

Report from Community Committee

8 May 2018

The committee would like to support two charities who have recently asked for financial support. We have not felt able to support many of the requests received this year as most of our money has been set aside for the 2017/18 Kids Out event. However, Birch Wood have still not taken us up on the offer to support various trips during this school year, and we are now in the process of raising further funds through this year's Duck Race.

1. **Well Being Arts** is a small art group for people with mental health problems based in Melton Mowbray. The group consists of a range of age groups from 20-70 and people with a variety of mental health conditions. Originally the local council funded the group, but they were unable to continue with their support. In the past they have also managed to raise additional small amounts from a number of generous organisations, including Melton Fire Brigade Trumpton fund, Round Table and Lions. It costs £50 per week to run the group, which includes rental of an art studio on Snow Hill, art materials and refreshments.

The tutor is a local artist and photographer who provides his time for free, although the group does contribute £10 a week for his fuel. The group has been extremely beneficial to a number of people over the last few years and many people have said that it has helped in their recovery. If the group is successful in fundraising, they would like to have a recruitment drive and expand the group to help even more people. It operates all year and currently has 9 members, with capacity for 14 people.

The group say they would be delighted to receive any amount we can give them. Members will recall that we have supported this group in the past.

2. **New Leaf Triangle** is a group which provides stress-free outdoor learning to children and young people who have a variety of disabilities and special needs. Their mission is to use the natural environment and animals, to help children, young people and adults to learn and combat personal challenges through fun motivational activities. They are currently trying to raise £4000 to subsidise family outdoor activities and mini holiday camps, so that families from all backgrounds have the chance to go on holiday and have fun, when often it would be too difficult to do this without support and the right environment for their children. They are based in Goadby Marwood. More details are available on their website <https://www.newleaftrianglecic.co.uk/>

The Committee have agreed to support both these local charities by giving a sum of £250 to each. This will still leave £1000 should Birch Wood decide to go out for the day.

Helen Bett

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