grants were awarded to 19 community groups, totalling £29,729.50. The following is a summary of some of the projects which received funding:**

### THE ALMSCLIFFE HALL

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**Awarded:**  
**£3000**

The Almscliffe Hall which is situated in Huby applied to the Community Chest for a grant of £3000 to improve its environmental sustainability. The Hall is used by the whole community, from the Seniors Group to Toddler and Sports Group. It also houses a regular doctors surgery.

Since being awarded the grant significant improvements have been made to the Hall, improving comfort and safety levels as well as the visual appearance of the building. In time it is hoped that energy costs will reduce.

## BAY HORSE COMMUNITY CENTRE

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**Awarded:**  
**£750**

The Bay Horse Community Centre in Burnt Yates was awarded the sum of £750 to provide the centre with a phone line, broadband and a wireless connection.

The purpose of upgrading the centre's facilities was to encourage use of technology within the rural village and to enable computer learning and attract a wider and younger network of volunteers.

As a result of the grant being awarded, sessions on using Microsoft Word and the Internet have taken place and there are plans to promote the Community Centre as an offsite training and meeting venue.

## HARROGATE HOCKEY CLUB

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**Awarded:**  
**£400**

Harrogate Hockey club were awarded a grant of £400 to improve their meeting room facilities which are available free of charge to community groups and sports clubs for meetings and AGMs.

Money granted was used to purchase a projector screen and has already been used by the Club and community groups to deliver presentations and coaching lessons.

## HOOKSTONE MEMORIAL HALL

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**Awarded:**  
**£750**

Hookstone Memorial Hall in Thornthwaite applied for a grant of £750 in order to upgrade kitchen equipment for their

Saturday Community Kitchen. The kitchen is open for breakfast, brunch, lunch and teas on the first Saturday of the month and is especially popular with older members of the community as a place to socialise and enjoy a cooked breakfast.

Since being awarded the grant, the equipment has been purchased and the volunteers have begun to organise more events such as a Valentines meal.

## KNARESBOROUGH CELTIC

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**Awarded:**  
**£1050**

The club were awarded £1050 to install ball nets, aimed at improving the grounds, reducing the number of lost balls and therefore, lessening disruption to the club's neighbours.

The nets have now been installed and the club report that they have been a huge success, improving the look and reputation of the club's grounds.

## MARTON-LE-MOOR MEETING ROOM

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**Awarded:**  
**£1411**

Marion-le-Moor's meeting room was converted from a blacksmith's workshop in the 1990s and is the only community building in the village. The meeting room offers a range of activities and events for residents each year. The

Meeting Room Committee were awarded the sum of £1411 to improve the building's facilities, namely; providing outside storage to release indoor

space and purchasing new stackable chairs and tables, including children's furniture.

The new furniture has arrived and is increasing the venue's popularity with local residents.

*'They [the chairs] made the room layout so much easier...at the end it was so easy to fold them up – they take up much less space too. Great!'*



**Before**



**After**

## PAPERWORKS

**Awarded:**  
**£2945**

Paperworks is a registered charity that specialises in helping adults with learning difficulties, physical, mental and sensory impairments to train for work and move into paid or unpaid

jobs. A grant of £2945 was awarded to the organisation in order that they may purchase new computers, specialist software and a new server to replace their outdated IT equipment.

At present the new system has been installed and allows access to IT for all Paperworks' trainees and those previous barriers such as visual impairment and literacy can be overcome. The social enterprise now reports to have a more secure and reliable future.

## STARBECK IN BLOOM

**Awarded:**  
**£1100**

Starbeck in Bloom were awarded £1100 to help towards a 'Grow Your Own Corner' project. Having identified a derelict corner of land on Starbeck High Street the group has used the funding to create a vegetable and herb garden for use by the whole community.

*'As a project it has been successful in helping to keep Starbeck smarter and in bringing together lots of different people'*



## APPENDIX A – FULL LIST OF GRANTS AWARDED IN 2009

Organisation	Project	Amount Awarded £
Nidderdale visual arts project	Engage adults and youths in a series of activities, arts/heritage education through visual arts at Nidderdale Museum	£3,500
Harrogate Samaritans	Audio/visual equipment - laptop, projector and accessories to be used for outreach	£680
Harrogate & Knaresborough Toy Library	Toy Library and Stay & Play Outdoors - Equipment and resources	£4,214
Bishop Monkton Entertainments Group	New spotlights, covering for stage, sound effect equipment, double track tape recorder, white backcloth for image projection	£4,000
Nidderdale Junior Athletics Club	Kit 4 Kids - sports equipment	£851.81
Pott and Agill Study Group	Masham's Lost Cemetery booklet and The Vikings on Your Doorstep Schools Project	£3,808
Scotton Scorchers Junior Football Club	New sports pavilion	£4,000
Orb Community Enterprise	Double glazing	£1,966
Ripon Sailing Club	Training dinghies	£1,935
Harrogate Skills 4 Living Centre (aka The Junction)	Mentoring scheme for volunteers who work with people with learning disabilities	£3,000
Mental Health Project Book Group	Running of a book club	£632
Penny Pot Community Forum	Secure storage for craft area	£1,000
Great Ouseburn Village Hall	Exterior disabled lift	£3,000

## APPENDIX B – FULL LIST OF GRANTS AWARDED IN 2010

Organisation	Project	Amount awarded £
Darley playing fields association	Pavilion refurbishment	£750
Harrogate District Sports Council	Sports coaches professional development training for inclusive practice	£709.50
Tewit Youth Band	Purchase of new music stands	£1,007
Paperworks	Improvement and increased accessibility of IT equipment	£2,945
Polish Club	Polish school set-up	£1,000
Bay Horse Community Centre	Communicating to a wider audience	£750
Birstwith Play Area Group	Development of the playground area	£3,000
Ripon Community Link	Vital information cards for disabled people	£1,485
Starbeck in Bloom	Grow your own corner	£1,100
Harrogate Harriers Juniors	Harrogate Harriers equipment storage	£1,500
Fewston Parochial Hall	Disabled toilet project	£3,000
Knaresborough Celtic Football Club	Thistle Hill project	£1,050
Harrogate Hockey Club	Overhead projector screen	£400
The Almscliffe Hall	Almscliffe Hall environment improvement project	£3,000
Friends of All Saints' Church	Sound system	£1,500
Circus of the Absurd	Circus share	£1,372
Harrogate Hospital Radio	Harrogate Hospital Radio new mixing desk	£3,000
Marton-le-Moor Meeting Room	Are you sitting comfortably? Then we'll begin	£1,411
Hookstone Memorial Hall	Saturday Community Kitchen	£750

