

20th June 2025.

**To:** Councillors: Alistair Bounds, Sam Dibas, Phil Barnett, Sarah Slack, Billy Drummond and David Marsh

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

**Also:** All Members for information

Dear Councillor

You are required to attend a meeting of the **Grants Sub-Committee** to be held at **7pm on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025 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.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83638538550?pwd=NKpTianYcsZOiczMnRV2wZ0iCNpbf.1>

Meeting ID: 836 3853 8550

Passcode: 161503

Yours sincerely

*Liz Manship*

**Liz Manship**  
**Responsible Financial Officer**

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## 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 formally approve** the minutes of a meeting of the Grants Sub-Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

Town Hall, Market Place, Newbury, RG14 5AA

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we can all be proud of.

**4. Grant Aid Criteria (Appendix 2)**

**To Note** the criteria for the award of grant Aid

**5. Award of Grant Aid (Appendix 3 & 4)**

**10.1 To Consider** the list of applications for Grant Aid from projects registered on The Good Exchange as of 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 that fulfil the Council's Grant Criteria (Appendix 3).

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

(\* for further information on any project listed on Appendix 3, please go to [TheGoodExchange.com](https://TheGoodExchange.com) and enter the Application ID. in the search box)

**Minutes of a meeting of the Grants Sub-Committee of Newbury Town Council held at 19:00 noon on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 in The Council Offices, Town Hall, Newbury.**

**Present:** Councillors: Phil Barnett, Alistair Bounds, Sam Dibas (from 19:35), David Marsh (chairperson) & Sarah Slack

**In Attendance:** Liz Manship, Responsible Financial Officer

**12. Apologies for absence**

Councillors: Billy Drummond

**13. Declarations of interest and dispensations**

- a) Councillors Phil Barnett and David Marsh as Members of West Berkshire Council have a general dispensation to discuss any matters relating to the business of that Council.
- b) Councillor David Marsh – Trustee to Wash Common Library, Trustee to Wash Common Community Association, Chair of Governors at John Rankin School, Parent of a pupil at St Bartholomew’s School and Husband to a Governor at St Bartholomew’s School.
- c) Councillor Sarah Slack – Trustee of the CAB, West Berkshire.

**14. Minutes**

**Proposed:** Councillor Sarah Slack

**Seconded:** Councillor Alistair Bounds

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting of the Grants Sub-Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.

**15. Grant Aid Criteria**

The meeting noted the Grant Aid Criteria.

**16. 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 David Marsh

**Seconded:** Councillor Sarah Slack

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

TGE Ref	Organisation	Project title	Balance Required (£)	NTC Award	Matched Funding (The Good Exchange)	Total Value
20579	Fair Close Centre (Age Concern, Newbury & District)	Fair Close Dementia Day Club & Wayfinding Service Pilot	11,058.29	1000.00	1000.00	2,000.00

<b>20628</b>	Dingley's Promise (Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres)	Specialist Music and Movement therapy sessions for children under 5 with SEND	5,736.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00
<b>20648</b>	The Newbury Community Resource Centre Limited	Kitchen Wise upgrade and expansion	2,779.79	1000.00	1000.00	2,000.00
<b>20692</b>	Dingley's Promise (Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres)	Improving Wellbeing of Children with SEND, their Parents and Early Years Educators	6,927.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00
<b>20698</b>	Home-Start West Berkshire	Tackling Child Poverty	34,424.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00
<b>20737</b>	Falkland Cricket Club – Newbury	Supporting winter indoor cricket sessions and 2025 outdoor season preparation for junior cricketers in West Berkshire	6,026.00	250.00	250.00	500.00
<b>20749</b>	Home-Start West Berkshire	Baby Bank Service 2025-26	32,241.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00
<b>20752</b>	Education Business Partnership West Berkshire	Destinations Expo 2025	25,523	314.30	314.30	628.60
<b>20800</b>	Newbury Cricket Club	Newbury Cricket Club – Replacement Mower	15,000	250.00	250.00	500.00
	<b>Total NTC Funding Agreed</b>			<b>£4,814.30</b>	<b>£4,814.30</b>	<b>£9,628.60</b>

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 19:50 pm.

**Chairperson:**

**Date:**

**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.

Application ID	Organisation name	Project title	Total cost of project	Amount raised outside TGE	Amount sought	Amount raised through TGE	Amount Outstanding	Notes	50% Outstanding	NTC Agreed	TGE Match Funding
20419	The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust	Old Library Campaign	£250,000 left to raise				100,000	See Attached	50,000.00		
20759	Newbury Pride	Newbury Pride 2025	15,814.69	5,000.00	10,814.69	7,000.00	3,814.69		1,907.35		
20772	Time to Talk West Berkshire	Let's Get Mindful Application - Well Being Conference	8,652.00	0.00	8,652.00	0.00	8,652.00		4,326.00		
20789	Royal Engineers Association	Freedom of Newbury & 200th year celebration parade on the 28th June 2025	13,323.00	0.00	13,323.00	750.00	12,573.00		6,286.50		
20803	Young People and Children First (YPACF)	Providing hope, a home and a future for Care Leavers and Homeless aged 16-25	33,600.00	0.00	33,600.00	11,950.00	21,650.00		10,825.00		
20805	Eight Bells for Mental Health	Day to Day Running Costs for Mental Health Support Service 2025-26	96,000.00	14,400.00	81,600.00	13,969.12	67,630.88		33,815.44		
20847	Parkinson's UK, Newbury	Making the Difference “ Beneficial Exercises for People Living with Parkinson's 2025	14,750.00	0.00	14,750.00	3,481.30	11,268.70		5,634.35		
20853	West Berks Foodbank	Hungry Holidays 2025	47,000.00	0.00	47,000.00	5,975.00	41,025.00	See Attached	20,512.50		
20861	The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust	Panto Pay It Forward - Robin Hood and Maid Marian	5,150.00	0.00	5,150.00	0.00	5,150.00		2,575.00		
20879	Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley	Supporting Children's Emotional Health and Well-being across West Berkshire and North Hampshire 2025-26	18,900.00				10,050.00	See Attached	5,025.00		
20838	The Base Greenham	Young Curators - A hands-on opportunity for young people to learn about curation in a professional gallery	3,463.00				2,263.00	See Attached	1,131.50		
20880	Fair Close Centre (Age Concern, Newbury & District)	Emergency Central Heating System Repairs	46,800.00	22,500.00	24,300.00	5,662.50	18,637.50		9,318.75		
20921	The Newbury Community Resource Centre Limited	Cost of Living Crisis - Essential Household Goods Scheme 2025	150,000.00	16,816.16	133,183.84	70,000.00	63,183.84		31,591.92		
20930	Nomads Musical Theatre	Sister Act The Musical 2025	40,941.00	1,750.00	39,191.00	2,000.00	37,191.00		18,595.50		
20934	Newbury Soup Kitchen	Newbury Soup Kitchen: Day to day outreach, food and support for people experiencing homelessness or vulnerably housed in West Berkshire 2025-2026	46,010.52	0.00	46,010.52	12,525.00	33,485.52		16,742.76		
20940	The Diamond House	The Diamond Community Summer 2025 Activities Programme and Fun Day	8,983.70	0.00	8,983.70	2,027.00	6,956.70		3,478.35		
20945	Berkshire Youth	2025 - 2028 Greenham Community Centre	410,095.92	26,000.00	384,095.92	285,000.00	99,095.92		49,547.96		
20946	Educafe CIC	Supporting Educafe's Volunteer Infrastructure and Activities - 1 Year Project	15,250.00	0.00	15,250.00	195.00	15,055.00		7,527.50		
20970	The Watermill Theatre	Surprising & inventive Storytelling - a theatre for Everyone - 2025-2026	80,000.00	0.00	80,000.00	0.00	80,000.00		40,000.00		
20978	Kintbury Tennis Club (administration address)	West Berks Comedy Festival	3,103.00				2,753.00	See Attached	1,376.50		
20983	The Base Greenham	Be Curious Family Programme 25/26 “ Workshops & Activities to Encourage Learning, Curiosity & Play	2,035.00	0.00	2,035.00	0.00	2,035.00		1,017.50		



## Additional Information Received to support Grant Applications

### Re: 20419 – The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust – The Old Library Campaign

Dear Liz

I'm getting in touch ahead of the upcoming Grants sub-committee meeting to ask if the Corn Exchange's Old Library campaign, currently live on the Good Exchange, might be considered for funding at the meeting.

We are in the final phases of the campaign, just needing to raise the last £250,000. £100,000 of this we will raise from our public campaign, but for the remaining £150,000 we are looking to various funding opportunities and local partners to help us achieve – and would be grateful if Newbury Town Council might consider this.

I have provided information to all councillors about the project but the campaign website includes more information here  
<https://cornexchangeweb.com/support/oldlibrary>

Please let me know if you need any further information from me at this stage.

With many thanks

Ruth

Ruth Stillman, Head of Development (she/her)  
CORN EXCHANGE NEWBURY & 101 OUTDOOR ARTS  
Market Place, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5BD



**Re: 20853 – West Berks Foodbank – Hungry Holidays 2025**

Dear Town Council Clerk,

I am writing to you on behalf of West Berks Foodbank to request your kind support for our Hungry Holidays initiative, a program dedicated to alleviating food poverty among vulnerable families during school holidays.

The West Berkshire Foodbank routinely supports people who are in food crisis through professional referrals, providing supplies of food and other essential items. Our aim is to not only address short term needs but also to provide support, detect abuse and aim to provide a path out of hardship for those who seek out our service.

In addition, during the holidays we bulk deliver food to local schools to be distributed to carefully selected families identified by school welfare officers. These families include both pupil premium children and those from working families who, despite struggling financially, do not qualify for additional governmental support. These working families are often the most concerning, as parents frequently sacrifice their own meals to ensure their children are fed.

The challenges faced by these families have been exacerbated by rising mortgage rates—some households have seen increases of over £400 per month upon coming off fixed terms—as well as soaring rents, utility and food costs. Families with children who have food allergies or require free-from foods are particularly affected, as these products can cost up to three times more than standard options, further pushing them into food poverty.

While pupil premium children will receive £60 from West Berks Council over the holidays to assist with lunches, this amounts to £10 per week. For children at home, this is insufficient, as their eating habits expand beyond structured meals to include snacks and drinks. For instance, in one day, it's not unreasonable to estimate that a child might consume a bag of crisps, a cereal bar after playing outside, a drink of squash, a piece of fruit, and lunch—expenses that quickly surpass £10 weekly. This is precisely why West Berks Foodbank established the Hungry Holidays initiative.

In the past, we have relied on community donations to support families in need. However, the cost-of-living crisis has led to a 50% decrease in donations, even as demand continues to rise. For this reason, we are reaching out to our local councils for financial assistance to ensure this vital program can continue to operate.

Your funding could make a genuine difference in helping us support vulnerable families who are struggling to make ends meet. Together, we can ensure that no child or parent faces the distress of food insecurity during the holidays.

Please let us know if you would be able to contribute to this initiative or if you require further information. I would be happy to discuss this with you in more detail or provide specific numbers of children in your area and the impact of the program.

Thank you for considering this request, and for your commitment to supporting the well-being of families within our community.

We have a project on The Good Exchange that will allow any donation to be match funded.

Yours sincerely,

Fran Chamings

Charity Managing Director, West Berks Foodbank



**Re: 20879 - Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley – Supporting Children’s Emotional Health and Wellbeing across West Berkshire & North Hampshire 2025-2026. Visiting Robert Sandilands Primary School and Newery in September 2025.**

12/5/25

Newbury Town Council

Dear Councillors

We are writing to request that you kindly consider Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley (LEW&TV) for a grant towards our work of providing health and wellbeing workshops to approximately 226 children at Robert Sandilands Primary School and Nursery on the 30/09/25 for 2 days.

**The cost** to deliver our workshops to schools is £540 a day; schools contribute approximately 70% of this, and we need to raise the shortfall. We will be delivering workshops to the school for 2 days, which equates to a shortfall of **£310**. 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.

**Background:** LEW&TV is an independent and self-financing charity and delivers the UK’s leading health and wellbeing education Workshops, ‘Coram Life Education’, to children (aged 3–11 years) across Dorset, Somerset, Devon & Cornwall, Hampshire & the Isle of Wight, and the Thames Valley (Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire). In the 2023/24 financial year over 74,000 children experienced our workshops with another 43,400 benefitting from online resources available to their schools.

Our strap line is **‘Helping Children Make Healthy Choices’** and the programmes address many of today’s topical health and wellbeing issues. Our core programmes help children understand:

- how their bodies work
- what they need to do to look after themselves
- the adverse effects of drugs, including alcohol, tobacco and so-called legal highs
- and learn the skills and gain the confidence to make and implement healthy decisions

We also offer;

- Mental Wellbeing workshops that provide children with the skills and positive mental attitudes they need to be resilient and bounce back from setbacks, help them feel empowered and enable them to identify and articulate their needs and feelings.
- Relationship Education workshops that help children to be aware of their human/physical/sexual rights and know how to protect themselves or others, as well examining healthy and unhealthy relationships, human reproduction and changes at puberty.

**Why Life Education is so vital:** Children and young people face increasing pressure and temptation to damage their health and their futures.

Research shows that children who have better health and emotional well-being do better in life – both academically and socially. Children are also facing growing pressures at home, at school and with their friends, leaving many primary school pupils ill-equipped for life at secondary school and beyond.

- 41% of boys and 35% of girls aged 10-11 were either overweight or obese  
*(Source: Office of Health Improvement & disparities 2021/22)*
- 18% of children aged 7-16 were identified as having a probable mental disorder, up from 16% in 2020  
*(Source: Mental Health of Children and Young People in England 2022)*
- 9% of children aged 8-15 had ever used e-cigarettes or vaping devices, up from 7% in 2018  
*(Source: Health Survey for England 2021)*
- 20% of 8-11 year olds who go online say they have seen something worrying or nasty  
*(Source: OFCOM Media Use & Attitudes Report 2023)*

Early intervention can prevent mental health problems, obesity and substance misuse in children now and in later life and helps to prevent drug and alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour. Our work not only benefits children’s health and their futures, but also promotes healthier families and safer communities.

Life Education workshops empower children with key thinking, learning and social skills to make healthy choices and stay safe online and in the real world. Children graduate

with confidence, knowledge and resilience to cope with the stresses of secondary school and life beyond.

**Workshop Delivery:** Our workshops can be delivered in either in the schools' own classrooms, in the LifeSpace which is an innovative inflatable classroom, or via SCARF Live Online, which uses ZOOM virtual video technology. Workshops focus on the mental health and wellbeing of children.

Schools also have access to **SCARF**, a comprehensive, interactive and flexible set of online resources which supports the entire PSHE curriculum.

Through our annual delivery, children progressively acquire the skills and knowledge to make their own healthy choices in life. As well as helping the children who participate, the benefits of this preventative education cascade out to the wider community, as children who make the right healthy choices grow up to become better citizens and make a positive contribution to society.

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

Yours sincerely

Life Education, Wessex & Thames Valley.

**Re: 20838 – The Base Greenham – Young Curators – A hands-on opportunity for young people to learn about curation in a professional gallery.**

Dear Liz,

I'm getting in touch from The Base Greenham in the hopes that you might consider taking one of our upcoming projects to the next Grants Sub-Committee meeting.

We are currently fundraising for our 'Young Curators' project, which we hope to kick off in September 2025. This project will give a group of local young people the opportunity to learn about the skills required to become a gallery curators, allowing them to gain valuable career skills and insights.

I would be very grateful if you would consider taking a look at the project on The Good Exchange: [Young Curators - A Hands-On Opportunity for Young People to Learn About Curation in a Professional Gallery](#)

Thank you so much for taking the time to consider our request.

**Sarah Franks, Fundraising Officer** (she/her)  
THE BASE, GREENHAM (registered charity 1199188)

20/06/2025

Hi Liz,

Thanks so much for the call - I really appreciate you getting in touch.

I've just spoken with our Community Engagement Coordinator who will be one of the people running the Young Curators project.

She tells me that the project will be marketed through the secondary schools in Newbury, as well as marketed through other Newbury-based partner organisations, such as iCollege.

Although we can't confirm that 100% of the young people involved in the project will be from Newbury, as we will be marketing to other areas too, our previous experience leads us to expect that many of the young people will be from Newbury.

If funding were dependent on a certain number of young people being from Newbury, we likely have this flexibility.

I hope this helps, and thank you so much once again for your call - it was really nice to talk to you and I appreciate you taking the time.

Best wishes,

Sarah

**Sarah Franks, Fundraising Officer** (she/her)  
THE BASE, GREENHAM (registered charity 1199188)

**Ref: 20978 – Kintbury Tennis Club – West Berkshire Comedy Festival**

Dear mayor's office

You may be aware that the West Berks Comedy Festival is coming to Newbury, Thatcham & Hungerford in July. It is a week of comedy shows attracting acts that are bringing shows to our area ahead of the Edinburgh Fringe, as well as some acts currently on tour. We have a show at Ace Space, Saturday July 19, the Falkland Cricket Club on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July and St Nicolas Church Hall on July 24

We also have a funding request that is live on the good exchange. Thatcham town Council and Hungerford Town Council have made donations, and I wondered if Newbury Town Council might consider doing the same? The shows at Ace Space and Falkland Cricket Club are free to see, with a request for donations only. It is the costs for these shows for which funding is being requested.

With thanks.