

PUBLICITY FOR PATTERDALE COMMUNITY FUND

Hello everyone

This notification is being sent jointly by Morris as Vicar and Rob as Chair of the Parish Council.

As mentioned in earlier correspondence, we have now established a new fund called the 'Patterdale Community Fund', which will operate as a Restricted Fund within St Patrick's Church. The fund currently stands at £5,000, made up of contributions of £2,500 each from the church and the Parish Council. We have applied to other grant giving bodies too. We may ask for wider community support for this fund but first wish to do a fact-finding exercise as to the extent of help actually required.

We also have a food-bank established in 2 locations: Beech House in Glenridding, and The Rectory, in Patterdale. Please consider donating goods to these by simply dropping off items from the foodbank list distributed earlier on their doorsteps or by prior arrangement with either Morris Rodham (vicar.patterdale@gmail.com, 07774 296652, 017684 82209), or Lynn Randell, lynn@beechhouse.com, 07920 103083). Thank you for those who have generously donated items or funds so far! More details about the foodbank are attached.

Access to The Patterdale Community Fund and the Foodbank will be administered by a sub-committee of 6 people. These are: Morris Rodham (Chair), Helen Beaty, Lynn Randell, Mandy Scrivens, Rob Shephard, and Alan Wear. Our intention is to create a list of people resident in the parish who have suddenly as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic found themselves in a financially difficult position through no fault of their own.

There are a number of government schemes available and Cecilia Fry has kindly agreed to assist anyone having difficult working out what they should be entitled to. Please contact Cecilia directly for her help (ceciliafryis@gmail.com, 07757 116687). However, we recognise that some people may fall between the cracks of the help on offer or there may be delays in accessing this funding.

We have currently agreed that grants of up to £500 may be awarded to help in these situations, especially where people will struggle to meet the next 2 months of their family outgoings, and who have no access to sufficient other financial assistance (eg savings, partner, parents, government support schemes, benefits etc). Members of the committee will be contacting people on an individual basis who we think may be affected, but if you are in this position and have not heard from anyone by Friday 3rd April, please contact any member of the sub-committee and inform them of your position. If anyone cannot wait till Friday, please feel free to contact one of us immediately. Likewise, if you are worried about someone else please let us know.

We understand that asking for or accepting help from anybody is very difficult, but we would please ask that we lay this aside at this unique time. It is not anybody's fault that a pandemic has hit our community at this time, and so please see this as a community response to something that was not your fault. So it's OK to ask for/receive help!

Any questions, please don't hesitate to contact any member of the sub-committee. Please note: ***We are all local and you will recognise our voice and telephone numbers when we call! Please do NOT answer questions to any phone calls from anyone you do not recognise asking about your financial information!!***

Morris (07774 296652), Rob (07767 794225), Helen (07717 594066), Lynn (07920 103083), Mandy (07887 846234), Alan (017684 82566).