

Grants Matrix October 2022 – Submitted

	Organisation	Reasoning	Amount Applied For	Awarded
1	Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind	<p>2022 is our centenary year and we have a rich history of providing support for the visually impaired in Huntingdonshire. Established to provide support to soldiers returning from WW1 with vision problems from the battlefield and still providing support to almost 500 members of all ages in the county today. Here are some of the activities the society is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of benefit entitlements and assistance with completing applications • Advice on living aids • Regular newsletters to members in large print, audio and braille • Monthly social groups in St Ives, St Neots, Huntingdon and Ramsey • Walking group • Signposting to relevant services <p>The difficulties of isolation have increased significantly as a result of the pandemic and in our centenary year we are reintroducing a Christmas party for all of our visually impaired members. With costs rising, the society will subsidise food for our members, however we would like to book some entertainment this year. If successful, the grant will go towards booking entertainment for our Christmas party.</p> <p>The previous two Christmas lunches were cancelled due to COVID, with a loss in paid deposit. The members all love musical entertainment, it's something they can all partake in and talk about afterwards, creating happy memories.</p>	£400	£400 awarded.

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2	Montagu Working Men's Club	<p>The Montagu Working Men's Club provides a social community garden area within the town amenities. The club actively supports HCCN with a morning meeting every Wednesday enabling the many affected middle to older men hopefully with their recovery from various forms of cancer.</p> <p>The garden and our hall are used by various support groups and care homes with quiz night, music bingo & evening dance events for the disabled community. The garden has wildlife and a very well cared for floral a shrubbery area to allow all those that visit can relax. The club has a variety of internal forms of games from carpet bowls, table tennis, table football, ear games, dominoes& card games.</p> <p>The grant would purchase garden parasols to improve the garden area of Montagu Working Men's Club</p>	£500	£500 awarded
3	Sports Connections Foundation	<p>SCF was established in 2010 with the aim of using the power of sport to inspire, empower, educate and transform the lives of children and young people. We have four programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporting Wishes – making dreams come true for children facing life-limiting illnesses • Inspire through Sport – developing positive futures for disadvantaged children • Inspire through Sport International – guiding children away from a life of poverty (in Burkina Faso) • ProKick Challenge – raising aspirations, building resilience and educating children about global citizenship 	£500	£500 awarded

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		<p>The grant is to support the delivery of a weekly Inspire through Sport programme in Huntingdon which is to be delivered from September probably from the Huntingdon Recreation Centre.</p> <p>To provide us with some funds to enable us to bring in specialist support on occasions to complement the SCF youth work and sport staff team. So a (current or past) pro-footballer, an instructor for a Graffiti workshop or a coach for a different sport.</p> <p>This is to help to mix up the activity provided, add a bit of variety and different experiences for the young people involved – the exact choice will depend on consultation with the young people.</p>		
4	Thrive Youth Work Huntingdon	<p>Thrive Youth Work Huntingdon is a Christian youth project that aims to see the lives of young people transformed. We partner with schools, communities & churches to offer programmes that support the emotional, social, & spiritual growth of young people of secondary school age. Our project is designed to connect with local young people, support their wellbeing by providing safe spaces, and celebrating them for who they are.</p> <p>In term time, we deliver programmes in Hinchingsbrooke and St Peters secondary schools, including Thrive Mentoring (1:1 support to help young people develop independent skills to cope with issues such as anxiety and low self-esteem) and Thrive Space (a safe space in schools providing pastoral support through fun, reflective activities). Additionally, we deliver three weekly youth cafés in the community.</p> <p>Please note – this grant, if awarded, will not be used for activities with a focus on faith.</p>	£500	Application deferred until April 2023.

		<p>Whilst we are a Christian youth project, all our programmes are open to young people of all faiths and none, and any events with a focus on faith are explicitly advertised as so, and are completely optional to engage with.</p> <p>What is the grant for?</p> <p>Delivery of the 'Thrive Space' pastoral support programme in local secondary schools. Since September 2021, Thrive have been delivering the 'Thrive Space' programme in St Peters School. Due to the positive impact this programme had in St Peter's, Thrive began delivering this programme in Hinchbrooke from March 2022.</p> <p>Programme: Thrive Space is a safe space within secondary schools designed to provide pastoral support for students through fun, reflective activities, and group discussion. Students are referred to structured group sessions by teachers during lesson times or can drop in during break and lunch. The courses we deliver through the group sessions focus on understanding ourselves and understanding others, including topics such as resilience, understanding emotions, dealing with change, coping with anxiety etc. We explore these themes through short games and questions to stimulate discussion.</p> <p>Impact: A member of the Pastoral Intervention team at St Peter's School told us that 'due to Covid 19 we have had a sudden increase of students who are anxious about coming to school, friendship issues and the general feeling of being displaced... Thrive has been</p>		
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		<p>a lifeline for some of our students. Whether it has been 1:1 mentoring, group work or Thrive Space, the student’s reaction has been positive.’</p> <p>Across the autumn term, we met weekly with 15 students through group sessions, and engaged with roughly 50 students in the drop-in sessions. After surveying the group sessions, 100% of the young people ‘Strongly agreed’ or ‘Agreed’ that they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Felt listened to in the sessions - Felt able to talk openly in the sessions - Looked forward to coming to the sessions <p>The most common responses to the questions ‘What did you enjoy most about the sessions’ and ‘What was most helpful in the sessions’ were ‘being able to talk openly’ and ‘knowing someone was there to listen’.</p> <p>Of the young people surveyed in the drop-in sessions, 95% said that they ‘felt listened to and cared for’ at Thrive Space</p> <p>Across the last academic year we engaged with:</p> <p>St Peters: Roughly 80 young people – drop in sessions 40 young people – group support sessions</p> <p>Hinchingbrooke (March – July) Roughly 40 young people – drop in sessions 12 young people – group support sessions</p> <p>With funding:</p>		
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		<p>This grant will be used to support the mental health of young people in local secondary schools by resourcing this project.</p> <p>£500 will enable us to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase existing mental health resources to use in delivery of the course, and the drop in sessions • Develop our courses further to enable us to work more effectively with students • Run fun weekly challenges to encourage participation and engagement with drop in students • Recruit additional volunteers to support this programme (DBS, Training). 		
5	Huntingdonshire Volunteer Centre	<p>We are a small local charity, locally funded, supporting local vulnerable people with valued services. Our charity organisation aims to reach out to the residents of Huntingdonshire managed by four different offices in Huntingdon & Godmanchester, Ramsey, St. Neots and St. Ives, to be able to support vulnerable adults with mobility issues and improve the feeling of wellbeing in the community.</p> <p>We request the grant to buy a glass door food fridge to cater free food and drinks to those members of the Huntingdon community who are struggling to buy healthy meals and are less privileged.</p> <p>What we do: Pandemic and post pandemic times have been hard for many. We are grateful to local town councils who support our projects and running costs of our services.</p>	£500	£500 awarded

		<p>Our main service is our car scheme. In Huntingdon itself, we have been able to drive 21798 miles from April 2021 to support over 1381 passengers to various places, out of which 7151 miles were travelled to take clients for hospital appointments. Even those who can afford taxis prefer our services because of the care we provide:</p> <p>JB is wheelchair bound and had been using taxis to get round, she said “I don’t mind paying, but the drivers are so unhelpful – they do not help me to get out of the car or collect me from the surgery. Thank you very much for your help – your service is wonderful, and I really appreciate it, Thank you. “</p> <p>RS feels “Just to say, thank you to you, and all the drivers for making my life a lot easier”</p> <p>Our volunteer drivers are motivated.: “My husband volunteers for the scheme as a driver and also finds it rewarding as he likes to give something back.”</p> <p>This is supported by the charity shop we have, providing very cheap clothes, £1 each or 3 for £2. We also provide emergency packs for the homeless. To keep the operational cost of the organisation low, we have less paid staff and mainly depend on the support of our volunteers. Our volunteers responded to over 2000+ calls from last year to communicate and support residents.</p> <p>What we can do with the grant:</p> <p>HVC has been the first charity organisation in this area to have a food surplus fridge to provide those who couldn’t afford regular food and drink. We still cater to 30+ people in Huntingdon daily with free food donated by local businesses like Greggs, Co-op and Anglian water. Our charity shop manager and volunteers struggled to provide enough food and drinks to our vulnerable community members during</p>		
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		<p>the pandemic as there was only one single door fridge for storage. Although we are just out of the pandemic, many residents of Huntingdon are struggling to meet ends in this inflation of food prices.</p> <p>With the bigger fridge we will be able to receive and store more healthy food for the underprivileged and make Huntingdon a better place to live in. This will help them to stay well and reduce the load on primary health care system.</p>		
6	Kanazawa Judo	<p>Kanazawa Judo Club runs 7 Judo classes across 3 locations in the Cambridgeshire area with over 150 years combined experience between our 8 instructors (Sensei). During our classes we focus on many aspects of the martial art including traditional basic & advanced technique, self-defence, competition & fitness training. Currently the Huntingdon class is held at the Coneygear Centre.</p> <p>The grant is to open the club to students who will struggle with paying for classes. This will open the classes to less privileged families. The goal is to help 10 new starters.</p> <p>The cost breakdown is as follows: Licence insurance Each £30.00 Per year, Suits Each £50.00, Mat Fees £4.50 PW</p>	£500	£500 awarded.
7	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Huntingdon	<p>Huntingdon Parish is a Church of England Parish Church in the Diocese of Ely offering charitable services to the local area. We hold Sunday Christian worship; life event services; discipleship and family courses; children's and youth work including within the local schools; pastoral support; a weekday cafe; and other Christian events; courses and ministries.</p>	£500	Application declined as did not meet eligibility criteria.

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		<p>Purchase of trollies to be able to transport the materials required from All Saints Church to the Gubbio Room at the Town Hall to run a Young Church group (Sunday School) in the Gubbio Room on a Sunday morning.</p> <p>The grant will benefit the young people who attend the Young Church group as they will have a better space (the Gubbio Room) than currently, and the trollies will ensure they have the materials for a wide range of activities. The congregation of All Saints Church who will have more space and less sound competition during Sunday services as Young Church is not happening in the same building.</p>		
8	Huntingdon Community Radio	<p>Huntingdon Community Radio is a community radio station that has broadcast to the Huntingdon area since 1995, building up a solid reputation for quality familiar music, community news, features and active involvement through volunteering.</p> <p>The grant is for two office chairs for HCR104FM studio.</p>	£500	Application declined as did not meet eligibility criteria.
9	Huntingdonshire Beekeepers Association	<p>Huntingdonshire Beekeepers Association aim to promote beekeeping, the welfare of honeybees and their role in the environment. The apiary at Hinchbrooke Park contains over sixteen colonies in a variety of different beehives and there is a large viewing gallery, with disabled friendly access. This enables the public to safely see the bees from behind a glass wall. The apiary and viewing gallery are located about fifty metres from the Countryside Centre along the path towards the lake. Parking is available at the entrance to the park and disabled parking is available closer to the building. The apiary is run</p>	£500	£500 awarded.

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		<p>solely by volunteers and takes a lot of time and money to keep it going.</p> <p>We are developing a solitary bee trail at our apiary in Hinchbrooke Park and would like funding to place three weather-proof information boards on the 'bee trail' beside three newly constructed solitary bee hotels. These will provide information on solitary bees, why they are important and explain how to construct them. Our aim is to inspire people to build similar in their own gardens or outdoor spaces. The grant will be broken down by the following:</p> <p>Timber £200 Weather-proof information boards, including artwork £300 Labour - free</p>		
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