

REPORT TO THE FINANCE, EMPLOYMENT & SERVICES COMMITTEE



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Date	5th May 2026
Subject	Small Grant Applications

PURPOSE:

1. To provide details of two Small Grant Applications that have been received for the Committees consideration.

BACKGROUND:

2. Colne Town Council has a commitment to encourage, support and promote local community, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations in Colne for the benefit of the Town.
3. The Town Council currently operates three different grant schemes as follows:
 - Small Grant Scheme
 - Climate Change Grant Scheme
 - Nature Reserve Grant Scheme
4. Colne Town Council has adopted a Small Grants Policy that is reviewed regularly. (Please refer to appendix 1 of this report for details.)
5. The agreed budget for the financial year commencing 1st April 2026 includes a total of £8,100 collectively for Climate Change and Community Projects, and a top up to £15,000 for the Nature Reserve Grant.
6. The grants awarded are normally restricted to £1,000 for Small Grants, £1,500 for Climate Change Grants and £5,000 for Nature Reserve Grants, however these limits may be lifted at the Committees discretion.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

7. We are now at the start of a new financial year, and these are the first grant applications that have been received.

GRANT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

8. A new application has been received from the Waterside Millennium Green as follows:

Project Title – Sun Splash Family Fun Day

Brief details of the Project – For the last two years the Trustees have worked with the Colne SunSplash working group and the Waterside Action Group to provide a free music-based family funday event in the centre of the Millennium Green. As well as the free music to enjoy there are free art and craft activities to undertake plus free outdoor games and circus skills equipment made available. The amount requested will cover the cost of the security for the event.

Main Outcome to be achieved – To run a safe community based event that generates a larger number of site users, raises the profile of the space, gains more volunteers to care for the area and gives the community an opportunity to make suggestions for future events.

Total Project Costs £2,800 – **Amount Requested £1,150.**

9. A new application has been received from the Elisha House Recovery Community

Project Title – Elisha House Youth Project

Brief details of the Project – The Elisha House Youth Programme is a 10-week rolling early intervention programme for young people in Colne and the wider Pendle area who are NEET or at risk of substance misuse and anti-social behaviour. Participants attend structured sessions twice weekly (Mondays and Fridays), combining education, lived experience, psychosocial, and positive activities.

The programme includes:

- Substance misuse awareness and harm reduction education.
- Mental Health and emotional resilience sessions.
- Confidence, identity and goal-setting work.
- Physical activity through CrossFit Colne and outdoor activities.
- Creative expression and peer-led discussions.
- Access to positive role models and lived experience mentors.

The programme is delivered in partnership with local organisations, strengthening community collaboration and ensuring young people are supported by a network of services.

Main Outcomes to be achieved:

- Increased awareness of risks associated with substance misuse and anti-social behaviour.
- Improved mental health, resilience and coping strategies.
- Increased engagement in positive activities and community participation.
- Improved confidence, self-esteem, and sense of identity
- Reduction in risk-taking behaviours.
- Stronger connections to local support services and positive peer networks.

Total Project Costs £6,000 - **Amount Requested £3,000.**

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

10. Both of these grant applications are above the normal allowance, however the requested funding is within budget and would leave a total of £3,950 for Climate Change and Community Grants for the remainder of the year.

11. Members should also be aware that there is a total of £3,275 of unspent budget remaining for 2025/26. Councillors may want to consider carrying this through to 2026/27.

RECOMMENDATION:

12. That Members consider the applications that have been received and make a decision on whether the Town Councillors would want to support these projects.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

13. Town Council Members have shown a commitment to encourage, support and promote local community, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations in Colne for the benefit of the Town.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS:

14. Two Community Grant Applications have been received for the 2026-27 financial year, and the FES Committee has delegated authority to make the decision of which projects to support.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

15. None

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION:

16. None

SUPPORTING PAPERS:

- **Appendix 1 – CTC Small Grants Policy**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Gina Langley