

Rawden Parslow  
Principal Library Operations & Development Manager  
Library Annexe  
Shirehall, Abbey Foregate  
Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

Julie Hodgkiss  
Parish Clerk  
Bayston Hill Parish Council  
Parish Office, Lyth Hill Road  
Bayston Hill, Shrewsbury

Dear Julie

### **Request for funding support for Bayston Hill Library 2023/24**

I am writing to formally request £18,000 from Bayston Hill Parish Council as a contribution to the operating costs of Bayston Hill Library for the financial year 2023/24. Through these contributions the Parish Council has played a key role in ensuring that library services for the local community can be maintained during difficult financial circumstances.

It's very encouraging to see that the key usage statistics for the library remain healthy, with a good increase in Active Users (customers who have triggered on our library system in the previous 12 months), and an increase in physical visits.

The current number of Active Users is 832, compared to 741 at this time last year. The number of physical visits between April 2023 and January 2024 was 12,443. This is a 10% increase compared to the same period in the previous year. Total book loans have remained steady at just over 23,000 between April 2023 and January 2024. This is pretty much on a par with the same period in the previous year.

Although book lending remains the core business of libraries, the increases in users and visits are evidence of the wider role of the library including family history sessions, training for IT skills, rhyme times, using the computers, or just a warm and welcoming space. Across the library service generally we are seeing continued increases in the take up of e-books and e-audiobooks, but despite this there is no sign of demand for physical books reducing for Bayston Hill Library users.

The financial contribution provided by the Parish Council goes directly into the Bayston Hill Library budget to support the staffing costs. I have provided a separate budget summary for the library to show how the contribution relates to the overall budget.



We would be grateful to receive the contribution before the end of March so that it can be included in the current year budget.

Thank you for your ongoing support for Bayston Hill Library.

Yours sincerely,



Rawden Parslow  
Principal Library Operations & Development Manager  
rawden.parslow@shropshire.gov.uk

Shropshire Council bank details as follows:

Account information:			
Sort code	<b>55-50-05</b>	Account type	<b>CBFM BUSINESS CURREN</b>
Number	<b>03200051</b>	Bank name	<b>National Westminster Bank</b>
Currency	<b>GBP</b>	Branch name	<b>SHREWSBURY MARDOL</b>
Alias	<b>SCC ODR A/T</b>	Paper statement produced	<b>09/11/2016</b>
Short name	<b>SC ODR A/T</b>	BIC	<b>NWBKGB2L</b>
IBAN	<b>GB20NWBK55500503200051</b>		

Please quote payment reference **10965 A91070**