

Dear Ann

I write to you on behalf of the Beeston & Tarporley Station Re-opening Group (B&TSRG) as the Stakeholder Manager. The team is led by Michael Flynn and my role is to keep the stakeholders up to date with progress, obtain their feedback, and occasionally ask for help.

I have previously written with an update some weeks ago, but now come to you for financial help please in this fiscal year.

We are proud that we are one of less than 10 such projects the Government has approved to proceed, and the only one led by private citizens. The Government has awarded us £50,000 to fund the next stage, which is to produce a detailed business case and an outline design. We will need to engage experts to do this.

Under the Government's matched funding mechanism, we must find another 33.3% (£16,667) from local sources. This is as much about the Government looking for material signals of local support as it is about the money. We have approached Cheshire West and Chester Council (CW&C), Cheshire East Council (CE), and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and, so far, the LEP have agreed £5,555, discussions with CE continue positively, but CW&C have declined.

We recently approached the Ward Councillors of Tarporley, Tattenhall, and Tarvin & Kelsall, who have all offered help and their applications are in process. We hope this will address most of the CW&C shortfall. However, the likelihood is that we will still be short, especially if CE don't fully oblige, so we may still be short £5-6,000 in total. Bunbury Parish Council has also committed financial help, for which we are very grateful.

We are therefore asking if you might be able to help us with a small donation please. The money will certainly help, and the indication of support that it carries will help immeasurably. We are a 'not for profit' organisation and the officers on the team take no fees, so if we end up over subscribed will return funds to parish councils on a pro rata basis.

We know your funds are limited and your commitments many, but anything you can help us with would be fantastic. Thank you so much for reading this and considering our plea and, if you can help us please let us know. Gordon our Treasurer, copied, will be in touch to sort the details.

Many thanks and kind regards

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