NEWBURY Town Council

10th November 2026

To: Councillors: Phil Barnett, Alistair Bounds, Sam Dibas, Billy Drummond, David Marsh (chairperson) and Sarah Slack.

Substitutes: Chris Hood, Vaughan Miller, Elizabeth O'Keeffe, Graham Storey Meg Thomas and Martha Vickers

Dear Councillor

You are summonsed to attend a meeting of the **Grants Sub-Committee** to be held at **7:00pm on Monday 16th November 2026 in The Chamber, Town Hall, Newbury.**

The meeting is open to the press and public and will be streamed via Zoom:
Newbury Town Council is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86539691623?pwd=YY5aErJHpPC511pTYqDmVmKzAlgpaf.1

Meeting ID: 865 3969 1623
Passcode: 844042

Yours sincerely

Liz Manship

Liz Manship
Responsible Financial Officer

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

2. Declarations of interest and dispensations
To receive any declarations of interest relating to business to be conducted in this meeting and confirmation of any relevant dispensations.

3. Minutes (Appendix 1)
To approve the minutes of a meeting of the Grants Sub-Committee held on 7th July 2026

4. Grants Awarded (Appendix 2)

To note the record of grants awarded since Financial Year 2024/25

5. Grant Aid Criteria (Appendix 3)

To note the criteria for the award of grant Aid

6. Award of Grant Aid (Appendix 4)

6.1 To Consider the list of applications for Grant Aid for projects registered on The Good Exchange as of 10th November 2026 that fulfil the Council's Grant Criteria (Appendix 4)

- Information on all projects listed can be found on TheGoodExchange.com (enter the Application ID in search box).

6.2 To Note additional information received regarding applications

- Project 21564- Still Here Peer Support Group- Continued support for families affected by addiction 2026-27 (Appendix 5)
- Project 21547- Newbury Weekly News, Over 80s Parcel Fund 26 (Appendix 6)
- Project- 21359- Hungerford Food Community, Newbury & Thatcham Community Cooking & Supporting Healthy Food Choices 2026/27 (Appendix 7)
- Project 21579- Sober Crowd Newbury, Core Growth Funding for 2027 (Appendix 8)
- SCARF Life Education- Wessex & Thames Valley (Appendix 9)

6.3 To Resolve to award Grant Aid to the successful applications in line with the Council's criteria for Grant Aid.

7. Date of Next Meeting

To agree that the next meeting will be held on 22nd February 2027.

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Minutes of a meeting of the Grants Sub-Committee of Newbury Town Council held at 19:30 noon on Tuesday 7th July 2026 in The Council Offices, Town Hall, Newbury.

Present: Councillors: Alistair Bounds (arrived 19:34), Sam Dibas (arrived 19:45), Billy Drummond, David Marsh (chairperson) and Elizabeth O'Keeffe (substitute)

In Attendance: Toby Miles-Mallowan, Chief Executive Officer and Sophie Williams, Apprentice Finance Officer.

01. Apologies for absence

Councillors: Sarah Slack, Phil Barnett

02. Declarations of interest and dispensations

a) General Dispensations
The Council noted that Councillors Billy Drummond and David Marsh, as members of West Berkshire Council, hold a general dispensation permitting them to participate in discussions and vote on matters relating to the business of West Berkshire Council where they would otherwise have a registrable interest.

b) Declarations of Interest
The following non-pecuniary interests were declared in relation to the business on the agenda:

- **Councillor Sam Dibas** declared a personal interest as a Parish Councillor for Enborne Parish Council and as a Trustee of St Bartholomew's School.
- **Councillor Billy Drummond** declared a personal interest as a Member of The Base, Greenham, and as a Parish Councillor for Greenham Parish Council
- **Councillor David Marsh** declared a personal interest as a Trustee to Wash Common Library, Trustee to Wash Common Community Association, Parent of a pupil at St Bartholomew's School, Husband to a Governor at St Bartholomew's School and volunteer with West Berkshire Food Bank
- **Councillor Elizabeth O'Keeffe** declared a personal interest as a Volunteer Steward of The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust

03. Minutes

Proposed: Councillor David Marsh
Seconded: Councillor Billy Drummond
Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the Grants Sub-Committee held on Monday 23rd February 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.

04. Grants Awarded (Appendix 2)

The Committee noted the record of grants awarded since financial year 2024/25

05. Grant Aid Criteria (Appendix 3)

The meeting noted the Grant Aid Criteria.

06. Award of Grant Aid

Having regard to the Council's criteria for awarding grants and the Council's Strategic objectives to support youth, the elderly, the vulnerable and the diverse in communities.

Proposed: Councillor Billy Drummond

Seconded: Councillor Sam Dibas

Resolved: That the Council makes the following grant awards, payable through The Good Exchange:

TGE Ref	Organisation	Project title	Balance required	NTC Award	TGE Match Funding	Total Awarded
21345	Newbury Cricket Club	Newbury Cricket Club - Taking it to the next level	£14,029.00	£500.00	£500.00	£1,000.00
21471	Newbury District Swimming Club	Replacement Wave - Reduction Racing Lane Ropes.	£4,000.00	£500.00	£500.00	£1,000.00
21261	Newbury Friends of Earth	Newbury Nature Corridors 2026/27	£7,380.42	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£2,000.00
21380	Newbury Junior Parkrun	Newbury Junior Parkrun - Community Wellbeing Fund	£4,800.00	£250.00	£250.00	£500.00
21373	The Base Greenham	GENerate 2027 - Student Exhibition Providing Young People with Opportunities to be Involved with a Professional Gallery.	£12,213.00	£300.00	£300.00	£600.00
21453	The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust	Panto Pay It Forward	£10,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£2,000.00
				£3,550.00	£3,550.00	£7,100.00

07. Review of current grant aid

The Committee resolved to publicise Newbury Town Councils available budget for grants and grants awarded. As well as investigating how Newbury Town Council can encourage smaller organisations to apply for grant aid.

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 20:51pm.

Chairperson: **Date:**

Grants Awarded by NTC - Grants Sub-Committee from Financial Year 2024/25

Ref	Organisation name	NTC Grant July 2024	NTC Grant Nov 2024	NTC Grant Feb 2025	NTC Grant June 2025	NTC Grant Nov 2025	NTC Grant Feb 2026	NTC Grant July 2026	NTC Grant Nov 2026	NTC Grant Feb 2027
21014	1st Newbury Scout Group					£500.00				
21014	1st Newbury Scout Group					-£500.00				
20995	1st Wash Common Scout Group				£661.50					
21123	Assisting Berkshire Children to read					£500.00				
20380	2nd Newbury Guides	£500.00								
21005	3rd Newbury Scout Group				£661.50					
20389	All Yours Period Box C.I.C	£500.00								
21213	Berkshire MS Therapy Centre						£250.00			
21211	City Arts Newbury						£390.00			
20626	Dingley's Promise (Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres)		£1,000.00							
20628	Dingley's Promise (Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres)			£500.00						
20692	Dingley's Promise (Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres)			£500.00						
21180	Dingley's Promise (Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres)						£500.00			
20946	Educafe CIC						£750.00			
20752	Education Business Partnership West Berkshire			£314.30						
21190	Education Business Partnership West Berkshire						£250.00			

Grants Awarded by NTC - Grants Sub-Committee from Financial Year 2024/25

Ref	Organisation name	NTC Grant July 2024	NTC Grant Nov 2024	NTC Grant Feb 2025	NTC Grant June 2025	NTC Grant Nov 2025	NTC Grant Feb 2026	NTC Grant July 2026	NTC Grant Nov 2026	NTC Grant Feb 2027
20328	Eight Bells for Mental Health		£500.00							
20805	Eight Bells for Mental Health					£500.00				
20505	Fair Close Centre (Age Concern, Newbury & District)	£1,281.52								
20579	Fair Close Centre (Age Concern, Newbury & District)			£1,000.00						
20737	Falkland Cricket Club - Newbury			£250.00						
21175	Falkland Cricket Club - Newbury						£671.37			
20393	Forever Loved Horse Therapy cic		£500.00							
20522	Friends of Wash Common Library	£750.00								
20486	Greener Greenham Group	£655.50								
21236	Greenham Trust						£1,000.00			
20356	Home-Start West Berkshire	£500.00								
20371	Home-Start West Berkshire	£1,000.00								
20372	Home-Start West Berkshire	£750.00								
20698	Home-Start West Berkshire			£500.00						
20749	Home-Start West Berkshire			£500.00						
21006	Home-Start West Berkshire						£500.00			

Grants Awarded by NTC - Grants Sub-Committee from Financial Year 2024/25

Ref	Organisation name	NTC Grant July 2024	NTC Grant Nov 2024	NTC Grant Feb 2025	NTC Grant June 2025	NTC Grant Nov 2025	NTC Grant Feb 2026	NTC Grant July 2026	NTC Grant Nov 2026	NTC Grant Feb 2027
20978	Kintbury Tennis Club (administration address)				£688.25					
20879	Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley				£155.00					
21160	Loose Ends Newbury					£1,000.00				
20416	Newbury and District Beekeepers Association	£993.38								
20323	Newbury Choral Society	£710.00								
20800	Newbury Cricket Club			£250.00						
20568	Newbury Friends of the Earth	£1,000.00								
20480	Newbury Photography Club	£116.50								
20541	Newbury Pride	£500.00								
20759	Newbury Pride				£500.00					
20984	Newbury Riding for the Disabled Limited				£272.38					
20566	Newbury Riding for the Disabled Ltd.	£500.00								
20909	Newbury Riding for the Disabled Limited						£250.00			
20484	Newbury Rugby Football Club Ltd		£500.00							
20376	Newbury Soup Kitchen	£500.00								
20934	Newbury Soup Kitchen				£1,000.00	£500.00				

Grants Awarded by NTC - Grants Sub-Committee from Financial Year 2024/25

Ref	Organisation name	NTC Grant July 2024	NTC Grant Nov 2024	NTC Grant Feb 2025	NTC Grant June 2025	NTC Grant Nov 2025	NTC Grant Feb 2026	NTC Grant July 2026	NTC Grant Nov 2026	NTC Grant Feb 2027
21205	Newbury Street Pastors						£500.00			
21116	NEWT						£500.00			
20657	Newbury Weekly News		£1,000.00							
21007	Newbury Weekly News					£1,000.00				
20930	Nomads Musical Theatre				£500.00					
20456	Parkinson's UK, Newbury		£500.00							
20922	Parkinson's UK, Newbury						£500.00			
21113	Rank in File Theatre						£500.00			
20980	Sport In Mind					£500.00				
20283	St Bartholomew's School	£1,000.00								
21147	Swings & Smiles					£1,000.00				
20838	The Base Greenham				£500.00					
20983	The Base Greenham				£500.00					
20419	The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust				£1,000.00					
21109	The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust					£250.00				
20381	The Newbury Community Resource Centre Limited		£500.00							

Grants Awarded by NTC - Grants Sub-Committee from Financial Year 2024/25

Ref	Organisation name	NTC Grant July 2024	NTC Grant Nov 2024	NTC Grant Feb 2025	NTC Grant June 2025	NTC Grant Nov 2025	NTC Grant Feb 2026	NTC Grant July 2026	NTC Grant Nov 2026	NTC Grant Feb 2027
20648	The Newbury Community Resource Centre Limited			£1,000.00						
21027	The Newbury Community Resource Centre Limited						£750.00			
20556	Time to Talk West Berkshire		£1,000.00							
20772	Time to Talk West Berkshire				£500.00					
21139	Volunteer Centre West Berkshire					£250.00				
21169	Volunteer Centre West Berkshire						£750.00			
21013	West Berks Action for Refugees					£500.00				
20853	West Berks Foodbank				£1,000.00					
21092	West Berks Foodbank					£1,000.00				
20650	West Berkshire Mencap		£1,000.00							
21240	West Berkshire Muslim Centre						£500.00			
20240	West Berkshire Therapy Centre	£928.80								
20971	West Berkshire Therapy Centre						£500.00			
20287	Young People and Children First (YPACF)		£1,000.00							
20803	Young People and Children First (YPACF)					£500.00				
	Total Grants Allocated	£12,185.70	£7,500.00	£4,814.30	£7,938.63	£7,500.00	£9,061.37			

Grants Awarded by NTC - Grants Sub-Committee from Financial Year 2024/25

Ref	Organisation name	NTC Grant July 2024	NTC Grant Nov 2024	NTC Grant Feb 2025	NTC Grant June 2025	NTC Grant Nov 2025	NTC Grant Feb 2026	NTC Grant July 2026	NTC Grant Nov 2026	NTC Grant Feb 2027
				£24,500.00		Grants Allocated 2025/26	£24,500.00		Grants Allocated 2026/27	0.00
									Budget 2026/27	£25,000
									To Allocate 2026/27	25,000

Appendix 3

NEWBURY TOWN COUNCIL

CRITERIA FOR GRANT AID

Priority will be given to organisations which:

- Are based within the boundary of Newbury Town Council or which serve wholly or mainly the residents of Newbury.
- Would give benefit to the greatest number and range of Newbury town residents.
- Provide a benefit for the wider community beyond progressing the interest of its members.
- Have made an effort to raise funds themselves and are not reliant on donations to fund the total project
- Show a commitment to sustainability.
- Show a commitment to equality and diversity

In addition

- Grants will not be awarded to bodies for activities which are statutorily funded.
- Priority will be given to those organisations whose objectives meet the priorities and targets laid down in the Council's Strategy.
- Preference will be given to organisations seeking capital or one-off funding, rather than ongoing revenue support

CRITERIA FOR SHORT-LISTING

- Application to the Good Exchange is complete and all required documentation received by the deadline
- Application assessed against the above criteria.
- Short-listed applicants **MAY BE** invited to attend the scheduled Grant Sub-Committee meeting to make a short presentation and answer questions from Members of the Grant Sub-Committee.

Appendix 4

TGE Ref	Organisation name	Project Name	Total cost of project	Amount raised outside TGE	Amount sought	Amount raised through TGE	Match Funding to date	Balance	50% Outstanding	NTC Agreed	TGE Match Funded	Total Awarded
21631	Newbury and Thatcham Repair Cafe	Enhancement of Electrical Safety and Repairing Capabilities 2026	£994.00	£0.00	£994.00	£ -	£ -	£ 994.00	£497.00			
21167	The Secret Garden Project (Community Matters)	Community Library of Things	£6,421.00	£2,150.00	£4,271.00	£ 1,688.00	£ -	£ 2,584.00	£1,292.00			
21633	Newbury Environment and Wildlife Trust	Outdoor Nature Based Learning Facilities	£25,100.00	£0.00	£25,100.00	£ -	£ -	£ 25,100.00	£12,550.00			
21598	Newbury Photography Club	Newbury Photography Club	£739.00	£-	£739.00	£131.25	£-	£607.75	£303.88			
21559	Swings & Smiles	Swings & Smiles	£4,500.00	£-	£4,500.00	£-	£-	£4,500.00	£2,250.00			
21596	Eight Bells for Mental Health	Eight Bells for Mental Health	£3,990.00	£-	£3,990.00	£-	£-	£3,990.00	£1,995.00			
21580	Fair Close Centre (Age Concern, Newbury & District)	Fair Close Centre (Age Concern, Newbury & District)	£131,652.00	£-	£131,652.00	£-	£-	£131,652.00	£65,826.00			
21594	Berkshire Youth	Berkshire Youth	£75,850.00	£26,880.00	£48,970.00	£-	£-	£48,970.00	£24,485.00			
21592	West Berks Foodbank	West Berks Foodbank	£10,000.00	£-	£10,000.00	£6,046.50	£-	£3,953.50	£1,976.75			
21590	Volunteer Centre West Berkshire	Volunteer Centre West Berkshire	£4,157.00	£-	£4,157.00	£-	£-	£4,157.00	£2,078.50			
21560	Newbury Rugby Football Club Ltd	Newbury Rugby Football Club Ltd	£46,958.63	£10,000.00	£36,958.63	£6,557.00	£-	£30,401.63	£15,200.82			
21528	Newbury Trampoline Club	Newbury Trampoline Club	£6,276.00	£-	£6,276.00	£2,000.00	£-	£4,276.00	£2,138.00			
21547	Newbury Weekly News	Newbury Weekly News	£26,000.00	£-	£26,000.00	£9,588.25	£-	£16,411.75	£8,205.88			
21517	Sutton Hall	Sutton Hall	£5,472.00	£35.00	£5,437.00	£2,000.00	£-	£3,437.00	£1,718.50			
21535	Berkshire MS Therapy Centre	Berkshire MS Therapy Centre	£58,517.00	£26,989.00	£31,528.00	£18,228.75	£5,000.00	£13,299.25	£6,649.63			
21538	Newbury Business Improvement District	Newbury Business Improvement District	£46,362.06	£-	£46,362.06	£5,039.06	£-	£41,323.00	£20,661.50			
21539	West Berkshire Council (Applicant)	West Berkshire Council (Applicant)	£15,000.00	£5,000.00	£10,000.00	£-	£-	£10,000.00	£5,000.00			
21532	Home-Start West Berkshire	Home-Start West Berkshire	£36,257.00	£-	£36,257.00	£14,760.00	£2,380.00	£21,497.00	£10,748.50			
21526	Phoenix Lacrosse Club	Phoenix Lacrosse Club	£3,688.00	£-	£3,688.00	£2,000.00	£-	£1,688.00	£844.00			
21516	All Yours Period Box C.I.C	All Yours Period Box C.I.C	£18,933.00	£-	£18,933.00	£6,000.00	£-	£12,933.00	£6,466.50			
21297	Greenham Trust	Greenham Trust	£4,000,000.00	£300,000.00	£3,700,000.00	£511,467.87	£246,672.06	£3,188,532.13	£1,594,266.07			
21449	Newbury Riding for the Disabled Limited	Newbury Riding for the Disabled Limited	£8,228.13	£-	£8,228.13	£-	£-	£8,228.13	£4,114.07			
21478	Newbury Almshouse Trust	Newbury Almshouse Trust	£21,312.00	£4,000.00	£17,312.00	£4,000.00	£-	£13,312.00	£6,656.00			
21479	BookTastic Newbury CIC	BookTastic Newbury CIC	£20,000.00	£115.00	£19,885.00	£9,487.50	£1,450.00	£10,397.50	£5,198.75			
21444	Newbury and District Agricultural Society	Newbury and District Agricultural Society	£180,790.00	£139,540.00	£41,250.00	£16,562.50	£4,575.00	£24,687.50	£12,343.75			
21359	Hungerford Food Community	Hungerford Food Community	£9,463.86	£-	£9,463.86	£6,123.44	£1,059.22	£3,340.42	£1,670.21			
21425	Newbury Soup Kitchen	Newbury Soup Kitchen	£35,540.00	£-	£35,540.00	£19,625.40	£5,000.00	£15,914.60	£7,957.30			
21442	Citizens Advice West Berkshire	Citizens Advice West Berkshire	£19,260.00	£-	£19,260.00	£2,300.00	£150.00	£16,960.00	£8,480.00			
21435	Interakt Community	Interakt Community	£15,120.00	£1,000.00	£14,120.00	£3,000.00	£-	£11,120.00	£5,560.00			
21433	The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust	The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust	£12,995.00	£-	£12,995.00	£-	£-	£12,995.00	£6,497.50			
21378	Newbury Cancer Care	Newbury Cancer Care	£454,388.00	£283,000.00	£171,388.00	£132,846.52	£5,000.00	£38,541.48	£19,270.74			
21381	West Berkshire Council (Applicant)	West Berkshire Council (Applicant)	£14,766.20	£-	£14,766.20	£5,500.00	£-	£9,266.20	£4,633.10			
21370	Daisy's Dream	Daisy's Dream	£24,320.00	£-	£24,320.00	£20,706.74	£5,000.00	£3,613.26	£1,806.63			
21303	West Berkshire Therapy Centre	West Berkshire Therapy Centre	£50,000.00	£-	£50,000.00	£26,004.82	£5,000.00	£23,995.18	£11,997.59			
										£0.00	**£0.00**	**£0.00**

Still Here Peer Support Group

To date, Still Here Support Group has:

- Supported 14 people through our face-to-face support groups
- Supported a further 10 people remotely through telephone/message support and signposting
- Received 26 responses to our community needs and feedback survey

People accessing or engaging with Still Here have come from across Newbury, Thatcham, Pangbourne, Hampshire, Burfield, and Marlborough, with additional interest and enquiries from surrounding areas including Lambourn, Hungerford and Reading.

Our core focus remains Newbury and the surrounding West Berkshire area, and we continue to see a clear need for dedicated support for family members and friends affected by someone else's addiction.

We are also developing a positive working relationship with VIA Newbury, the local drug and alcohol treatment service. VIA is referring and signposting family members to Still Here, helping us to reach people who may otherwise have limited access to support specifically focused on their own wellbeing.

We are working collaboratively with VIA, while Still Here remains focused on supporting the family member or loved one in their own right, regardless of whether the person they are concerned about is currently accessing treatment or is in recovery.

We currently have seven new members registered to begin with Still Here on 8 September, with another new member due to join us on 22 September. This means eight new members are joining the group during September, in addition to the people we supported during our initial pilot.

We are also working with VIA, which provides a quarterly five-session programme for family members of people accessing its services. Still Here provides an opportunity for families to continue receiving regular, ongoing peer support after completing VIA's programme. We are developing a referral pathway between the two services, and I will be attending the final VIA session to introduce Still Here directly to participants.

Newbury Weekly News Over 80s Parcel Fund

After such a lovely summer this year, we are already starting to think about Christmas, and the Newbury.Weekly.News Over 80s' Parcel Fund, supported by Greenham Trust, is a very good local cause, close to the heart of many local people.

The organisation of the project has already started with fund-raising events, coffee mornings and volunteers coming on board. I am writing to ask if as a business or local organisation you might be able to give some financial help please?

Many of us look forward to Christmas and enjoy being with friends or family and the luxuries that come with it. There are however, many people in West Berkshire, some of whom will live down your street, who find it a very difficult time of year and this is where the Newbury.Weekly.News Over 80s' Parcel Fund continues to make a difference.

Today's parcels contain a good selection of sensible food plus of course some special treats that everyone deserves. The parcels are not means tested and the purpose is purely to say a very big thank you to members of our local community for everything they have done during their lifetime.

The cost is £10 per parcel and to enable it to happen again this year we will need to raise just over £20,000, so we are able to pay the Tesco's bill! To see the delight on the elderly recipients faces when the parcels are delivered makes it a truly worthwhile project that needs to continue.

May I please persuade you to make a donation to the Parcel Fund this year. Your support, and that of others, can be followed in the pages of the NWN.each week, until our parcels are distributed, which this year will be on Saturday 12th December.

If you are able to donate through The Good Exchange, Greenham Trust will match the amount you donate, so in fact double the money raised. To do this please go to: https://app.thegoodexchange.com/project/21547/newbury-weekly-news/newbury-weekly-news-over-80s-parcel-fund-2026

Hungerford Food Community

We are called Hungerford Food Community because we started in Hungerford, but we now run cooking and food education sessions with groups in Newbury (and Thatcham).

We have a grant on the Good Exchange here.

Our aim is to help increase the confidence and skills of local residents and families to cook healthy, affordable meals at home, as we believe cooking is a skill that has become eroded over recent generations leading to health problems and financial strain.

We cook with various groups including HomeStart West Berkshire, Eight Bells for Mental Health and Newbury Family Hub (please see testimonial below). We also run educational activities around food waste and where our food comes from at Newbury Show, GreenFEST and Berkshire Country Fayre. We also go into schools e.g. we ran assembles about food waste at St John's and St Nic's last term and we have run a hands-on banana rescue session at St Bart's.

Testimonial from Newbury Family Hub:

Newbury Family Hub and Hungerford Food Community have started working together to provide local families with opportunities to learn how to prepare healthy, nutritious, and affordable meals.

Supported by members of the Hungerford Food Community team, parents, carers and children prepare healthy, affordable dishes together, develop practical cooking skills, learn about and try new foods, and share a meal they have prepared in a supportive and inclusive environment. At one event, 26 people gathered around a single long table to enjoy a community meal together. The group included babies and children aged between one and fourteen years old, and it was wonderful to see everyone enjoying the food they had helped to prepare.

At another event, Hungerford Food Community brought along a smoothie bike, which children enjoyed pedalling to make smoothies. This fun and engaging activity encouraged healthy eating while promoting physical activity and

These positive experiences created a strong sense of community and also offer learning and development in other areas, including numeracy through measuring and counting ingredients, as well as turn-taking, patience and social interaction. These experiences all contribute to children's social and emotional development.

Families who attended told us that they would welcome more opportunities to cook and eat together, and many commented on how much they enjoyed learning new skills in a supportive and welcoming environment.

We would value the opportunity to continue our partnership with Hungerford Food Community. This collaboration has enabled us to reach and engage local families in

Newbury, providing opportunities to develop practical cooking skills, build confidence, strengthen community connections, and support healthier lifestyles.

Sober Crowd Newbury

We are a new not for profit Community Interest Company seeking to support people who are wanting to live alcohol-free either due to struggling with alcohol addiction or because they want to choose a healthier lifestyle. It is mainly the former set of people who we are working with.

We are a lived-experience-led organisation called 'Sober Crowd Newbury' and work with people by providing the following:

- Weekly online group catch-ups - referred to by some as our mid-week 'pick-up'
- Regular in-person meet ups – providing connection and strengthening our community
- Supportive WhatsApp Group – a space for daily connection and support
- One-to-One support – opportunity to work through challenges and build confidence
- Open Facebook page – a simple way for people to find us and take the first step
- Private Facebook group – 'Sober Crowd Newbury' sharing and supporting one another, locally
- Focus Activities – events to inspire wellbeing in sobriety (workshops, webinars etc.)

We are seeking basic funding to ensure we can operate the above groups and activities and so that everything remains available to those who need it, free of charge. We do not have a charged membership and believe this type of support should be genuinely provided by those with lived-experience for those who are seeking to live a sober life. We are getting amazing feedback from the first 6 months and want to ensure we can continue to grow and promote what we do to more people so those who are struggling know how to reach out to us.

There are other costs, and we do hope to be able to do much more to help people in sobriety (such as reaching out to businesses to help them make their organisations supportive of people seeking to live alcohol free). So, if we are able to raise more than the target in our application, it will mean reaching more people and having a greater impact locally - especially in Newbury through working with businesses.

SCARF Life Education
Wessex & Thames Valley

2 Barnes Croft
Coles Lane
Milborne St Andrew
Blandford Forum
DT11 0LG
01258 837417
enquiries@lifeeducationwessex.org.uk
www.lifeeducationwessex.org.uk

Patrons:
Susan Hampshire CBE
Tracy Edwards MBE
Martin Baker QPM
Erin Kennedy OBE

President:
Sir John Evans QPM DL

Vice Presidents:
David Foot
Diana Sale

Chairman:
Gary Hepburn

Vice Chairman:
Andrew Lovell

Company Secretary:
Les Christiansen

20/10/26

Newbury Town Council

Dear Councillors

We are writing to request that you kindly consider SCARF Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley (SLEW&TV) for a grant towards our work of providing health and wellbeing workshops to approximately 250 children at St Nicolas CE Junior School on the 12/01/27 for 2 days.

Background

SLEW&TV is a local not for profit children's charity delivering vital workshops in primary schools for children aged 3 to 11. We are linked to the national charity Coram, the leading children's charity for Health & Drug education in the UK.

Our mission is to empower children and young people to make safe, healthy, and informed life choices. We focus on the development of the whole person, promoting physical, emotional, and social well-being.

Costs and funding

The cost to deliver our project into schools is £550 per day; schools contribute approximately 70% of the cost, so we need to fundraise for the shortfall. We will be delivering workshops to the school for 2 days, which equates to a shortfall of **£290.** We do not expect your Council to contribute the whole of the difference, but obviously that would be fantastic if you were able. Nevertheless, any contribution you could make would make a real difference to outcomes for local children and families.

Subsidising the cost to the school means that we can reach more children with our message of healthy living.

We receive no direct government funding so we hope that you will be able to help us change these outcomes for our children. With your donation, we can give more children the opportunity to benefit from our 'skills for life' programme, helping to keep them safe, healthy, happy and achieving their very best.

100% of staff agreed that the workshops were well delivered
100% of staff agreed that the workshops met children's needs
100% of staff would recommend Coram Life Education & SCARF to another school

We believe that early intervention education lays the foundations to key life skills for lifelong learning, behaviour, and social & emotional health thus reducing gaps in inequality.

The need

- 41%of boys and 35% of girls aged 10-11 were either overweight or obese (5)
- 31% of pupils reported that they had been offered drugs (2)
- 9% of children aged 8-15 have ever used e-cigarettes or vaping devices (1)
- 20% of children aged 8-16 were identified as having a probable mental disorder (4)
- 28% of 8-11 year olds who go online say they have seen something worrying or nasty (3)

1. Health Survey for England 2021
2. Smoking, drinking and drug use amount young people in England 2022
3. OFCOM Media use and attitude report 2024
4. Mental Health of children and young people in England 2023
5. Office of health improvement and disparities 2021/2022

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SCARF Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley, Coram SCARF Wessex & Thames Valley and Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley are working names of Life Education Wessex

Our work

We deliver workshops with highly trained educators in schools around these current topics:

1. **Physical Health and Wellbeing***: drug education, nutrition, exercise, personal health choices*
2. **Mental Wellbeing***: '5 ways to wellbeing', resilience, self-worth and positive mental attitude*
3. **Online Behaviours***: online safety, digital literacy and managing on and offline behaviours*
4. **Relationship Education**: *bullying, tolerance, diversity, personal boundaries and healthy relationships with their peers and the wider community.*

Research shows that **children who have better health and emotional well-being do better in life.**

Quotes from children

- *"I cannot choose a favourite part. I liked it all so much".*
- *"We all have different talents, and everyone is special".*
- *"I think it is really important to learn about not having too much screen time".*
- *"Happiness is good".*
- *"I listened to some of the suggestions for mental health."*
- *"I know I can make my own decisions and to stand up for what I think."*
- *"It will help me to say no; make my own decisions; be more resilient; be more assertive and have more confidence in myself."*
- *"We learnt how to look after our body, stay healthy and help people."*



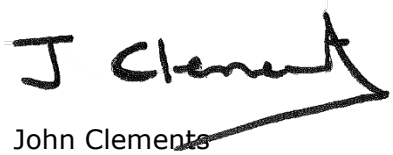




"I know firsthand how important this work is from the little ones in Reception who are figuring out what makes them who they are, helping them with their emotions and self-regulating, all the way up to year 6 where they are learning about health and drug education. In this ever-changing world this work is so important to help educate these young minds. Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley make a huge difference in the community, and it wouldn't be possible without their fundingraising efforts." **Erin Kennedy OBE, Trustee for Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley, Para Olympian & World Champion**

We look forward to hearing from you and hope that ***you will be able to help your local children make healthy choices.***

Yours sincerely,



John Clements
Administrative Assistant
john@lifeeducationwessex.org.uk

For further details visit:
www.lifeeducationwessex.org.uk
or click
Annual Accounts 2024-25
Accounts Overview 2024-25
Outcomes Evaluation 2023-24.

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