



Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

Community grant application form - part A

Please ensure you complete all of this form and Part B and send the following information to enquiries@abingdon.gov.uk:

- forms A and B, completed in full
- your organisation's last set of accounts
- the most recent bank statement for your organisation, which should match the payment information on form B

1. About your organisation

Name of the organisation requesting the grant

The Life Space Project CIC

Please state briefly what the purpose of your organisation is

The Life Space Project CIC is a community interest company that creates inclusive, sustainable, creative programmes supporting wellbeing, confidence and connection across generations.

Life Styling and the Life Space Project are rooted in collaboration. Over the past five years, we have worked closely with local schools, charities, community organisations and local spaces to bring creativity into everyday life and to invite people of all ages to express themselves.

These partnerships have led to a wide range of projects that blend art, sustainability and community. From creative residencies and live window displays to youth-led fashion shows and intergenerational workshops, each collaboration creates space for imagination, connection and shared joy.

Based in Abingdon-on-Thames, our work is focused on building a community where creativity, sustainability and authentic living grow side by side. At the heart of everything we do is a vision for a kinder, more creative world – one where people feel safe to be themselves, where waste becomes wonder, and where connection ties it all together.

We believe meaningful change begins with small acts of creativity, care and courage, and that these acts, when shared, help strengthen wellbeing, belonging and resilience within the community.

2. Your grant request

Please describe the project for which the grant is needed.

The Life Space Project CIC is applying to Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council for a grant of £5,000 to support the delivery of the first Moments of Joy project, as part of a programme of three community-led Moments of Joy projects delivered over the year in Abingdon-on-Thames.

The Life Space Project has a strong foundation of community engagement through three ongoing programmes: Bloom, Creative Climate Champions and Bright Hearts. Through these programmes and regular Pop ups run in the community. We already work with schools, youth groups, care homes and community settings across Abingdon, bringing people together through shared creative activity with a focus on sustainability, wellbeing and inclusion.

Moments of Joy brings this work together with a simple intention: to create positive creative experiences within everyday community spaces. The project focuses on small but meaningful moments that support wellbeing, connection and a sense of belonging, particularly for people who may feel isolated, overlooked or disconnected from community life. The emphasis is on people and place, with creativity used as a way to listen, connect and care.

Over the year, three Moments of Joy projects will be delivered. This grant will support the first project, bringing together participants from across our existing programmes and wider creative community to shape a shared outcome in a community space that would benefit from additional care and attention. This could include a school entrance, a waiting area or another shared community space. Locations will be identified through community insight and developed in conversation with relevant partners, and we would welcome discussion with the town council as the project develops.

This grant represents approximately 24% of the total Moments of Joy budget of £20,500. The Life Space Project has secured funding for its wider programme of work, ensuring a stable and supported foundation for delivery. Support for this first Moments of Joy project will help us strengthen connection across communities and embed positive, sustainable creative experiences within everyday spaces in Abingdon.

What is the total cost of the project £20300

How much grant are you seeking	£5000
What percentage of the total cost of your project are you seeking via this grant	24.4%
How do you plan to raise the rest of the money for your project	Life Space Project has secured funding to support our ongoing programmes, including Bright Hearts, Creative Climate Champions and Bloom pop-ups in nature. These programmes provide the foundation of engagement and delivery for Moments of Joy. The remaining costs of the project will be covered through a combination of existing project funding, small grants and in-kind support, including staff time, community outreach and coordination.
Please show roughly how the costs of the project are broken down	<p>Community workshops and engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of three half-day community workshops (artist facilitation and support) – £750 • Workshop materials and light refreshments – £800 • Venue contribution – £150 <p>Planning and coordination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project planning and preparation – £600 • Additional support and coordination time – £150 <p>On-site delivery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time on site for delivery and coordination (6 days) – £1,800 <p>Community outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer pop-up engagement sessions (delivery and facilitation) – £900
What fund-raising have you undertaken for this project or others in the past 2 years	SNG, The Vale Of The White Horse and OCVA

3. Local benefit

How many people take part in your organisation's activities? Give	As members	500
	As recipients	400

local branch numbers if you are a national organisation.

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Please fill in the table below relating to numbers of members and/or recipients falling into each category. Estimates are acceptable provided an “e” is put after the figure.

Age profile	0-16	16-65	over 65
- Members	305	100	10
- Recipients	100	200	100

Gender profile	Male	Female
- Members	46%	34%
- Recipients	40%	60%

Local connection	Town resident	Attend education in town	Neither resident nor attending education in town
- Members	All	305	
- Recipients	All	100	

4. Vision and objectives

Please explain how your project will meet the town councils vision and objectives, which are set out below. **You do not need to respond to each point** but it is important that your project addresses the town council’s vision and at least one objective.

4a. Vision

To develop an inclusive community so that Abingdon is the place where everyone wants to live and where the wellbeing of residents is prioritised. In developing this community, the town will be one which is environmentally sustainable, vibrant, resilient and safe.

This project supports the town council’s vision by creating inclusive, positive creative experiences within everyday community spaces across Abingdon. Moments of Joy is designed to be welcoming and accessible, bringing together people of different ages and backgrounds and supporting wellbeing through connection, shared activity and a sense of belonging.

By focusing on small but meaningful moments within places people already use, the project helps strengthen pride of place and contributes to a vibrant and caring town environment. Particular attention is given to those who may feel isolated or disconnected, ensuring the project supports inclusion and emotional wellbeing.

Environmental sustainability is embedded through the use of reused and low-impact materials and by encouraging thoughtful care for shared spaces. By working collaboratively with community partners and responding to local need, the project supports a resilient and safe community where people feel valued, connected and able to participate.

4b. Objectives

1 To respond effectively and speedily to the climate emergency

Sustainability is a core value of The Life Space Project. We give things a second life, from clothes and materials to forgotten ideas. Through creative reuse and reimaged making, we turn what already exists into something meaningful, useful and valued.

This approach is embedded across all of our work. Our Creative Climate Champions programme supports young people in schools to explore climate action through hands-on creative reuse, making sustainability accessible, practical and empowering. We also have strong working relationships with local reuse organisations, including Oxford Wood Recycling, regularly incorporating reclaimed materials into our projects.

By modelling low-impact, creative ways of working, Moments of Joy responds to the climate emergency through everyday action, encouraging care for resources alongside care for people and place.

2 To develop a resilient, sustainable town which will provide a home for residents now and in the future

Moments of Joy supports a resilient and sustainable town by strengthening relationships and encouraging care for people and place. The project brings people together across generations through positive, low-impact creative experiences that build pride, belonging and wellbeing. Sustainability is embedded through thoughtful use of reused materials and ways of working that prioritise long-term impact over short-term activity.

3 To manage the Council's assets efficiently and effectively to meet for the needs of the community now and in the future

Moments of Joy has grown directly from our ongoing outreach and pop-up activity across Abingdon. Through this work, we regularly listen to residents, gather feedback and respond to what is needed. Moments of Joy is a direct result of this learning and reflects a desire from our community for more

4 **To work with community partners to support those who are vulnerable and in need and to create opportunities to increase social inclusivity**

continuity, care and visible presence rather than one-off activity.

The project is designed to be flexible and responsive, evolving alongside the people involved. By adapting to feedback and changing needs, Moments of Joy supports approaches that remain relevant and useful over time.

The project is delivered through established partnerships with schools, youth groups and community organisations. Our ongoing outreach and pop-ups ensure we continue to reach people who may feel isolated or less able to engage, particularly those who do not access formal services. By meeting people where they are and offering welcoming, low-pressure ways to take part, Moments of Joy supports inclusion, wellbeing and connection.

Values underpinning this project

Authenticity

Authenticity sits at the heart of Life Space Project. We celebrate who people really are and create space for individuals to explore identity in ways that feel safe and supported. By leading with care and honesty, we help build confidence and ensure that everyone’s voice is valued. This approach supports participants to feel comfortable being themselves and to take part in ways that feel right for them.

Connection

Connection is central to everything we do. Moments of Joy is shaped around the belief that coming together matters. Through shared experiences, conversations and group activity, we create supportive environments where people feel seen, heard and part of something bigger. This focus on connection helps reduce isolation and strengthens relationships across different ages, backgrounds and experiences.

5. Other/previous grant awards

Please provide details of any grant awards you have received from the town council, other councils or

Climate Action Fund (VOTWH) - £9756
 SNG Thriving Communities - £6,745
 OCVA - £2,300

large organisations that you have received in the past three years

Please list any grant applications to other councils or bodies which are currently pending

Allen Lane Foundation

6. About your organisation

Please explain what structure your organisation has, i.e. is it a charity, a society, or another type of model

Life Space Project is a Community Interest Company (CIC), established to deliver community benefit through creative, inclusive and sustainable programmes. The organisation operates on a not-for-profit basis.

What is the balance of your main account according to the most recent bank statement?

£16,721.14

Additional financial information

Does your organisation have any other finances held in other accounts?

No

If so, please provide full details of all your additional finances, including recent figures.

If these funds are earmarked for any specific projects, please provide further information about this.

7. Reporting back on your grant

Organisations receiving a grant from the town council are required to provide a written report on their event or project within twelve months of the award date. The report should detail how the funds were spent and how residents of Abingdon are benefitting. The report may be included in any town council publicity, including the website or the Town Crier magazine.

Declaration

I declare that the information given in this grant application, both parts A and B, is complete and accurate and that no relevant information has been omitted.

I agree that the organisation receiving the grant will report back to the town council within 12 months of the award of this grant on how it has been used.

Signature



Name

Jessica Farrell

Position with organisation

Founder & Creative Director

Date

16/01/26