



WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Grant-aid to Local Organisations APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

(1) Your Organisation			
Name of Organisation	Anchora		
Registered Address*	See below		
Post Code		Tel No.	
Contact Name	Katie Lewis		
Position in Organisation	Co-founder (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	YES/ NO We have been advised by Oxfordshire County Council that registration as a charity is not the best route for us at the moment. We are an association.	Registration No.	
<i>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation:</i>			
<u>About Anchora</u>			
Anchora was founded in early October 2021 by Emma Bishop and me (Katie Lewis). Emma Bishop had been using a food bank the previous winter and wanted to help others who found themselves in the same predicament this year. She began posting on social media asking people to make a donation by buying Christmas presents for children on her Amazon wish list. She then packaged up bespoke boxes for every family. Colleagues at the Town Council may have seen her posts, and she has become somewhat of a local hero in Witney. I reached out to her a couple of weeks after she started collecting donations, and Anchora was born. Anchora means anchor in latin, and we think it symbolises stability and hope.			

Our mission

The mission of Anchora is to support those local families who find themselves in the greatest need with boxes of nappies, sanitary items, toiletries, cleaning products and other essential items. We also signpost people to church groups, CAB, Baby Bank etc. and at our discretion we provide supermarket vouchers (which cannot be used for the purchase of alcohol, tobacco or gambling) and funds for electricity and gas metres. In the run-up to Christmas we also provided Christmas presents for children, as many parents were extremely distressed that they were unable to give their children a proper Christmas.

Our mission post-Christmas is to continue helping with boxes of essential items and to support struggling families in other ways. We are particularly concerned about the rise of fuel poverty and the exacerbation of this problem when the cap on energy bills rises in April.

Anchora only helps those in greatest need. Most of the people we help are single mothers, and many of them have experienced domestic abuse or serious illness. Many families sleep in one room because they can't afford to heat the rest of their home, and parents don't eat so that their children can eat. These are the people we prioritise in our work. Anchora is based in Witney.

Why we are asking for your help

To date, Anchora has delivered over 400 boxes of toys and essential items and has provided about £500 in supermarket vouchers and fuel funding for local families. However, there were over 100 people that we had to turn away before Christmas due to lack of funding, we are getting new people reaching out to us regularly, and most of the families we helped before Christmas now require our assistance again. Up to Christmas, we relied on generous donations from the local community via Facebook posts on 'I Love Witney' and 'Spotted Witney', and donations from friends and family. However, this is not sustainable.

We now find ourselves in desperate need of funding as we are in touch with hundreds of local families and we are unable to support them.

We would like to hold a fundraiser at the Corn Exchange, and being allowed to hold this event for free would mean that all our profits from the event could go towards helping struggling local families.

We would also be grateful for any further funding available, as we are in touch with a lot of local families who are in great need.

How many members do you have?	
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	n/a
Is membership restricted in any way?	n/a
What is your annual subscription, if any?	n/a
Are you affiliated to a national organisation? If so, which one?	n/a
Local venue/meeting place	n/a

(3) Grants

Purpose for which the grant is required: Free use of the Corn Exchange for a fundraising event. ALL profit will go towards helping local people in times of need. Additional grant to support our work as available.

Amount of grant applied for

£ Cost of hiring out the hall. Additional grant to support our work as available.

Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?

YES/NO

If YES please give details

Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?

YES/NO

If YES please give details

(4) Financial

Please enclose a copy of your latest audited accounts, a financial projection for the period following the balance sheet or a Business Plan if a new organisation.

(5) Fundraising

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

Fundraising event at the Corn Exchange, Witney. Support from the community via social media.

(6) General

Recipients of a grant from the Town Council should acknowledge the fact on all relevant literature.

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

I certify that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I am authorised to make this application for Grant-aid.

Signed: Katie Lewis

Date: 01/02/2022

Please return your completed application form to the address overleaf, for the attention of the TOWN CLERK

For office use only:			
Acknowledged		Previously Applied	
Grant Aid Awarded/Amount	Y / N	Chq No.	