

Appendix

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (BEESTON) SOCIAL CLUB

The Royal British Legion (RBL) was formed in the aftermath of the First World War when four organisations came together to fight the injustices faced by those returning home after service and became the British Legion in 1921. From the beginning, it campaigned for fair treatment of those who had given so much for their country and provided much needed welfare support and comradeship. Today, RBL continues to respond to the changing needs of the Armed Forces community, providing small interventions to life-changing and sometimes lifesaving support.

The Royal British Legion (Beeston) Social Club ("the Club") was formed in 1949 and is located on Hall Croft in Beeston. The Club is a 'not for profit' registered society, which provides a social, community and entertainment venue and activities for residents of Beeston, Chilwell, Toton and the surrounding areas. Community Groups and similar activities held at the Beeston Club include The Studio Dementia Group, Beeston Folk Club, Nottingham Jazz Orchestra, Civic Society meetings, Veterans meetings, the Beeston Royal British Legion branch itself along with weddings, funerals and similar events.

The Club is currently refurbishing its premises (leased from The Royal British Legion (Regional Office Property Management)).

Financial Information

The Annual Return to the Financial Conduct Authority (as required by all Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies) for the year ended 30 September 2023 states total income for the year as £69,675 (2022: £44,183), derived from sales and bingo / sundry receipts. Total expenditure for the year was £79,083 (2022: £53,340), comprising primarily of repairs and renewals (£20,207), purchases and net stock utilisation (£22,955) and sundry utilities (£11,262). Total funds as at 30 September 2023 were £19,597, including £6,969 in cash.

Grant Request

The Royal British Legion (Beeston) Social Club has requested a capital grant of up to £6,500 for:

- New double-glazed windows to the front elevation toilets to provide increased security and improve energy efficiency (£4,000 estimated cost)
- Replacement dish/glass washer (£2,000 estimated cost)
- Installation of new drainage for improved safety and hygiene (£500 estimated cost)

Due to the nature of this scheme, any approved grant would normally be made on the basis of 25% of the actual costs incurred, given that it relates to a non-Council owned asset, with a maximum figure specified in appropriate circumstances.

This Council has provided The Royal British Legion (Beeston) Social Club with a number of capital grants in recent years, as follows:

June 2021	£8,645	Electrical safety works
May 2022	£6,000	Electrical safety works
January 2023	£5,200	Safety flooring in public areas

Such a grant award would be in line with the Grant Aid Policy for the following key reasons:

- Welfare Organisations are a specific category of groups welcomed to apply for financial assistance.
- The services provided and facilitated by the Club benefit the people of Broxtowe and are complementary to those services provided by the Council.
- The activities of the Club target the needs of vulnerable sections of the community, helping to reduce social isolation and loneliness.