



MAIN GRANTS PROGRAMME
(for applications to a maximum value of £2,500)
APPLICATION FORM

Name of organisation	Eco Communities
Official address (if applicable)	

	First contact	Second contact
Name	Helen Tandy	Angharad Armson
Position	Director	
Address		
Telephone		
Email	office@sustainablecheshire.uk	

Does your organisation have a named bank account with a minimum of two signatories?	YES	X
	NO	

Registration status (if applicable)	
Charity Commission registration number	-
Companies House registration number	12272724

Your organisation	
What does your organisation do?	Eco Community UK CIC will work with individuals, groups, businesses and organisations to promote, encourage and educate communities in sustainable and environmentally aware living
How does your organisation benefit the local community? Please include a specific example.	We are currently supporting Neston become a plastic free region via Surfers against Sewage having achieved it for Chester in 2018. This involved engaging with businesses, community groups and individuals to reduce the use of single use plastic and encourage community engagement in activities to keep the region cleaner through litter picks.
How many people benefit directly from the work of your organisation (itemise numbers of members, volunteers and service users)?	With the support of Neston Town Council, we have engaged with over 30 organisations and businesses so far.
What activities, events or services has your organisation provided in Neston	We have met with the local environmental

during the last 12 months?	campaign group Neston Earth Group, members of the Town Council and Businesses to discuss the benefits of reducing the use of single use plastics.
What activities, events or services does your organisation plan to provide in Neston for the next 12 months?	We want to finalise the regions Plastic Free status by the end of April and then launch a reusable, returnable coffee cup scheme.

Your project	
Project title	Cheshire Cup Club
Amount requested	£1,578.89
Project start date	Asap
Project end date	Ongoing
Describe your project	We have funding to trial our reusable returnable cup scheme in Chester starting in May and would love to trial this in Neston also. We feel the community has engaged with the Plastic Free Neston Campaign and working with the local cafes to replace single use coffee cups with our reusable returnable cups. The cups will be owned by Eco Communities. They will also be a stock available for use at outdoor events within the region.
List the main objectives of your project	We aim to reduce waste from single use coffee cups and also the problem they create with street litter to a circular system where reusable cups are provided which are returned and reused over and over again. See brochure provided.
Explain how each main objective will be achieved.	We will engage with cafes in the region covered by Neston TC to get them to engage with the trial. We will provide them with the cups for use for free during the trial period of 6 months once they have completed our sign-up form. We will engage with members of the community to use the scheme and work with the Town Council and CWAC to review any changes in littering in the region. We will also engage with litter pick groups for the same information.
Provide a timeline for implementation of your project.	If funding is agreed we could start the trial within 6-8 weeks while we wait for the cup branding.
Detail the evidence that proves why this project is needed.	Using national data we estimate that 55,080 coffee cups may be used annually just in Cheshire West, most of which will have been single use. 95% of people that have reusable cups forget to take them when they are out and about. Less than 1% of single use coffee cups are recycled as they need to go to specialist recycling facilities as most are a mix of paper and plastic. If we are to tackle

	climate change, we need to create a circular economy and plastic lined coffee cups go into general waste. (Only one recycle plant exists in the UK and this is just the larger chains who can afford to pay for this solution, but even then if people are not taking the single use cup back to the shop for recycling they end up in litter bins)	
Please demonstrate how the people who will benefit from your project, with lived experience of the issues tackled, have been involved in its development and how they will be involved in its delivery.		
What difference will your project make to the lives of the people who will benefit from it and how will you measure its legacy?	Litter creates litter so by taking single use coffee cups from littering and bins we hope the community will be a cleaner place to live for all residents. Engaging with residents on the cup scheme can be used as a way to engage with people on wider issues around climate change. The scheme can support the council's aims to reduce plastic in the region.	
How many people do you estimate will benefit from your project?	Direct beneficiaries	200
	Volunteers	NA
If you aim for your project to carry on in the future, how will you ensure it continues after the funding from this application has been used?	Once the trial has ended, the businesses will be asked to engage with the full scheme where they will be asked to pay a hire fee for the cups which we aim to keep at a rate they would have paid for single use coffee cups. These can cost around 11p each.	

Breakdown of project costs		
Description of expenditure	Amount £	
Reusable cups 800 @ £1.50 each inc vat, branded Cheshire Cup Club and lid suitable for over 500 uses each for cafes	1,200	
Counter Top Displays x 10 (min order)	9.90	
Roller Banner	68.99	
Reusable cups 200 @ £1.50 each inc vat, branded Cheshire Cup Club and lid suitable for over 500 uses each for cafes	300	
TOTAL PROJECT COST (do not include in-kind costs)	1578.89	

Sources of project funding and in-kind support	
Have you secured any other funding for your project? If so, where from?	Amount

Not for this project but we were successful to secure funding	
For this project in Chester	
https://www.spacehive.com/sustainablecheshirecup The costings became higher for the cups by the time the funding was secured and so this has delayed the scheme start date while we reviewed the cup choices again.	
Description of in-kind assistance secured (eg volunteer hours or donated equipment)	Amount (what is the financial conversion for this in-kind help?)
NA	

Financial information about your organisation (last financial year)	
What was the date of your last financial year end?	31/10/2022
What was your organisation's income in the last financial year?	11000
Did your organisation have a surplus or deficit for the last financial year?	Surplus £0
	Deficit £52
What were your organisation's unrestricted reserves at the end of the last financial year?	£0 As a community interest company at the moment our income is from grants which are used to buy items for projects – we pay no salaries and all our work is on a volunteer basis and we have other employment. We don't keep reserves as all money is used for the applied project.

Financial information about your organisation (current financial year)	
Are you projecting a surplus or deficit for the current financial year?	Projected surplus £0
	Projected deficit £00
What are your organisation's projected unrestricted reserves for the end of the current financial year?	£0

Previous grant support from Neston Town Council		
Please detail below previous grant support that your organisation has received from Neston Town Council during the past five years		
Date of grant award	Purpose of grant award	Amount
None		

The Town Council's funding priorities

We look for projects that support the funding priorities detailed in the Town Council's Grants Policy. Which of these priorities does your project support?	
To enable local people to participate in voluntary groups and activities.	
To help the Neston area's voluntary and community groups to improve the impact on the community.	
To ensure the provision of services, needed by the residents of the Neston area, via the voluntary sector.	
To support organisations which meet the needs of people experiencing social and economic difficulties.	
To ensure that there is equality of access and opportunity for all Neston area residents to the services it provides and funds.	
To improve or enhance the local environment.	

Checklist	
Latest annual accounts	
Copies of written estimates or catalogue pages (if applicable)	
Policies for the protection of children and/or vulnerable adults (if applicable)	

Declaration	
1. I am authorised to make the application on behalf of the above organisation. 2. I have read Neston Town Council's Grants Policy and Funding Agreement. 3. I certify that the information in this application is correct. 4. If the information in the application changes in any way I will inform Neston Town Council. 5. I confirm that our organisation has the necessary governance in place to ensure accountability for the spending of any grant money allocated by Neston Town Council. 6. I understand that information provided in this application (with the exception of contact details and signatures) will be in the public domain and will be uploaded to the Town Council's website. 7. I agree to participate in monitoring, auditing and reporting feedback related to Neston Town Council grant funding.	
Name	Helen Tandy
Signature	
Date	31/03/2023

Applications to the main grants programme are considered twice a year and the deadlines for submission of applications are **31 March** and **30 September**.

You can submit your application electronically to council@nestontowncouncil.org.uk or by post to Neston Town Council, Town Hall, High Street, Neston CH64 9TR.

NESTON TOWN COUNCIL PRIVACY NOTICE FOR APPLICANTS TO THE TOWN COUNCIL'S GRANTS PROGRAMME

The Data Protection Act 2018 governs how we handle personal data.

Why are we collecting your information?

On our grant application forms most of the information we need relates to your organisation. However, we are often provided with names, email addresses, contact telephone numbers and addresses relating to named individuals who are submitting the form on behalf of the group. We are processing the data in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. We will only use the personal data supplied for the means of administering the grants programme.

How will we use your information?

The information you provide to us in connection with your grant application (including personal contact details) will be held securely as hard copy originals and as electronic data on Neston Town Council's shared drive. We will only use this information to assess, process and award community grants. For those successful in obtaining a grant award, we will use information about the project in publicity to promote the grants programme but will not share any personal data. If we want to use any photographs showing people at your events we will ensure we gain consent from them at the time in order to use images of them.

Who will we share your information with?

The information may be shared with other Council Officers and Town Councillors as part of our grant assessment and monitoring process. A redacted version of your grant application (removing private addresses, private telephone numbers, private email addresses and applicant signatures) will be considered at a grants meeting and, as such, will be uploaded to the Town Council website alongside other papers detailed on the agenda. Your contact details will not be passed on to third parties. Please note that Neston Town Council is subject to the Freedom of Information Act and other legislation.

How long will we keep your information?

Information from successful applicants will be retained for the current financial year plus six years. A redacted version of the grant application uploaded to the website as a meeting paper will be available to view for an indefinite period (private addresses, private telephone numbers, private email addresses and applicant signatures are redacted).

Information from unsuccessful grant applicants will be kept for 12 months from the point of application. A redacted version of the grant application uploaded to the website as a meeting paper will be available to view for an indefinite period (private addresses, private telephone numbers, private email addresses and applicant signatures are redacted).