



Chideock Parish Council

Mrs V Hunt
Head Churchwarden
St Giles' Church
Chideock

22nd January 2025

Dear Mrs Hunt

RE: CLOCK SERVICING

Thank you for your reply to our letter of 17th January 2025.

In view of your comments, we have gone back to the Induction Pack of documents given to all new councillors by the previous Clerk last year when we took over. This was a most comprehensive set of papers.

We quote below from those documents "GRANTS TO EXTERNAL BODIES"

"a) Clock Servicing Grant

The church clock is insured and maintained by Saint Giles Parochial Church Council. They enter into a 3-year servicing arrangement with Smith of Derby. Each year CPC budgets for this and when a new contract is started the PCC asks CPC to grant them the money – the invoice must have already been paid by the PCC.

b) Cemetery Grass Cutting

By a long-standing agreement CPC makes a grant to cover half of the cost of mowing the cemetery and occasionally other maintenance work for the cemetery. The application is made after the PCC has paid the invoice.

CPC does not contribute towards any work carried out in the churchyard. The cemetery is open for burial of anyone of any or no faith. The churchyard is only open for Church of England Burials. The cemetery is owned by the PCC"

The document then goes on to Other Grants.

In our view there is no question that our position in this matter has been correct, and the stance taken by yourself clearly contradicts the previous Clerk's procedure documentation. We are happy for you to have a copy of this if you would like.

As we have already stated in our previous letters, we expect you to have negotiated a 3-year contract with Smiths of Derby, you need to pay their invoice and then complete the Grant Form that the Clerk sent to you last year. Once we have this back, we can pay you the grant award.

We are not able to continue correspondence in this matter. We have made our processes and procedures clear; we have pointed you to previous documentation and process notes kept by the previous Clerk. Until we receive the completed Grant Application Form, we will consider this matter closed.

Yours sincerely
Chideock Parish Council
www.chideockparishcouncil.com