



# Paper 7 – Grant Scheme Applications

Thurston Parish Council

**Paper:** Paper 7 – Agenda Item 11g

**Reason:** To consider applications received against the Council's Small Grants Scheme

**Period covered:** 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027

**Presented to Council:** Full Council Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026

**Date:** 24.06.26

**Author:** Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

## Summary

On 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026, Council received the attached grant application (Application Number one) from the 1<sup>st</sup> Thurston Scout Group for consideration against the Council's Small Grant Pot. At the

meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2026, Council resolved to ask for further information prior to determining the application.

On 10<sup>th</sup> June 2026, Council received the attached grant application (Application Number Two) from the Thurston Detached Youth Work Project.

On 14<sup>th</sup> June 2026, Council received the attached grant application (Application Number Three) from the Mid Suffolk Croquet Club.

On 16<sup>th</sup> June, Council received the attached grant application (Application Number Four) from the Table Tennis Club.

## Considerations

Per the Council's adopted [Grants Policy](#), successful grants will need to demonstrate that the project being funded should be something that makes the local community a better place to live, work and play. It should be something that will provide a long lasting and sustainable benefit to our local area. The project must be something that will improve the social, environmental and /or economic profile of Thurston.

Priority will be given to those applications which add value over applications for running costs.

The following organisations may apply to Thurston Parish Council:

- a) A Thurston based charity
- b) An organisation serving the needs of the residents of Thurston
- c) Resident(s) of Thurston requesting grant aid with a project/event, which will be for the benefit of the local community
- d) A Thurston based club / association / charity serving a specific section of the community or the community as a whole
- e) A local branch of a regional or national organisation/group which serves the needs of the residents of Thurston.

Expenditure will be made under the General Power of Competence (GPC) which was introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and took effect in February 2012. At its Annual Council Meeting of 17 May 2023, the Parish Council reconfirmed that it fulfilled the eligibility criteria set by the SoS (Localism Act 2011 s8) and that it was able to use the General Power of Competence to incur expenditure that was in the interests of all or some of the inhabitants of Thurston.

## Funding

Allocated Budget 2026-2027 from CIL Funds	£10,000.00
Funds allocated to date	£0.00
Funds for consideration - 01.07.2026	£2,350.00
Remaining balance	£7,650.00

## Recommendation

*Council is asked to consider the award of funding for the four grant applications as submitted in the total sum of £2,350.00.*

**Presented by:** .....

**Mrs V Waples, Responsible Financial Officer**

**Countersigned by:** .....

**Mr C Dashper, Chair**

## Small Grant Application One

**Name of organisation:** 1st Thurston Scout Group

**Contact Details:** withheld

**Email Address:** [chair@1stthurstonscouts.org](mailto:chair@1stthurstonscouts.org)

**Registered Charity No.** None

**If you are part of a larger organisation, enter its name:** Scout Association

**Principal aims and objectives**

Our purpose is to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

**Please explain your need for a grant with the likely number of beneficiaries, their age profiles and their location**

To help fund essential replacement equipment (archery) to promote new skills at the weekly meetings for our 90 youth members aged from 6 years to 14 years.

**Grant amount requested:** £500

**Other grants received in the last two years:** Community Development Grant BMSDC Grant

**Current grants applied for:** None

**Please use this space for any significant information about your organisation not already supplied:** None

**I certify that the foregoing replies are accurate to the best of my knowledge:** Yes

**Name of Applicant:** Stephen Taylor

**Office Held:** Chair of Trustee Board

**Date of application:** 26/3/25

## Small Grant Application Two

**Name of organisation:** Thurston Detached Youth Work Project

**Contact Details:** withheld

**Email Address:** email address withheld

**Registered Charity No.**

**If you are part of a larger organisation, enter its name**

**Principal aims and objectives**

To engage with young people aged 12 to 18 where they choose to spend their free time within the boundary of Thurston Village using informal education methodology.

**Please explain your need for a grant with the likely number of beneficiaries, their age profiles and their location**

Any number of children aged 12 to 18 could benefit. There are ongoing expenses for Insurance, DBS checks, Identity badges, Training, hire of meeting location, First Aid equipment i.e. latex gloves, wipes, ice packs, plasters etc. We also provide rubbish bags and have gained the help of a local business to dispose of the rubbish.

**Grant amount requested:** £500

**Other grants received in the last two years:** June 2025 a grant from Mid Suffolk was received for just over £500 which has now been spent.

**Current grants applied for:** No others

**Please use this space for any significant information about your organisation not already supplied**

When initially set up, a management committee was formed to oversee the project. Policies and Procedures were written which were adopted by the committee at the inaugural meeting. We work with Community Action Suffolk regarding DBS checks and Safeguarding training. 2 members interact with the young people and are supported by others with accounts etc. There is a good relationship with the Matt Brown the PCSO who supports our efforts and information is passed to and from him. The first year has built some trusting relationships with young people and discussed many different topics. Rubbish is a continuous battle that has not yet been won but attempts continue. Safety is also one of the main concerns and hopefully they are starting to take notice. The summer holidays will be a busy time.

The next topic of conversation we would like to focus on is what they want to see in the village to enhance their free time experience. Hopefully this information will also feed into the Neighbourhood Plan.

**I certify that the foregoing replies are accurate to the best of my knowledge** Yes

**Name of Applicant:** Stephen Gerrish

**Office Held:** Chairman of the Committee

**Date of application:** 10 June 2026

Grant Application Three

**Name of organisation:** Mid Suffolk Croquet Club

**Contract Details:** withheld

**Email Address:** withheld

**Registered Charity No.** N/A

**If you are part of a larger organisation, enter its name:** East Anglian Croquet Federation

**Principal aims and objectives**

Our aim is to offer facilities for all to play croquet in whatever form is preferred. Coaching will be provided for all members. The club will act as a place for gatherings of croquet players to play in

a social and/or competitive context. We believe it is desirable to encourage people of all genders, all cultures and all ages to play the game of croquet.

**Please explain your need for a grant with the likely number of beneficiaries, their age profiles and their location**

Our croquet club is in need of funds to assist in the continuation of the club regarding its annual rental charge to the New Green Centre, high maintenance costs of the croquet lawns, such as grass cutting and re-seeding of lawns, and the cost of water.

Our croquet club provides essential social and health beneficial services for its current members, and any future members who may join. We currently have around 22 members and their ages range from 65 to 94, and who all live in and around Thurston village.

**Grant amount requested:** £500

**Other grants received in the last two years:** £500 from Thurston Parish Council - last year £2,000 from Mid Suffolk District Council (Locality Award) - last year

**Current grants applied for:** £500 from Thurston Parish Council

**Please use this space for any significant information about your organisation not already supplied**

The £2,000 received last year from MSDC is due to be spent on cutting the hedges all around our lawns. This cannot be carried out until Oct due to birds nesting. Re-seeding of both lawns also due to be carried out asap, once a new gardener has been confirmed. Previous gardener retired.

**I certify that the foregoing replies are accurate to the best of my knowledge:** Yes

**Name of Applicant:** Liz Chester

**Office Held:** Chair, Mid Suffolk Croquet Club

**Date of application:** 14<sup>th</sup> June 2026

## Grant Application Four

**Name of organisation:** Thurston Table Tennis Club

**Contact Details:** withheld

**Email Address:** withheld

**Registered Charity No.**

**If you are part of a larger organisation, enter its name:**

**Principal aims and objectives:**

Small community TT club offering inclusive community and league level table tennis with focus on coaching young people.

We have 32 members and 7 under 18's.

We are looking for support to obtain new TT table, nets and 2 scoreboards.

Our current income is £3,870 per year with expenses of £4,061 which includes hall hire at a cost of £3,398.

We are looking to encourage more juniors and seniors to the club to continue our focus for development and inclusion.

**Please explain your need for a grant with the likely number of beneficiaries, their age profiles and their location**

Small community TT club offering inclusive community and league level table tennis with focus on coaching young people.

We have 32 members and 7 under 18's.

We are looking for support to obtain new TT table, nets and 2 scoreboards.

**Grant amount requested:** £850

**Other grants received in the last two years:** £0

**Current grants applied for:** £0

**Please use this space for any significant information about your organisation not already supplied**

Currently using distressed tables which need replacing - table is £799 which is league standard which is required for competition level.

**I certify that the foregoing replies are accurate to the best of my knowledge:** Yes

**Name of Applicant:** Mark McMullan

**Office Held:** Team Captain and coach

**Date of application:** 16.6.26