



WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Grant-aid to Local Organisations APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

(1) Your Organisation			
Name of Organisation		Volunteer Link Up	
Registered Address*		Witney Methodist Church Centre 10 Wesley Walk Witney Oxon OX28 6ZJ	
Post Code	OX28 6ZJ	Tel No.	01993 776277
Contact Name		Barry Beadle	
Position in Organisation		General Manager (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)	
Registered Charity	YES	Registration No.	
<p><i>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</i></p> <p>Volunteer Link Up provides 3 main services to communities across Oxfordshire. COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION: Volunteer drivers transport individuals to medical appointments, employment/benefit related appointments, shopping trips etc. The most frequent requests are for older residents to attend medical and dental appointments and we seek to prioritise these requests. Volunteers use their own cars and are paid 45p per mile by the transportation clients. BEFRIENDING: Our volunteer befrienders seek to reduce loneliness and isolation within their communities. There is an expectation of a minimum of 2 contacts per week between volunteer and client, although there are often more contacts. Many of our befrienders also carry out practical tasks for our clients, such as shopping, garden tidying, cleaning and small DIY tasks. Our Volunteer Co-ordinator goes to great lengths to match volunteer and client appropriately, matches may be based on practical requirements, age, interests etc. The Volunteer Co-ordinator regularly 'checks in' with volunteer and client to ensure the arrangement is running smoothly and positively. Staff at VLU are always available to offer volunteers advice and support as necessary.</p> <p>Our Community Transportation and Befriending services are available to all residents of West Oxfordshire.</p> <p>GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME CO-ORDINATION: VLU have a sub-contract arrangement with Age UK to co-ordinate Good Neighbour Schemes across the County of Oxfordshire. The Good Neighbour Schemes offer support to their communities across the county, they will organise volunteers to assist individuals with a range of interventions such as transportation, practical help, gardening, small DIY tasks, shopping, administrative tasks and befriending. The GNS Co-</p>			

ordination information is for information only, we are not seeking funding to support this area of our work.

We seek to benefit the community by improving access to all services, particularly medical, dental and social care appointments. We therefore assist in improving our clients physical and mental health. Our befriending service is instrumental in reducing the impact of loneliness and isolation on individuals who engage with us. When appropriate, our volunteers will also assist with basic practical tasks such as cleaning, gardening and simple DIY tasks.

(2) Membership

How many members do you have?	1039 Clients
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	373 Clients
Is membership restricted in any way?	No
What is your annual subscription, if any?	None
Are you affiliated to a national organisation? If so, which one?	No
Local venue/meeting place	N/A

(3) Grants

Purpose for which the grant is required:

Volunteer Link up will be offering our services and subsequent benefits to residents of Witney on an ongoing basis, this grant will assist us with doing this, by supporting us in paying for the efficient running of our organisation. We are experiencing an increasing need for our services and a particular challenge for our organisation is the recruitment of new volunteers. As well as assisting in the support of new and current Witney based clients, this grant would also go towards the recruitment, retention and training of volunteers.

We plan to widen the training opportunities which are made available to our volunteers. This training will include more comprehensive safeguarding training than is currently offered. We are also acutely aware that some of our clients are experiencing financial difficulties, which will be ongoing. We need to make our volunteers more aware of the practical and financial help available both locally and nationally. This is helpful information which they can pass on to the clients who they interact with.

Of our 171 volunteers 59 are based in Witney

Amount of grant applied for	£2000.00	
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?		YES
If YES please give details	We have received £500.00 per year for a number of years from Witney Town Council on an annual basis. This has helped us with the day to day financial costs of running the charity, enabling us to deliver the benefits we have detailed to individuals resident in Witney	

Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?		YES
If YES please give details	Volunteer Link Up continually apply for various grants to ensure we are able to meet the costs of running the organisation (<i>more information Section 5</i>)	
(4) Financial		
<p>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.</p> <p>Attached!</p>		
(5) Fundraising		
<p>What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?</p> <p>Volunteer Link Up maintain their activities by completing grant applications. In the past year we have submitted successful applications to the following organisations/funding streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contain Outbreak Management Fund • OCC Sustainability Fund • OCC Supported Transport Fund • West Oxfordshire District Council • Witney Town Council • Parish Councils <p>We are willing and able to provide quantitative and qualitative reporting information as required.</p>		
(6) General		
<p>Recipients of a grant from the Town Council should acknowledge the fact on all relevant literature.</p> <p>Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.</p>		
<p><i>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.</i></p>		
Signed: Barry Beadle		Date: 11-08-2022

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.	

*Please note that if your address and telephone number are personal information and not that of the company or organisation, please complete the form below which will not be published on our website and will be held in accordance with GPDR regulations. By submitting this form, you are agreeing to the Town Council storing your personal information.

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