

Thurston Parish Council

Parish Council Office
New Green Centre
New Green Avenue
Thurston IP31 3TG



Tel: 01359 232854

e-mail: info@thurstonparishcouncil.gov.uk

website: <http://thurston.suffolk.cloud/>

APPLICATION FOR A GRANT

*Before competing this form, please read carefully the attached document entitled Thurston Grant Awarding Policy. Copies of the form together with the **latest copy of examined accounts** must be submitted along with any supporting documentation requested.*

General information for applicants

It is Thurston Parish Council's intention (subject to budget restrictions and available resources) to support initiatives from local community groups and organisations. Priority will be given to applicants who have not previously received grants from Thurston Parish Council. The size of any grant awarded is at the discretion of the Parish Council but will not exceed £500 in any one application.

If you have any queries on the completion of this form please contact the Parish Clerk, Thurston Parish Council, New Green Centre, Thurston, IP31 3TG. Email: clerk@thurstonparishcouncil.gov.uk

DETAILS OF YOUR ORGANISATION

Name of Organisation: Mid Suffolk Citizens Advice Bureau

Address: 5 Milton Road South Stowmarket IP14 1EZ

Contact Telephone No.: 01449 742473

Email: manager@midsuffolkcab.org.uk

Registered Charity No.: 1107152

If you are part of a larger organisation, enter its name: We are an independent charity who are members of the national Citizens Advice network.

Principal aims and objectives:

Organisational Aims & Principles

We have dual aims:

To offer the residents and workers of Mid Suffolk a free, confidential and impartial advice and information service about their legal rights and responsibilities. We call this our advice work

And equally:

To use the experiences of our clients to highlight evidence of unfair rules and decisions, and to help influence local and national services and social policy. We call this our policy work.

We value diversity, promote equality and challenge discrimination.

DETAILS OF GRANT REQUESTED

Explain your need for a grant with the likely number of beneficiaries, their age profiles and their location:

We are an independent charity that relies on grants and charitable donations to provide us with funding to help and support those in need within our communities. We have a small paid workforce supported by 32 volunteers who provide generalist advice and administrative support.

Over the past 12 months we have provided advice and support to 24 residents of Thurston with 77 issues. Many clients present with one issue but it subsequently transpires that they have many complex issues requiring additional casework.

The age of clients has been between 25-79 with the majority being over retirement age.

The types of client issues were:

Benefits & tax credits	16
Benefits Universal Credit	6
Consumer goods & services	1
Debt	4
Employment	8
Financial services & capability	2
Food banks	7
Health & community care	6
Housing	5
Other	1
Relationships & family	9
Travel & transport	1
Utilities & communications	11

2020 will be remembered as the year of COVID-19 and we have all had to adapt our private and working lives to meet the challenges faced. We have maintained our services throughout the pandemic and clients have been able to contact us by telephone, email, video messaging and face to face when restrictions allowed. The financial impact has been felt across all age groups but in areas that are classed as affluent this has been more marked with higher first time Universal Credit claimants reported.

We are very concerned that we will face a huge increase in demand when current protections are removed such as the uplift of Universal Credit, sanctioning of welfare benefits are reinstated, private rental evictions recommence and creditors chase debt with a return to debt enforcement. We are increasing resource particularly in debt and benefits to meet this demand and this will lead to increased costs for our organisation.

Grant requested: £500.00

DETAILS OF OTHER GRANTS

Received in the last two years: Thurston Parish Council £500.00 Feb 2020 £225 April 2018

Currently applied for:

We currently have applications submitted for local authority grants and charitable donations but are forecasting a £21,000 deficit for 2021-2022.

Please use this space for any significant information about your organisation not already supplied

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I certify that the foregoing replies are accurate to the best of my knowledge

Signature of applicant  Simon Clifton

Office Held: Chief Officer

Date: 5th March 2021