

Example of a completed Community Capacity grant application

September 2023

Section 1 - Organisation

Please describe the overall aims and objectives of your organisation and the activities or services your organisation provides:

The Centre's objective is to support customers to live independently longer, reducing the burden on support services. This support is not only delivered at our Centre, but also by outreach to the community. This is delivered by providing nourishing freshly prepared meals, the provision of companionship and our organisation's work activities, both physically and mentally stimulating, designed to keep customers fit and independent, reducing falls and providing good company, addressing loneliness and isolation.

To help us understand the difference you make, please tell us how you have helped an individual in the past and the change your organisation has made to their life:

As part of our work at the Centre and in the community we quietly identify and provide help to customers who are struggling financially, a good number over the last year or so. To give a specific example: we had a customer struggling to pay, so discreetly we did not always charge them. We then asked them if they would like some help to find out if they may be eligible for attendance allowance. They agreed. We have a specialist volunteer with Social Services experience who then visited their home and discussed their situation with them and their relatives. As a result of the discussion our volunteer helped to complete and submit an application for attendance allowance, including back pay. Approximately £70/week was awarded with a back-dated allowance of £800. Our customer had the acute worry and associated stress of paying her bills, food and heating costs taken away and then felt able to switch on her heating. A material impact on her overall quality of life.

Please explain why the people in your community need your organisation?

We have an increasing population of elderly people in our 3 parishes and the surrounding area, many living alone, with inflation directly impacting their wellbeing. We are increasingly needed for the overall support we provide, companionship, stimulation, entertainment, good nutritious food and help with allowances and modern life's challenges. Our recent expansion allows us to increase numbers and serve a wider area. To quote from our recent customer survey which is almost universally complimentary. "Our new leader and volunteers work so hard for us, helping and talking to us and welcoming us warmly. Most of us live on our own and it can be quite lonely. It is great talking to each other and realising that there is always someone with a greater need than oneself. Thank you all." We also support the continuing need for our @home outreach service, providing hot meals and necessary errands. Our weekly free coffee morning provides a warm space and informal companionship.

Section 2 - About your grant application

Funding Start Date:

01/09/2023

Funding End Date:

31/08/2024 (please note this is an example)

Which area (estate, town, borough) do most of the people who benefit come from?

Witney.

Please provide a postcode which represents the geographic area you will benefit:

OX28

How will you spend this grant to deliver one or more of the 'desired outcomes' outlined in the grant criteria? Please include what activities you intend to deliver, and why you think they will lead to the desired outcome i.e. a positive change:

The funds will be spent to cover ongoing increased running costs, due to inflation e.g. food, energy, wages. This will enable us to maintain our quality of service, providing a warm space where people can socialise, eat a meal with other members of their community, enhancing their physical and mental wellbeing and increase our capacity to help more people in need in our local area.

Please explain how you will measure and report on this grant:

Three key areas: A follow-up customer survey to confirm that our customer's satisfaction level has been maintained or increased. Monitoring customer numbers Year end accounts analysis.

Section 3 – Impact

Beneficiaries

How many people will benefit from this funding? 100

Primary Beneficiary: Older People

Other Beneficiaries: Carers

Ethnicity (if applicable)

Primary Ethnic Group: British

Other Ethnic Groups: N/A

Issues

Primary Issue: Health and Wellbeing

Other Issues: Poverty and disadvantage

Age Groups

Primary Age Group: Seniors (65+)

Other Age Groups: Adults (26 – 65)



Section 4 - Budget and Consent

Total cost: £54,660

How much money are you applying to us for? £7,794

Breakdown of Amount Requested:

Grant will be spent to cover our increasing costs for food, staff, cleaning and energy to enable us to maintain and hopefully expand our services.

Increased food and staff costs for 2024 are based on a low predicted inflation increase of 3% up to August.

Electricity costs for 2024/25 are based on the predicted cost in 2024 when our contract ends. Our Financial year is 1 April to 31 March.

FOOD COSTS

2022/23: £11,509

2023/24: £13,000

2024/25: £13,390

STAFFING COSTS

2022/23: £28,889

2023/24: £32,342

2024/25: 34,342

CLEANING COSTS

2022/23: £4,168

2023/24: £5,000

2024/25: £5,000

ELECTRICITY COSTS

2022/23: £1,886

2023/24: £2,133

2024/25: £4,000

GAS COSTS

2022/23: £511

2023/24: £500

2024/25: £520

TOTAL COSTS

2022/23: £46,963

2023/24: £52,975

2024/25: £57,252

Proportioning these increases to cover the grant period:

Overall increase 2022/23 to 2023/24, £6,012

Amount for the period September 2023 to March 2024, 7/12s, £3,507



Overall increase 2023/24 to 2024/25, £10, 289

Amount for the period April to August 2024, 5/12s, £4,287

Total estimated increase over the grant period £7,794

