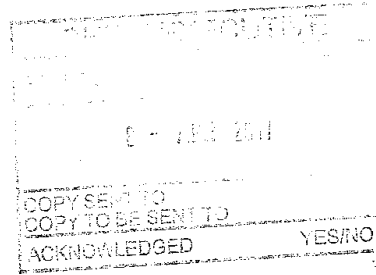




MALLING

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Reg Charity No. 1080508

7<sup>th</sup> April 2011

Dear David

**Age Concern Malling Service Provision to Residents of Tonbridge and Malling**

The Trustees of Age Concern Malling have asked me to contact you to see if there might be a way that the Borough Council can help us with short term funding to allow the services we provide to the residents of Tonbridge and Malling to continue. To give the full background to this request I detail below the problems we are facing and our needs

Age Concern Malling has been for many years receive partial funding for our services from Kent County Council Social Services and the West Kent Primary Care Trust. Our total Funding last year from both sources was £156,000.00 Due to funding changes and the cancellation of the Primary Care Trust contract the total funding in the year starting 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 has been reduced to £83,000.00, a reduction of £73,000.00 which equates to a 21% reduction in our total income from all sources. In order to cope with this reduction we have been forced to look at partial closure of our day centre and reduction in service provision in the home. These cuts will seriously affect many vulnerable older people within the Borough and will also result in staff redundancies which will affect employment in the area.

We have however recently received details from Whitehead Monkton, Solicitors of a legacy left to us from the estate of [REDACTED]. This legacy will be in the region of £1,300,000.00 after all other distributions and costs from the estate. This will make a significant impact on the Charity and will allow us to safeguard and expand the services we provide throughout the Borough and secure its future. I attach a copy of the will and the preliminary valuation of the estate. I have spoken in detail with the solicitor administering the estate and have been assured that the first distribution of funds, from bank accounts and liquid investments will be made in October of this year. This is expected to be in the region of £600,000.00, the balance of the estate will take longer to sort as it involves property and shares.

Given this legacy and the guarantee of funds within this financial year the Trustees are anxious not to damage existing services by making cuts that will be irreversible and are thus seeking ways of continuing to fund the same in the interim, until the first tranche of the legacy is distributed. They have therefore asked me to approach you to see if help may be available.

*Making more of life in the 27 villages of Tonbridge and Malling Borough*

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Royal Patron of Age Concern: HRH The Prince of Wales KG KI GCB

Age Concern is a federation of registered charities.

The problems we face is three fold, firstly there is the reduction in funding which means that the amount due on 1<sup>st</sup> April reduces from £81,500.00 to £41,500 00, secondly KCC Adult Social Services have changed the contract arrangements, which has resulted in a delay in approval of the grant for the year and also means that it is initially paid to Age Concern Maidstone, who will then pass our proportion on. These two factors mean that funding due on 1<sup>st</sup> April will not be received until the middle of May. We rely heavily on prompt payment of these monies to make our annual payments such as insurance, rent etc and are now left in a deficit situation. The third factor is that we currently rent the land on which Rotary House stands from Kent County Council and have 12 years to run on the lease, we have been given the option to purchase the land for £30,000.00, considerably below its value. This purchase will secure the long term future of the charity and ensure it will continue to provide services to the community in the future; this option will however only be available if taken within the next few weeks.

The net result of all the above is that for the charity to continue to provide its current level of service and to secure its long term future a short term loan of £75,000.00 is urgently needed until the first tranche of our legacy is received. The charity is able to pay a commercial rate of interest on the loan and has a guaranteed source of funds for repayment.

The Trustees are therefore asking if the Borough would consider a loan on terms determined by you to ensure that the vital services that Age Concern Malling provides can continue. The Trustees believe that this will be of benefit to the charity, the community and especially the elderly vulnerable adults who we serve.

I do hope that the above fully explains the situation and that urgent consideration can be given to this request. I am happy to provide any further information needed and to meet with you and other officers and members at any time.

Yours sincerely



Keith Austin  
Chief Officer