

## **COVID Grant application**

**To:** Little Abington Parish Council

**From:** Jeremiah's Café and the Village Lunch group, Abington

**Submitted by:** Helen Howe (Café Coordinator), Gill Smith (Village Lunch Secretary)

### **Background**

Jeremiah's Café at the Village Institute, currently opening on Thursdays and Saturdays, provides a convivial meeting place for Abington residents and visitors. It serves hot drinks and a range of hot snacks, light meals and home-made cakes and scones. There are also occasional special teas, pancake day events and so forth.

It is run and staffed by a team of volunteers, and the home cooking is also undertaken by village volunteers. Prices are based on cost plus a small mark up to cover running expenses.

The Café has achieved a five-star hygiene rating, the highest awarded, after inspection by SCDC. The volunteers strive to provide a friendly, welcoming ambience, where anyone coming alone will feel comfortable and find a friendly ear and a neighbourly chat.

The Village Lunch is also run and catered by volunteers and offers, each month, a freshly cooked two course meal to Abington residents of all ages at an affordable price, currently £5. Up to 50 meals are served at each lunch. Many of those attending are elderly and often socially isolated, and so the lunch is an important opportunity for them to take part in a community function and enjoy a nutritious meal.

### **Funding support needed**

Because both of these activities were closed during Covid lockdown, effectively all stock items that had been bought from accumulated Café funds went beyond their use by dates and had to be discarded. This included a variety of dry goods, soups, scones, cakes and breads from the freezer.

Since re-opening, purchase of supplies has been on an ad hoc basis to allow the Café to operate, but now that lockdown is effectively over and the Village Lunch can also recommence, the essential stock items need to be purchased to restore pre-Covid levels. This will make good the losses incurred because of lockdown, and also make it possible to operate efficiently and to cope with

fluctuating demand, and to take advantage of reduced unit prices for bulk purchase.

The main items required and approximate prices are:

<b>Item</b>	<b>£</b>
Coffee – instant and ground	25
Lattes, capuccinos, hot chocolate powders	10
Fruit drinks	20
Teabags and fruit teas	10
Sugar sachets	5
Soups	20
Bread – rolls and sliced loaves	15
Tea breads	5
Scones and cakes	20
Bacon	20
Eggs	5
Sauces and syrup	10
Cheese	10
Butter	5
Cooking oil	5
Flours, sugars, gravy granules, etc	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>

A grant in the order of this amount will ensure the continuity of these community activities and the benefits that they bring to Abington residents, which we understand is in line with the objectives of funding made available by SCDC.

*Gill Smith*  
*1 Bourn Bridge Road*  
*Little Abington*  
*CB21 6BJ*