



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

Name of organisation	Amber Button CIC
Official address (if applicable)	Seymour Chambers, 92 London Road L3 5NW

	First contact	Second contact
Name	Jeanette Cook	David Mills
Position	Managing Director	Director
Address	Summerhill House CH43 9LB	Summerhill House CH43 9LB
Telephone		
Email	jeanette@amberbuttoncic.co.uk	dave@amberbuttoncic.co.uk

Does your organisation have a bank account with a minimum of two signatures? <i>Grants will only be awarded to organisations with a bank account.</i>	YES	/
	NO	

Registration status (if applicable)	
Charity Commission registration number	
Companies House registration number	11044944

Your organisation	
What does your organisation do?	Providers of community learning and support to help build confidence, support wellbeing, encourage aspirations and promote positive change.
How does your organisation benefit the local community? Please include a specific example.	We provide short courses, workshops, and accredited provision to help individuals to learn, achieve and progress. For example, we founded a men's group in Neston and supported the group for 2 years to a point where they were able to sustain the group independently. The group continue to meet regularly – usually weekly – and enjoy meetings, social activities, and trips together.
How many people benefit directly from the work of your organisation (itemise numbers of members, volunteers and service users)?	Members 20 Volunteers 2 Service users 547 per annum (end 2024/5 academic year)
What activities, events or services has your organisation provided in Neston during the last 12 months?	Neston Gentleman's Breakfast Club Neston Umbrella Group Supported initial development of Young Voices of Neston
What activities, events or services does your organisation plan to provide in	Wellbeing workshops

Neston for the next 12 months?	
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Your project	
Project title	Creative crafts for wellbeing
Amount requested	£2345
Project start date <i>The project start date must be later than the meeting at which your application is to be considered. It is not possible to award grants retrospectively.</i>	13 October 2025
Project end date	31 July 2026
Describe your project	The project will be delivered as a programme of creative crafts workshops. Being creative not only encourages self-expression but also provides a valuable tool for managing stress and improving overall mental health. Engaging in creative activities such as painting, knitting, or pottery allows individuals to immerse themselves in a process that encourages mindfulness, reduces stress, and promotes feelings of achievement and satisfaction.
List the main objectives of your project	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide participants with a safe and supportive environment where they can explore their creativity while simultaneously addressing their mental health needs. 2. Promote and support positive mental wellbeing. 3. Encourage participants to communicate emotions that may be difficult to articulate verbally.
Explain how each main objective will be achieved.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Workshops will be delivered at NCYC, Neston Library, or Neston Civic Hall, venues that are familiar to local people and should feel comfortable. Tutors will strive to create an inclusive environment where each learner feels valued and heard and will utilise anonymous feedback tools so that learners have a 'voice'. 2. Creating a supportive learning environment is vital for addressing the mental health needs of learners. Tutors will achieve this by establishing rapport with learners and encouraging a sense of belonging in the classroom which will help alleviate stress and anxiety and enhance positive

	<p>mental health.</p> <p>3. Activities such as group discussions or sharing circles will allow learners to engage with one another's experiences, which will help normalise expression. Tutors will have opportunities to share their own experiences relating to emotions and crafting, which may inspire learners to embrace their own feelings without fear of being judged.</p>
Provide a timeline for implementation of your project.	<p>6 October – Project Initiation including planning, setting aims and objectives, marketing and recruitment</p> <p>3 November – Delivery starts.</p> <p>26 January – Mid-term assessment. Identify and implement any adaptations.</p> <p>30 June – Project evaluation.</p> <p>31 July – Project completion.</p>
Detail the evidence that proves why this project is needed.	<p>A study by WHO showed that one in four people experience a mental health problem at some point in their lives. However, a larger, more recent study by Harvard Medical School indicates that half the global population will develop a mental health issue during their lifetime. These staggering statistics alone emphasise the need for initiatives aimed at promoting mental wellbeing. Since Covid in particular, as an organisation we have noticed significant increases in the number of learners reporting anxiety, depression and other mood disorders, often marked by social isolation or economic instability. Consultation with service users and partner organisations in the Neston area shows that there is a shortage of local, suitable programmes aimed specifically at wellbeing. We are confident that this project will plug that gap and will provide much needed provision to the local community.</p>
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.	<p>Involving people who will benefit from the project in its development has provided valuable insights, encouraged a sense of ownership and given us the opportunity to address real needs. Beneficiaries have</p>

	been able to contribute their own perspectives and will continue to do so during the planning and delivery stages. These firsthand experiences highlight topics, barriers, and challenges that may not be evident to professionals who lack similar experiences.	
What difference will your project make to the lives of the people who will benefit from it and how will you measure its legacy?	The project will help reduce isolation by encouraging participants to come together by attending a programme of creative craft workshops. This will encourage strong community ties and provide an opportunity for staff to share important access to resources such as support groups. The programme will help build individual and community resilience, empowering participants to manage their own mental health and contribute positively to society. Its legacy will be in helping destigmatise mental illness, improving overall wellbeing and promoting early intervention and self-management services.	
How many people do you estimate will benefit from your project?	Direct beneficiaries	20
	Volunteers	2
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?	As we did with the Umbrella Group and Neston Gentleman’s Breakfast Club, we will encourage participants to continue meeting after the funding from this application has been used. This may be by forming a fully constituted group that can then fundraise or seek grants in their own right, or by meeting informally in their own homes for example.	

Breakdown of project costs	
Description of expenditure	Amount £
Project management, planning, recruitment, data, evaluation, and reporting	400
Delivery of workshops	1600
Venue hire	300
Resources	45
TOTAL PROJECT COST (do not include in-kind costs)	2345

Sources of project funding and in-kind support	
Have you secured any other funding for your project? If so, where from?	Amount
No	0
Description of in-kind assistance secured (eg volunteer hours or donated equipment)	Amount (what is the financial conversion for this in-kind help?)
Volunteer hours	195.20

Financial information about your organisation (last financial year)	
What was the date of your last financial year end?	August 2025
What was your organisation's income in the last financial year?	120,00
Did your organisation have a surplus or deficit for the last financial year?	Surplus £0
	Deficit £
What were your organisation's unrestricted reserves at the end of the last financial year?	£0

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 £0
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

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.	
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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	Jeanette Cook
Signature	Jeanette Cook
Date	18/9/2025

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).