**Fundraising Policy for Gerrards Cross Community Association GXCA**

Effective Date: 11 February 2025

Gerrards Cross Community Association GXCA ("we", "us", "our") is committed to raising funds in a way that is ethical, transparent, and in line with our charitable objectives. This Fundraising Policy outlines how we approach fundraising activities, ensuring that they are carried out with the highest standards of integrity and accountability.

**1. Purpose of Fundraising**

Our primary goal is to raise funds that will support the activities, services, and community projects of the Gerrards Cross Community Association. This may include:

* Organising events and activities for the community
* Maintaining and improving our facilities
* Promoting the welfare and inclusion of our members
* Supporting local community projects including clubs

We strive to engage with our supporters, both individuals and organisations, in a manner that fosters trust, enthusiasm, and continued partnership.

**2. Fundraising Methods**

We will use a variety of fundraising methods to raise the funds needed to support our charitable work, including:

* **Individual Donations**: These may be collected through online platforms, donation forms, and at events.
* **Corporate Sponsorships and Partnerships**: We will approach businesses to sponsor events or donate in-kind support.
* **Events and Activities**: We may organise fundraising events such as community fairs, auctions, raffles, or charity runs.
* **Grants and Trust Funding**: We will apply for relevant grants from trusts, foundations, and public bodies to support specific projects or activities.

We will never pressure individuals or businesses to donate and will respect the wishes of any potential donor who prefers not to contribute.

**3. Ethical Fundraising**

We are committed to ensuring all of our fundraising activities adhere to the highest ethical standards, including:

* **Honesty and Transparency**: All fundraising materials will clearly explain the purpose of the funds being raised, how donations will be used, and the impact donors can expect to see.
* **Respect for Donors**: We will respect the privacy and preferences of all donors. We will not share or sell personal details without explicit consent.
* **Accountability**: We will ensure funds are used for the intended purposes, and we will provide regular updates to donors and the community on the outcomes of fundraising efforts.
* **No Pressure**: We will never pressure individuals or groups into donating and will ensure that all fundraising efforts are voluntary and non-coercive.

**4. Fundraising Activities**

All fundraising activities carried out by Gerrards Cross Community Association will be planned and managed with attention to detail and consideration for the community. We will:

* Ensure that all fundraising events comply with relevant laws and regulations.
* Obtain any necessary permissions or licences for events (e.g., for raffles, public collections, or street fundraising).
* Ensure that all promotional materials for fundraising events are clear, accurate, and truthful.
* Follow ethical practices for online fundraising, including secure payment systems and clear communication regarding the use of personal data.

**5. Donor Protection and Privacy**

We are committed to protecting the privacy of our donors. We will:

* Collect and store personal data in accordance with the **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**.
* Use any donor information solely for fundraising, membership, and communication purposes, unless explicit consent is obtained for other uses.
* Never share or sell personal information to third parties.
* Respect the rights of donors to opt out of communications at any time.

**6. Use of Funds**

Donations and funds raised will be used responsibly and transparently. We commit to:

* Allocating donations to specific projects or areas of need as described in fundraising campaigns.
* Ensuring that funds raised are used in line with our charitable objectives and in a manner that provides value to the community.
* Reporting back to our donors and the public on how funds have been used, including providing annual reports where appropriate.

**7. Compliance with Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

We will ensure that all of our fundraising activities comply with applicable laws and regulations, including:

* The **Fundraising Regulator's Code of Practice**.
* The **Charity Commission for England and Wales** regulations and guidelines.
* Relevant local laws and requirements for fundraising events.
* The **Data Protection Act 2018** and **GDPR** for handling donor information.

**8. Training and Support**

We will ensure that all staff, volunteers, and fundraising partners involved in any fundraising activities are properly trained and supported. This includes:

* Providing guidance on ethical fundraising practices and compliance with legal requirements.
* Ensuring that all staff and volunteers understand the importance of donor confidentiality and privacy.
* Offering training in managing donations, keeping records, and acknowledging donor contributions.

**9. Acknowledgement of Donations**

We are grateful for every donation and will acknowledge the generosity of our donors in a timely and appropriate manner. This may include:

* Thank you letters or emails sent to individual donors.
* Public acknowledgements of corporate sponsors and event supporters (with the donor's consent).
* Invitations to special events or gatherings where donors can see the impact of their contributions.

**10. Complaints and Feedback**

We are committed to handling any concerns or complaints regarding our fundraising activities with respect and transparency. If you have any concerns or feedback about our fundraising efforts, please contact us using the following channels:

Gerrards Cross Community Association (GXCA)
The Memorial Centre, 8 East Common, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire SL9 7AD
Email: Office@gxca.org.uk
Phone: [01753 883759](https://www.google.com/search?q=gxca&rlz=1C1ONGR_enGB1029GB1029&oq=gxca++&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIGCAEQRRg7MgYIAhBFGEEyBggDEEUYPDIGCAQQRRg8MgYIBRBFGEHSAQgxNjI5ajBqNKgCALACAQ&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

We will ensure that all complaints are handled promptly and in accordance with our internal procedures.

**11. Review and Updates**

This Fundraising Policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to ensure continued compliance with relevant regulations, and to reflect any changes in our fundraising activities or objectives.

Thank you for supporting Gerrards Cross Community Association! Every donation and contribution helps us to continue our vital work within the local community. We are grateful for your trust and support.

If you have any questions or need more information about our fundraising efforts, please get in touch.

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