

# THURSTON PARISH COUNCIL

PAPER 7 - 04.03.26

## DONATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2026 USING THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

The General Power of Competence (GPC) was introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and took effect in February 2012.

At its Annual Parish 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 enabled to use the General Power of Competence (GPC).

Recipient	Reasoning for request for donation	Requested	Action	Approved
MidSuffolk Croquet Club	Grant needed to assist with the annual rental charge to the New Green Centre, high maintenance costs of the croquet lawns (grass cutting and water). Additional costs for this year included the disposal of an old Bowls Club shed and the costs of a Safety Audit as carried out by New Green Centre.	£500.00	Approved £700.00 04.06.25	£700.00
Friends of Thurston Library	Grant to assist with the purchase of comfortable stacking chairs to be used by individuals and groups using the library. Usage of library is increasing all the time. Match funding will also be sought from Locality budgets of both County and District Councillors for Thurston.	£500.00	Approved £500.00 05.11.25	£500.00
Mid Suffolk Citizens Advice Bureau	Grant to assist with the continuation of providing support to parishioners by providing free, independent advice to those facing difficult circumstances. Grant is requested towards their ongoing running costs, helping them to continue to deliver essential services to local residents.	£500.00	Approved £500.00 05.11.25	£500.00
Suffolk Accident Rescue Service (SARS)	Grant required to assist charity to continue to grow its charity and clinical operations to enable it to attend serious medical emergencies across the region. Responders continue to be active in and around Thurston and have attended incidents in the area over the last year.	£500.00	Approved £500.00 03.12.25	£500.00
Ixworth Youth Junction (Jiggins Trust Youth Club)	Grant requested from parish councils outside of Ixworth to support activities young people can enjoy at Youth Club sessions. As club has grown in popularity increasing numbers of young people are attending from surrounding villages including Thurston.	£500.00	Approved £250.00 14.01.26	£250.00
Lighthouse Women's Aid	Charitable organisation based in Suffolk providing specialist practical and emotional support to women, young people and children affected by domestic abuse. Some advice services offered are in the community on a face to face basis.	£500.00	Approved £250.00 14.01.26	£250.00

Communities Together East Anglia	Grant requested to assist with the digital inclusion sessions for adults aged 55+. Sessions are delivered across Suffolk at groups in Bury St Edmunds, Stowmarket and Elmswell to which residents from Thurston are welcomed. Support is already being offered to people travelling from Thurston.	<i>£500.00</i>	Approved £500.00 14.01.26	£500.00
Citizens Advice West Suffolk	Grant to assist with the continuation of providing support to parishioners by providing free, independent advice to those facing difficult circumstances. Grant is requested towards the upgrade of office equipment used by volunteers in their work. 81 people with 343 issues assisted in Thurston.	<i>£500.00</i>	Approved £500.00 14.01.26	£500.00
Tiny Toes Toddler Group	Grant to cover the cost of a healthy snack provided to children attending the sessions of the Toddler Group for each week of the current academic year. 36 sessions offered during the year - cost of snack £8 per session.	<i>£288.00</i>	Approved 04.03.26	£288.00

TOTAL OF EXPENDITURE APPROVED TO DATE FOR THE YEAR 2025-2026	£3,988.00
ANNUAL BUDGET OF £10,000.00 AS SET ASIDE FROM CIL FUNDS TO BE ALLOCATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE	£10,000.00
UNUSED BALANCE FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2026	<b>£6,012.00</b>