

Thurston Parish Council

Parish Council Office
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New Green Avenue
Thurston IP31 3TG

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APPLICATION FOR CIL FUNDING

A proportion of CIL payments collected by Mid Suffolk District Council are passed on to the Parish or Town Council in which development is taking place.

The Parish Council has a duty to spend CIL income on:

- providing, improving, replacing, operating or maintaining infrastructure that supports the development of the parish council area
- or
- anything else concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the area.

Providing CIL is spent in accordance with the above CIL monies may be used to provide seed or match funding with other income streams and / or may be spent collaboratively with other parish councils, community interest companies or other providers to make the most efficient use of funding to benefit the community.

Any CIL monies due to the Parish Council are confirmed by Mid Suffolk District Council at six monthly intervals in March and September with funds being paid to Thurston Parish Council in April and October.

Please read the Thurston Parish Council CIL funding application form guidance notes before completing this form. To discuss a potential project, or for further guidance, please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@thurstonparishcouncil.gov.uk on 01359 232854.

Please note that if an external organisation has been granted CIL funds for a project it may not apply for further CIL funding, regardless of the project, until twelve months have elapsed since the previous award was granted.

Processing of bids submitted:

The application process will be centered upon a bidding round with consideration on a twice-yearly basis, with submission (preferably by email) of bids by applicants using the form below. The twice-yearly bid round cycle will be as follows:

Bid Round 1 for the year	By 31 st May - Applications for CIL to be submitted By 30 th June - Bids to be validated and assessed against policy criteria July - Bids to be considered by full Council at Parish Council Meeting August - Letters to be issued confirming outcome of bids to applicants
Bid Round 2 for the year	By 31 st December - Applications for CIL to be submitted By 31 st January (year following) - Bids to be validated and assessed against policy criteria February - Bids to be considered by full Council at Parish Council Meeting March - Letters to be issued confirming outcome of bids to applicants

Please return completed application forms and supporting information to:
clerk@thurstonparishcouncil.gov.uk

THURSTON Parish Council CIL Funding Application Form

1. Applicant organisation	Thurston Parochial Church Council (PCC)
2. Name and position of main contact	Mrs. Patricia Sadler Churchwarden and PCC trustee
3. Applicant contact details (phone number, email and address)	01359 230865 or 07552 234443 patsadler@hotmail.com 19, Heath Road, Thurston. IP31 3PN
4. Type of organisation If a charity, please provide registration number	The organisation is the council governing St Peter's Church, Thurston. All the trustees, excepting the vicar, are volunteers. Our Charity Commission number is 1201053.
5. Is the organisation able to reclaim VAT?	The Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (LPWGS) provides relief for certain works. The scheme refunds in grant aid the VAT paid on eligible work to listed places of worship. The PCC will apply for this relief, if this application is successful.
6. Location of project	The access path to St Peter's Church, its meeting room, the graveyard and the public footpaths through adjacent fields bounded by Church Road, Norton Road and Oak Road.
7. Summary of the project proposal	For over thirty years, the existing path has served the community using the church for private reflection and for various services and ceremonies; those seeking access to the graveyard; those maintaining and enjoying its wildlife area and those using it to link to open spaces around the church. Given its increased usage in recent years and its age, the path now needs major improvement. This involves taking the existing shingle surface back to the very thin tarmac base, creating an even surface and then providing a

	<p>top layer of thick tarmac giving a new, improved path enabling safe access for all users. Those with mobility issues, including wheelchair users, those with pushchairs and young children, those accessing peaceful outdoor spaces for their wellbeing and dog walkers will be among the many beneficiaries of the new path.</p>
<p>8. Estimated project cost</p>	<p>The total cost is £4,950. This includes £990 VAT, which we expect to reclaim, leaving £3960. We have attached three quotations for the work. We have assured ourselves of the quality of work done by the three contractors. In particular, we have looked at work completed in the area by both DJ Hail Ltd. and Welham Surfacing Ltd. and we are confident that both would do a good job. We are assured that the lower of these two quotations is a realistic estimate to provide a high quality new path and so, in consideration of Value For Money on public projects, we have prepared this application based on quote 2.</p>
<p>9. Detail of additional sources of funding available</p>	<p>Fundraising by the PCC has generated 20% of the cost of the work.</p>
<p>10. Why is CIL funding being sought? Please provide details of sources of funding already considered or applications made for funding?</p>	<p>The church and the surrounding open spaces are an important part of the Thurston Neighbourhood Development Plan (TNDP). The broader BMSDC 2019 Open Spaces Assessment further stresses the need for informal recreation areas. This project fits very closely with the aims of the CIL (see Q12 and 13 below) and specific references to churches and their grounds in the relevant local plans. For example, from the BMSDC plan:</p> <p><i>5.0 AUDIT OF EXISTING OPEN SPACE ASSETS</i></p> <p><i>5.1.6 Churchyards and cemeteries: Babergh and Mid Suffolk districts have many churches and cemeteries, and these provide significant aesthetic value and space for informal recreation such as walking and relaxing. Many are also important in terms of biodiversity, particularly closed churchyards. Their importance for informal recreation, aesthetic value and contribution towards</i></p>

	<p><i>biodiversity must be acknowledged, and as such, investment in their upkeep, maintenance and quality is an important factor.</i></p> <p>FROM THE VISION STATEMENT IN THE TNDP (P10):</p> <p><i>2.3 With retention of central open spaces, access to the countryside has been improved and the village has retained a 'green' feel despite the new development. The additional area for burials, created in 2017, located near the existing churchyard, is a peaceful place and is managed to encourage wildlife.</i></p> <p>Like most churches, our funding is very limited and the PCC has only managed to raise 20% of the cost through fundraising in the community. We have established that it is not an acceptable project for the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and their website confirms this (https://shct.org.uk/). Research confirms there are no church or environmental grants available.</p> <p>However, this project is of especial benefit to all Thurston residents, not just those who go to church and, having read all relevant documentation, CIL funding is entirely appropriate.</p>
<p>11. Please indicate whether the organisation has previously received CIL of other funding sources from Thurston Parish Council and/or Mid Suffolk District Council. If yes, please provide details.</p>	<p>No previous funding received.</p>

12. How does the project help address the demands of development in the area? What evidence is there to support this?

As a result of recent and on-going developments in the area, more people are using the church and its meeting room. More people are also using the path to gain access to the peaceful wildflower area, to the graveyard and to the fields beyond. This includes dog walkers. It became evident during Covid lockdowns that considerably more people were using the church footpath. This pattern of usage has both continued and increased as more new housing has been occupied and people moving into all the developments around the village are using the path in order to gain access to the church and to the green spaces in its immediate environment.

The church continues to be used by various youth groups and there has been a marked increase in its use by Thurston Primary Academy since our new vicar arrived in September 2021. The school has expanded to take two more year groups and its roll has also increased as a result of the major housing developments in the village. The project will therefore benefit the increased demand in all age groups. With the much-improved path that would result from a successful CIL application, these increased demands can be met and the objectives identified in the neighbourhood plan will be addressed.

In addition to increased general demand, there is a corresponding increase in parents with children using pushchairs, elderly people with mobility issues and wheelchair users who experience great difficulty in using the existing path and in those with wellbeing issues for whom access to open spaces and peaceful areas is essential. If successful, this CIL bid will address these issues and contribute to the equality and access aims that underpin both the BMSDC and TND plans.

Supporting evidence can be found in the many relevant sections in the plans guiding the demands of development. The main ones are as follows:

TNDP

Movement

M2. To maximise the potential for the use of sustainable modes of transport, including cycling and walking (p.10).

Environment

E1. To protect and enhance the village character and its environment, together with its relationship with the surrounding countryside.

	<p><i>E2. To protect green spaces of value in and around the village (p.10).</i></p> <p><i>Additional Needs to ensure Thurston is an enjoyable place to live.</i></p> <p><i>3.77. Development of sustainable means of communication: a network of cycle ways and paths that links housing with facilities, suitable for all, including those pushing buggies and riding powered wheelchairs and mobility scooters (p.29).</i></p> <p>BMSDC 2019 Open Spaces Assessment</p> <p>As part of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Open Space Study (2016-2036), a town and parish council survey was undertaken during March 2016 to May 2017.</p> <p>The Quality Considerations reported were:</p> <p><i>4.2 The quality factors most commonly deemed to be of a high priority as regards recreational public open spaces are that:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• They should be easy to get to (and get around) for all members of the community.</i> <i>• They should be safe and secure for those using them.</i> <i>• Equipment and grounds should be of high quality and well maintained. They should be clean and free from litter and graffiti.</i> <i>• They should provide opportunities for dog-walking with measures to address dog fouling (p.37)</i>
<p>13. What evidence is there of support from the community</p>	<p>Both the BMSDC plan and the TNDP were formulated following extensive consultation with the community. The BMSDC consultation included a town and parish council survey that was undertaken during March 2016 to May 2017.</p> <p>The mechanism for consultation in Thurston was via a steering group set up by the Parish Council. Members of the steering group included elected members of the Parish Council and local people with particular knowledge of the issues likely to be raised. Representatives of community organisations, local landowners/developers and other stakeholders (amenity/environmental groups) were consulted during the process. Members and businesses of</p>

	<p>the community were involved in the preparation of the plan through seven whole parish questionnaires; open public meetings; open Neighbourhood Plan meetings; drop-in surgeries; engagement surgeries; updates in the Thurston Newsletter; whole parish postcard deliveries and dedicated pages on the Thurston website.</p> <p>These consultations resulted directly in the BMSDC and Thurston Neighbourhood development plans and, as shown in our responses to Q10 and Q11, our project is supported within, and throughout, those plans.</p> <p>In addition, PCC members have regular contact with a number of Thurston parishioners, both formally and informally. These contacts express support for better access through an improved path, including by those with special needs due to age, disability or mental wellbeing and those requiring suitable access for young children. Furthermore, even in these difficult times for household finances, it is Thurston Parishioners who have supported our fundraising efforts in order to generate 20% of the cost of the work.</p>
<p>14. Approximately how many of those who will benefit from the project are Thurston parishioners?</p>	<p>95%. The overwhelming majority will be Thurston parishioners accessing the church, its meeting room, the graveyard and the open spaces. A small number who attend the church are from outside Thurston and some from outside the village attend weddings, funerals and baptisms.</p>
<p>15. Proposed timescales for the project</p>	<p>The contractor can start the work within a month of notification of a successful application. The work will take seven days. This depends on the weather.</p>

<p>16. Is there any related revenue spend (i.e. day-to- day running costs) associated with the project? How will this be addressed?</p>	No
<p>17. If the organisation is not in the public sector please provide details of the organisation's finances.</p>	Not applicable
<p>18. Do you need planning permission to carry out the works? If planning permission is required is it in place to carry out the works? If so, please provide the application number</p>	No

Declaration

When you have completed the application, please sign this declaration and submit the application form as directed.

To the best of my knowledge the information I have provided on this application form is correct.

If Thurston Parish Council agrees to release funds for the specified project, these funds will be used exclusively for the purposes described. In such an event, I agree to inform Thurston Parish Council of any material changes to the proposals set out above.

When requested, I agree to provide Thurston Parish Council with all necessary information required for the purposes of reporting on the progress or otherwise of the identified project.

I recognise the Parish Council's statutory rights as the designated provider of these CIL funds, which includes provisions to reclaim unspent or misappropriated funds.

Privacy Notice: By signing this form, the applicant agrees to Thurston Parish Council checking all supplied information for the purposes of informing decision-making. The information on this form will be stored in the Parish Council's filing system and summarised in the Council's accounting system for the sole purpose of fund processing, analysis and accounting.

Information about the project may be publicised on Thurston Parish Council's website and in public material for publicity purposes. Personal data will not be disclosed without any prior agreement of those concerned, unless required by law.

For further information on the Council's privacy policy, please visit:

<https://thurstonparishcouncil.uk/home/privacy>

Signed: _____ *So Signed* _____ (Mrs. P. Sadler)

Organisation: Thurston Parochial Church Council

Date: 4th December 2022

All organisations involved with the application will need to sign and date the form.

Signed:

Organisation:

Date: