

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Chief Officer: Chris Shaw

Council Offices, 78 Church Road, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 5PB Telephone: 01606 415510
www.northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk chrisshaw@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk



Northwich
town council

24th June 2026

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend the meeting of the GRANTS COMMITTEE to be held in the COUNCIL OFFICES.

78 CHURCH ROAD, NORTHWICH on Wednesday 15th July 2026 at 5.30 p.m.

Yours Sincerely

Chris Shaw

Chief Officer

AGENDA

1 To elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the forthcoming year

2. Apologies for absence or absences

3. Declaration of interest

- * Members to declare any interest under the following categories:
- * Pecuniary interest
- * Outside bodies interest
- * Family, friend or close associate interest

4. Signing of the Minutes

Of the Grants Committee meeting held on 21st January 2026

5. Requests for Donations

Nine completed applications have been received (copies attached)

The decision of the Members is requested on amounts to be granted (if any) and under which powers and duties these grants should be placed.

The decision of the Committee is requested

6. Date of next Grants Committee Meeting

To be confirmed

Councillors: Cllr Andy Kent
Cllr Kate Cernik
Cllr Janet Illidge
Cllr Emma Guy

Cllr Catriona Stewart
Cllr Catherine Fox
Cllr Brian Holland

Cllr Julie Macdonald
Cllr Patricia Parkes
Cllr Sam Naylor

NORTHWICH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE GRANTS COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 21st JANUARY 2026

Members Present Cllr Julie Macdonald
 Cllr Patricia Parkes
 Cllr Janet Illidge
 Cllr Rachel Waterman
 Cllr Kate Cernik

Also Present Chris Shaw - Chief Officer
 Cath Kirwan – Deputy Chief Officer/RFO

GC 25/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE OR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Catriona Stewart, Cllr Lee Siddall and Cllr Andrew Kent.

GC 25/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interest under the following categories:

- Pecuniary Interest
- Outside Bodies Interest
- Family, Friend, or Close Associate interest

Cllr Rachel Waterman and Councillor Patricia Parkes declared an interest in any matters relating to Cheshire West and Chester Council.

Cllr Rachel Waterman declared an interest in any matter relating to Changing Lives Together.

GC 25/10 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the Grants Committee held on 23rd June 2025 and noted at the Town Council meeting on Monday 7th July 2025 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed by Cllr Janet Illidge, seconded by Cllr Janet Illidge, all agreed.

Date

Cllr Patricia Parkes
Chair

GC 25/11 REQUESTS FOR DONATIONS

Three requests were submitted. Members discussed each of their individual merits before making their decisions.

It was resolved that the following donations be made.

Boxing Fit Academy

Members approved an award of £580.00

Proposed by Cllr J Macdonald seconded by Cllr P Parkes

Changing Lives Together

Councillor Waterman left the meeting whilst this application was discussed

Members approved an award of £1500.00

Proposed by Cllr J Macdonald seconded by Cllr P Parkes

Cheshire 7s Cup

Members approved an award of £500.00

Proposed by Cllr J Illidge seconded by Cllr K Cernik

Cheshire School FA

Members approved an award of £300.00

Proposed by Cllr P Parkes seconded by Cllr R Waterman

Her Place Charitable Trust

Members requested additional information.

Northwich Pride CIO

Members requested additional information.

Witton Church Walk CE Primary School & Nursery

Members approved an award of £832.50.

Proposed by Cllr J Illidge seconded by Cllr J Macdonald

GC 25/012 DATE OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The date of next meeting to be confirmed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.30pm

Date

Cllr Patricia Parkes
Chair

Northwich Town Council
Grants Application Form (maximum £1500)

Project title: 1874 Northwich FC Juniors storage			
Organisation's Name: 1874 Northwich FC Phoenix			
Applicant's Name: Ian King			
Address: 54 Alan Street, Northwich CW9 7AQ			
Telephone	Mobile	e-mail	
	07850218756	phoenix@1874northwichjuniorfc.co.uk	
Estimated cost of project:			
Description	Materials	Labour	Total
Secure storage of football equipment	Shipping container	N/A	£2000
Sub-total			
TOTAL			£ 2000

Details of contributions from other organisations? We have done fundraising within the team and raised some funds, I am self employed and my business had contributed.	£ £400
Total amount of grant applied for	£ £1500

Project Description:	
<i>Please set out what your project aims and objectives are as clearly as possible – you may continue on a separate sheet if necessary</i> Our junior football team is affiliated with the local club, 1874 Northwich FC, and we are currently competing in our Under-15 season. We now play our home fixtures at Belmont Field, having previously played at Chinker's; however, due to pitch size constraints, we were required to relocate to Belmont. To support the safe and effective running of the team, we have applied to Cheshire West and Chester Council for permission to install a secure storage container on site for our equipment. At present, equipment is stored across the homes of coaches and players' parents. This arrangement has proved challenging, particularly on match days when the majority of equipment is required. If a player or coach is unavailable, we may not have access to essential items, and the regular transportation of equipment is also leading to damage and increased replacement costs. Cheshire West and Chester Council has granted immediate permission for the installation of a bolt-together container; however, the cost of such units is beyond our financial reach, with the most affordable option priced at approximately £4,000. We are currently awaiting confirmation of a contract that would allow us to install a standard shipping container on site, which would provide a secure, practical, and cost-effective long-term solution for storing our equipment.	
Signed on behalf of the applying organisation:	<i>Ian King</i>
Dated: 07/01/2026	Position: Junior Team Manager

Please return your completed form either via e-mail or by post.

Northwich Town Council Office, 78 Church Road, Northwich, CW9 5PB
e-mail lizaclansey@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Northwich Town Council

Grants Application Form (maximum £1500)

Project title: Bugz and Bunnies Sibling Sessions		
Organisation's Name: Bugz and Bunnies CIC		
Applicant's Name: Clare Peers		
Address: 49 Moss Road, Northwich, CW8 4BQ		
Telephone 07852 918518	Mobile 07852 918518	e-mail bugzandbunnies@yahoo.com

Estimated cost of project:			
Description	Materials	Labour	Total
25 Weekly Toddler Sessions during term time for 15 children	£1875	£954	£2829
5 School Holiday Sessions for 15 children	£375	£191	£566
Sub-total	£2250	£1145	
TOTAL			£3395

Details of contributions from other organisations?	
Bugz and Bunnies Volunteer Labour	£1145
Bugz and Bunnies Material Contribution via paid places	£1350
Sub-total	£2495
Total amount of grant applied for	£900

Project Description:

Please set out what your project aims and objectives are as clearly as possible – you may continue on a separate sheet if necessary

The idea for Bugz and Bunnies came from our autistic daughter. When she was a toddler we'd take her to various group activities and it was very difficult to explain her autism and inability to cope in loud; overly busy situations. Conversations with other children's parents led to the same conclusion of how difficult it is to find activities and facilities that are able to support children and their carers so, in 2022, we got the permissions in place and turned our garden into a space that was welcoming and suitable.

The space is dedicated to helping to improve people's wellbeing. It provides a sense of belonging and the opportunity to create a community and support network without fear of judgement all whilst connecting with nature.

Our two hour long toddler sessions run weekly during term time and we provide at least 1 holiday session each school holiday when we welcome older children. Sessions consist of forest school and various crafts learning about small animals and nature. The cost to provide these sessions works out at over £5 per head. This is needed to cover craft materials, food, drinks, animal feed for the session and the enhanced monthly cost of public liability insurance needed for forest school activities. There are other overhead costs such as utilities and accounting that we have to cover but they are not part of the £5 figure.

All Bugz and Bunnies activities are run and delivered by volunteers so any funding will go directly to the cost of running the sessions. These sessions have a high proportion of children with special educational needs, those in care and larger sibling groups. We want to continue to subsidise the sessions so that the cost can remain at only £5 per family, meaning it remains affordable for families with multiple children. We do not want to offer sessions for free to all as our families value making a contribution, having a small charge allows for a mix of attendees and it means we are not using grant funding for those, like child minders, that are able to pay.

Signed on behalf of the applying organisation:	Clare Peers
Dated: 20/06/2026	Position: Director (forest school leader)

Please return your completed form either via e-mail or by post.

Northwich Town Council Office, 78 Church Road, Northwich, CW9 5PB

e-mail lizaclansey@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Northwich Town Council
Grants Application Form (maximum £1500)

Project title: Sensory Room			
Organisation's Name: Cheshire Autism Practical Support (ChAPS)			
Applicant's Name: Chloe Carter			
Address: Sension House, Denton Drive, Northwich Cheshire CW9 7LU			
Telephone 0344 850 8607	Mobile 07491001360	e-mail chloe.carter@autismpracticalsupport.org.uk	
Estimated cost of project:			
Description	Materials	Labour	Total
Installing walls and blackout roof	£1,200	£600	£1,800
Electrics and fitting equipment	£400	£300	£700
Sensory room equipment	£600	n/a	£600
Sub-total	£2,200	£900	
TOTAL			£ £3,100

Details of contributions from other organisations? We have also applied to Lostock Sustainable Energy Plant Community Fund for the remaining costs.	£ £1,600
Total amount of grant applied for	£ £1,500

Project Description:	
<i>Please set out what your project aims and objectives are as clearly as possible – you may continue on a separate sheet if necessary</i> Cheshire Autism Practical Support have recently moved to a more sustainable and accessible building (in Sension House) and would like to create a replacement sensory room for our service users to access. Our sensory room at our old building was in regular use; this is now a gap in our services and support offer for our members and families. The grant would contribute to the costs of the building work, fitting of electrics and sensory room equipment. We would also like to buy some replacement equipment for our members to use in the room and to support their emotional and communication needs. Autistic children and young people often experience hypersensitivity or hyposensitivity to sensory stimuli, such as sounds, lights or textures. Sensory rooms are a proven way to support autistic individuals providing a safe space to experience tailored sensory experiences, helping to reduce meltdowns, developing self-regulation skills and enhance emotional wellbeing. They also support social skills, reduce anxiety and motor-skills. We have found that overall, sensory rooms are a valuable resource for our members. Adding a sensory room into our setting, we can continue to expand our support for the diverse needs of autistic individuals in the local area. The sensory room will offer a calm and relaxing environment for members and be accessible to all of our members and their families. Adding a sensory room into our setting, we can continue to expand our support for the diverse needs of autistic individuals in the local area.	
Signed on behalf of the applying organisation:	Chloe Carter
Dated: 19/6/26	Position: Operations Manager

Please return your completed form either via e-mail or by post.

Northwich Town Council Office, 78 Church Road, Northwich, CW9 5PB
e-mail lizaclansey@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Northwich Town Council
Grants Application Form (maximum £1500)

Project title:		Cocoon Program – Family Creative Connections Sessions	
Organisation's Name:		Cocoon Program	
Applicant's Name: Emma Carradice Address: 10 Mere Road Marston CW9 6DR			
Telephone 07920270675	Mobile 07920270675	e-mail divinitytrancehealing@gmail.com	
Estimated cost of project: £1300			
Description	Materials	Labour	Total
6 week Family Creative Somatic Bodywork Course	Yoga Mats – 9.99 x 12 = 119.88 Blankets – 10 = £32.99 Kids/Adults Journals = £13.85 Sound Healing Instruments = £450 Hall hire = £120 Literature printing = £120 Tools for visualisation techniques £45.00	20 hours prep work, collab building and admin tasks 12 hours for in person sessions	1310.80
Sub-total	848.72	462.08	1310.80
TOTAL			£ 1310.80

Details of contributions from other organisations? None so far	
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Total amount of grant applied for	£ 1310.80
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Project Description: <i>Please set out what your project aims and objectives are as clearly as possible – you may continue on a separate sheet if necessary</i> <i>Cocoon Program – Mission Statement</i> <i>Our mission as a team is to provide a safe, connected, creative and community based space for a wide range of community members. We are here to provide a variety of services, workshops and events to create a fully inclusive, inspiring space where individuals are held safely – ‘Cocooned’ – gaining resilient self awareness skills, growing their well being tool kits and becoming strong enough in self, to feel empowered enough to be part of a supportive and heart centred community.</i> <i>Cocoon Program</i> <i>Objective –</i> <i>To create a safe and nurturing environment for individuals in the community with neurodiversity and self awareness issues. This includes exploring the obstacles that create barriers into recovery.</i> <i>To use a holistic approach to ensure regulation of the nervous system, allowing a firm grounding and calm structured path to becoming free from addiction and understanding of individual needs.</i> <i>To connect and signpost to relevant local services where necessary to help access more services to encourage personal growth.</i> <i>To nurture the individuals needs, create bespoke programs looking at the social and sensory barriers that are involved when clients present with a dual diagnosis.</i> <i>Strategy</i> <i>To use holistic modalities and work with individual service users to analyse their needs from a trauma informed, person centred approach. This will be the foundation at which we begin, together, rebuilding from the ground up. Using a varying range of tools to create a greater understanding of self awareness, resilience and slowly, safely and patiently become useful members of society.</i>

To use nature as a way of therapy. Foraging sessions and connecting in with natural sources of calming. Using walks in nature to stimulate dopamine, to encourage become aware and grateful for the simple beauty in the great outdoors. Exercise as a tool to calm the overstimulated mind and nervous system.

To work with local agencies and partner to strengthen the successful outcome possibilities for service users.

To have small, intimate group sessions. These are extremely important as large groups create a great sense of overwhelm and sensory overload, often causing a need to withdraw and isolate.

We will be providing a support phone line for program attendees in need of extra support in times of uncertainty.

Analytic Tools

We will be using weekly 1:1 check in sessions to monitor progress.

Making sure medical appointments are kept to and external support services that can help strengthen the clients needs are accessed.

Community feedback from local recovery organisations.

We do not want to put pressure on need for abstinence, rather helping create such a strong foundation that service users take control of their own recovery, enhancing lack of need for shame for relapse, allowing every step to become a chance for growth.

Peer support group feedback forms.

We have facilitated these courses on a paid for basis and had nothing but positive feedback. Parents commenting that they could take many tools and skills that they learnt and incorporate into their home environments!

Our aim is to be able to offer these empowering sessions to those in great need that would make a bigger impact on their day to day lives, hopefully giving more understanding of their ability to take control of their emotional wellbeing.

Signed on behalf of the applying organisation:	Emma Carradice
Dated: 09/04/2026	Position: Project Manager

Please return your completed form either via e-mail or by post.

Northwich Town Council Office, 78 Church Road, Northwich, CW9 5PB e-mail
lizaclansey@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Northwich Town Council
Grants Application Form (maximum £1500)

Project title: Modern Man Tribe		
Organisation's Name: Modern Tribe Collective CIC		
Applicant's Name: LUKE SLATER		
Address: 1 Greenhill Street, SK3 9JP		
OPERATING at		
Grozone Dane Nurseries, Northwich CW9 5QA		
Telephone 07748747530	Mobile	e-mail moderntribescic@gmail.com

Estimated cost of project:			
Description	Materials	Labour	Total
Facilitated Wilderness Therapy and Bushcraft - 20 sessions over 12 months	Consumables £35 x 20 = £700; Site hire £30 x 20 = £600; Insurance £100	Facilitator costs met through other funding and volunteer in kind	£1,400
Sub-total	1400		
TOTAL			£ 1400

Details of contributions from other organisations? Sainsbury's Community Grants (Plastic Bag Fund) — ongoing small grants We are currently in receipt of small grants through a local Sainsbury's plastic bag fund, which have allowed us to begin delivering sessions. This funding is helping to part-fund consumables and running costs, though it is limited in scale and consistency. With this grant, we can move from ad hoc, piecemeal delivery to a planned, consistent 20-session programme across the full year.	£ 350 - so far this year
Total amount of grant applied for	£1400

Project Description:

Please set out what your project aims and objectives are as clearly as possible – you may continue on a separate sheet if necessary

To deliver a consistent, year-round outdoor wellbeing community for men in Northwich, using regular fireside and bushcraft sessions to reduce social isolation, support mental health, and build a sustainable peer community rooted in nature-based activity.

We are already delivering this in Northwich in partnership with Grozone, a local community garden organisation. Sessions take place at Grozone's community garden site, providing a rooted, accessible location for Northwich men. We currently have an average of 12 men attending per session and over 20 men in our community WhatsApp group. The men themselves have co-created the sessions, and the current cohort have expressed a strong desire to grow the service to reach more men in the town. Several participants are willing to take on training to support future delivery, a step that will reduce facilitation costs over time and embed real community ownership.

Objectives

1. Deliver 20 men's fireside sessions over 12 months

To provide a reliable, fortnightly outdoor gathering space for men in Northwich, offering structure and consistency that participants can depend on throughout the year, building on the momentum and attendance we have already established.

2. Reduce social isolation among male participants

To engage men in Northwich who are socially isolated or unlikely to access traditional support services, using the informal, non-clinical environment of the fireside as a low-barrier entry point to community connection.

3. Build practical skills and confidence

To develop participants' bushcraft and outdoor skills — fire lighting, shelter building, foraging awareness — creating a tangible sense of achievement, self-efficacy, and connection to the natural environment.

4. Grow a sustainable peer support community

To build genuine connections between participants that extend beyond the sessions themselves, reducing loneliness and building long-term social resilience within the community.

5. Establish a funded, sustainable programme

To move beyond piecemeal, ad hoc delivery made possible by small funding to date, towards a planned, fully-resourced programme rooted in Northwich that can demonstrate impact, attract ongoing support, and ultimately be part-led by trained participants from within the community itself.

Intended Outcomes

Men reporting reduced feelings of isolation and improved wellbeing

Increased confidence and practical capability among participants

A growing cohort of regular attendees forming an ongoing Northwich-based community

A documented and measured programme model that can be replicated or scaled

A preventative service supporting men before they reach crisis point

Signed on behalf of the applying organisation:	
Dated: 07/04/2026	Position: Director

Please return your completed form either via e-mail or by post.

Northwich Town Council Office, 78 Church Road, Northwich, CW9 5PB
e-mail lizaclansey@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Northwich Town Council
Grants Application Form (maximum £1500)

Project title: <i>Period dignity friendly town + Safer Spaces</i>			
Organisation's Name: <i>Her-Place Charitable Trust</i>			
Applicant's Name: <i>Jenny Foulkes, Services manager</i>			
Address: <i>15-17 Finsbury Walk, Winsford, CW7 2YA</i>			
Telephone	Mobile	e-mail	
<i>01606 557666</i>	<i>07777183996</i>	<i>Jenny@her-place.co.uk</i>	
Estimated cost of project: <i>£1,000 (+£4,000 provided in-kind)</i>			
Description	Materials	Labour	Total
<i>Project to ensure that local women have access to period products and to promote safe spaces in Northwich</i>	<i>£200 promotional materials £200 period products £100 badges & white ribbons £300 torches & personal alarms £100 advertising £50 volunteer costs £50 room hire</i>	<i>Provided in-kind volunteer time management costs</i>	
Sub-total			
TOTAL	<i>£1000</i>		£

Details of contributions from other organisations? <i>We will work with organisations to support in offering period products. Local businesses will be worked with to offer safe spaces and to promote the project</i>	£
Total amount of grant applied for	£ 1000

*Annual Report available
on day of meeting*

Project Description:

Please set out what your project aims and objectives are as clearly as possible – you may continue on a separate sheet if necessary

We are requesting money to be able to ensure that we can provide period items to women and girls when and where they need them. We will work with local organisations and the public to support us in donating items to help us to distribute. We will create period grab bags that will be placed in public toilets and leave leaflets and posters to explain where women and girls can access more support.

We would like to work together with Northwich Town Council to become a White Ribbon town. This would promote the White Ribbon Campaign and work with agencies/shops present on the high street and surrounding areas to offer safe spaces for women and girls. We would like to see an end to violence against women and girls and for women and girls feeling safe in their homes and local community.

Signed on behalf of the applying organisation:

L Bulkes

Dated: 23.12.2025

Position: Services Manager

Please return your completed form either via e-mail or by post.

Northwich Town Council Office, 78 Church Road, Northwich, CW9 5PB
e-mail lizaclansey@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Northwich Town Council
Grants Application Form (maximum £1500)

Project title: Fireworks Extravangza 2026			
Organisation's Name: Friends of Leftwich Community Primary School			
Applicant's Name: Carly Marmion / Emma Rimmer			
Address: Leftwich Community Primary School Old Hall Road Leftwich Northwich CW9 8DH			
Telephone 01606 800305	Mobile	e-mail FOL@leftwichprimary.cheshire.sch.uk	
Estimated cost of project:			
Description	Materials	Labour	Total
We would like to ask for a contribution of £500 to this years Fireworks Extravangaza. The night costs around £2750.00 all in. We have NE Entertainment that provides all fireworks on the night.			
Sub-total			
TOTAL			£ 500.00

Details of contributions from other organisations? We are also appealing to our local councillors for any support / contributions they could make to this amazing event that includes all families near and far.	£ 1000.00
Total amount of grant applied for	£ 1000.00

Project Description:	
<i>Please set out what your project aims and objectives are as clearly as possible – you may continue on a separate sheet if necessary</i> If, Friends of Leftwich are lucky to receive a contribution to the event we would greatly appreciate the support. The funds would support the huge success of the fireworks night that includes families from near and far, children already attending our school, carers, and grandparents too. With the support, we would be able to aim to keep tickets prices down, enabling families to purchase tickets at affordable prices. As we live in an area of deprivation, around 60% of families within the area are in receipt of support and free school meals. So, providing a low-cost event that allows all to enjoy is something we thrive upon providing. Children have potentially missed on events like this over time due to past world events, parents just not being financially able, and potentially not transport to get to further afield events. So, this event makes it possible for all to attend and allowing families to have some 'Special Family time' which every family should have. Our local PCSO - Lee, always makes it an event he attends and an event he fully supports whilst he provides that extra security that we require. We aim to advertise the event locally, within shops, schools and via our social media pages to ensure that we get the wider community attending. It's a great night to be had by all that attend.	
Signed on behalf of the applying organisation:	Emma Rimmer
Dated: 09/04/2026	Position: Treasurer

Please return your completed form either via e-mail or by post.

Northwich Town Council Office, 78 Church Road, Northwich, CW9 5PB
e-mail lizaclansey@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Northwich Town Council
Grants Application Form (maximum £1500)

Project title: Ongoing support to the local community in Northwich		
Organisation's Name: Sustainability Northwich - https://transitionnorthwich.weebly.com/		
Applicant's Name: Suzanne Wilson - Treasurer		
Address: 28 Monarch Drive, Kingsmead, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 8TH		
Telephone	Mobile 07973213065	e-mail transitionnorthwich@gmx.com

Estimated cost of project:			
Description	Materials	Labour	Total
Recovery of Rod's secret garden - fencing repairs and construction of shelter and waterproof gazebo for children's workshops and social community gatherings	new shelter and waterproof gazebo	volunteers to fit all	£100-£200
	new patio - pavings		£50
	new compost bins		£50
	new fencing - boundary protection and renewal		£400-650
Sub-total			
TOTAL			£ £950

Details of contributions from other organisations? Rudheath Beaver's donation £180	
	£
Total amount of grant applied for	£ 950

Project Description:	
<i>Please set out what your project aims and objectives are as clearly as possible – you may continue on a separate sheet if necessary</i> Sustainable Northwich is a community group of local people working together to share ideas and create positive changes in Northwich to combat the Climate & Ecology Emergency. Everyone can get involved to help create a better, greener future in Northwich.	
Signed on behalf of the applying organisation:	S Wilson
Dated: 07.06.2026	Position: Treasurer

Please return your completed form either via e-mail or by post.

Northwich Town Council Office, 78 Church Road, Northwich, CW9 5PB
e-mail lizaclansey@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Northwich Town Council
Grants Application Form (maximum £1500)

Project title: Witton Wonder Tots			
Organisation's Name: Witton Church Walk CE Primary School and Nursery			
Applicant's Name: Kathryn Magiera			
Address: Church Walk, Northwich. CW9 5QQ			
Telephone 01606 663610	Mobile	e-mail head@wittonwalk.cheshire.sch.uk	
Estimated cost of project: £			
Description	Materials	Labour	Total
Awning for outdoor area	Company in to fix it in place	Company in to fix it in place	£500
Setting up of outdoor area	Resources – water play, sand play, outdoor kitchen	Site manager will make for free. Staff time and small resources - £250	£200 £250
Setting up of indoor area	Resources and equipment.		£250
Leading the session		Family support worker and two TAs for 1.5hours per week	£1900 over the year
Sub-total			
TOTAL			£3100

Details of contributions from other organisations?	
School contributions for resources	£250
Weekly cost of staffing	£50 over 38 weeks = £1900
Total amount of grant applied for	£500

Project Description: Community based tots group

Need for the session – COMMUNITY based not SCHOOL focused

Our local community has a growing number of families with young children, but there are limited accessible and affordable early years groups. Many parents, particularly those who are new to the area or experiencing isolation, lack opportunities to meet others and engage their children in structured play.

By hosting the tots group within the school:

- We utilise an existing trusted community space
- We support early years development before school start
- We help families build confidence and connections
- Make connections and support multi agency approach by referrals if necessary

This project will reduce social isolation, support early childhood development, and strengthen links between families and the school – exactly what the white paper is centred around. The group will provide a safe, welcoming space for play, early learning, and social interaction for children, while offering parents and carers opportunities to connect and access informal support.

Aims -

- Provide a weekly tots group session for children aged 0–4
- Encourage early learning through play (creative, sensory, and physical activities)
- Support parent wellbeing and social connection
- Build strong links between families and the school community
- Invitation for all our local community and not to just those wanting to attend our school
- Offer inclusive, accessible sessions open to all local families
- Invite health and other professionals each half term to gain valuable support for our families and an open forum for advice

Project objectives –

- To establish a **weekly, accessible tots group** for children aged 0–4 and their parents/carers
- To support **early childhood development** through play-based learning activities
- To reduce **social isolation** by creating opportunities for parents/carers to connect and build friendships
- To provide a **safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment** for all families in the community
- **Open to the whole community**
- Access to indoor and outdoor facilities within school grounds – forest schools, outdoor play, climbing

- To help children **develop social, communication, and motor skills** before starting school
- To strengthen **links between families and** agencies, encouraging familiarity and trust
- To offer **free sessions** to ensure no family is excluded due to cost
- To provide the expertise of our family support worker to signpost to agencies should that be needed

We opened in April 2026 and each week we are going from strength to strength, we are not just providing a safe space for families who would normally attend our school but a safe place for a number of families within our whole community who will attend other schools in our locality. This was our intention and our objectives are clear above. We set it up to meet the needs of Northwich community and to support families at that early stage in their child's development.

The grant is to fund a small awning so we can use the outdoor area in all weathers throughout the year.

Signed on behalf of the applying organisation:	Kathryn Magiera
Dated: 21 st May 2026	Position: Head Teacher

Please return your completed form either via e-mail or by post.

Northwich Town Council Office, 78 Church Road, Northwich, CW9 5PB
e-mail lizaclansey@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk

Northwich Town Council
Grants Application Form (maximum £1500)

Project title: Northwich Library family activities			
Organisation's Name: Cheshire West and Chester Libraries			
Applicant's Name: Address: Northwich Library (temporarily at Weaver Hall Museum and Workhouse, 162 London Road, Northwich, CW9 8AB			
Telephone 01606 275619	Mobile	e-mail caroline.dunseath@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk	
Estimated cost of project:			
Description	Materials	Labour	Total
Holiday events and activities (external event providers)	£100	£400	£500
Signage, promotion and printing (social media paid adverts, printed flyers, in-house signage)	£100		£100
School engagement (tours, artwork, naming competitions)		£100	£100
Display stands and small furniture to highlight children's book collections	£150		£150
Reading resources to loan like Get Ready for School bags and Tonieboxes for screen-free audiobook reading	£150		£150
Sub-total	£500	£500	

TOTAL		£1000
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Details of contributions from other organisations?	
Total amount of grant applied for	£1000

Project Description: <i>Please set out what your project aims and objectives are as clearly as possible – you may continue on a separate sheet if necessary</i> 2026 is the National Year of Reading. This is the biggest national reading campaign in a generation designed to help more people (re)discover the joy of reading and make it part of their everyday lives. Public Libraries are using the energy of the National Year of Reading to support a big increase in children's reading habits. Children's reading levels can dip during the long summer holidays without regular access to books and encouragement to read for pleasure. The Reading Agency's annual Summer Reading Challenge helps to address this by getting three quarters of a million children into libraries over the summer. There is no other free reading activity that involves so many children, introduces families to their local library, encourages children to choose books freely and independently and is endorsed by parents, teachers and the Department for Education. We are seeking £1,000 funding to deliver a programme of free, inclusive children's activities in Northwich Library, providing local families with opportunities to learn, create and connect in a safe and welcoming community space. The funding will support a range of engaging activities for children, including story and craft sessions, an expansion of our Story Joy programme, themed events, workshops, wellbeing activities and creative reading challenges. These activities will encourage literacy, creativity, confidence and social interaction while helping children develop a positive relationship with books and learning. All sessions will be free to attend, ensuring access for children across Northwich without any financial barriers. Activities will take place during the summer holidays, and further on into the year including October half-term and Christmas holidays to build a strong visitor base. In addition to activity delivery, part of the funding will be used to purchase promotional display resources to better showcase library collections. Attractive, child-friendly display units will enable staff to highlight new titles, seasonal reading promotions and activity-related resources. Improved visibility and accessibility of books will encourage browsing, increase borrowing and help children discover new reading interests independently. Resources will also be used to enhance our existing school engagement programme to visit all the local schools and inspire them to get excited and engaged with the reopening of the new library.
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This investment will have a significant impact, enabling the library to provide high-quality activities that inspire children, support family engagement and help centre the library as a vibrant hub as we prepare to move back into our Witton St building.

Signed on behalf of the applying organisation:	Caroline Dunseath
Dated: 10/7/26	Position: Locality Librarian

Please return your completed form either via e-mail or by post.

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e-mail lizaclansey@northwichtowncouncil.gov.uk