

Community Chest Application Summary 2017/2018

Local Authority	St Edmundsbury Borough Council
Organisation	Unit Twenty Three (Bury Youth Forum)
Amount Requested	<i>£5,000</i>
Total Project Cost	<i>£5,000</i>
Match Funding	None
Partnerships	We will work alongside Mark Straw from Community PRAXIS.
West Suffolk Bid?	No

Key Points

- Unit Twenty Three is a social enterprise aiming to support young people and creative enterprise.
- This funding would help to fund Bury Youth Forum, a project which we have successfully been involved in previously, and with which the voluntary directors of Unit23 have experience.
- The purpose of Bury Youth Forum (henceforth BYF) is to give young people a chance to at the very least experience civic life within their local community, and gain a better understanding of how decision making is carried out and what they can do to be involved.
- Project start: **April 2017**
- Project end: **January 2018**

St Edmundsbury Borough Council
Community Chest Grant Application Form
Part A



Community Chest funding supports voluntary and community groups who make a contribution to improving the quality of life for people in West Suffolk. The information you provide will help us consider your application. If you have any questions, please give us a call on 01638 719763. Before completing this form, we ask you to please read the guidelines, which are available on:

<http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants.cfm>

Please return your completed, signed form and supplementary documents to:

richard.baldwin@westsuffolk.gov.uk

1. Name of your organisation(s):

Unit Twenty Three

2. Organisation address details

Address Ln1	Unit twenty Three		
Address Ln2	Diss Business Hub		
Address Ln3	Hopper Way		
City/Town	Diss	Postcode	IP22 4GT
Main phone	01379 882200	E-mail	kayt@unittwentythree.co.uk
Website	http://www.unit23.co		

Main Contact Person		Second Contact Person	
Title	Mrs	Title	Mr
Forename	Kayt	Forename	Emrys
Surname	Button	Surname	Green
Role	Operations Manager	Role	Director
Daytime Tel No.	01379 882200	Daytime Tel No.	01379 882200
Mobile No.	██████████	Mobile No.	██████████
Email	kayt@unittwentythree.co.uk	Email	emrys@unittwentythree.co.uk
Address Details (if different from Org address)		Address Details (if different from Org address)	
Ln1		Ln1	
Ln2		Ln2	
Town		Town	

Post Code		Post Code	
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About your organisation

3. What local authority area(s) does your organisation work in?

Norfolk and Suffolk

*Community Chest funding is offered by both Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury councils. As the decision making process is different any projects applying for funding across West Suffolk, must apply separately.

4. What is the status of your organisation?

Registered charity		Charity number:
Applying for charitable status		
Company limited by guarantee	x	Company number: 08564486
Community Interest Company		
Part of a larger regional or national charity (Please state which one)		
Constituted Community Group		
Social Enterprise	x	
Other (Please specify)		

5. How many people are involved in your organisation?

Management committee	3	Service users	
Full Time staff / workers	2	Volunteers and helpers (non-management)	8
Part Time staff / workers	1		

6. What is the purpose of your organisation? Please briefly describe why your organisation was set up, its aims and objectives and who primarily benefits from your organisation.

Unit Twenty Three is a social enterprise aiming to support young people and creative enterprise. We undertake to promote the voice of young people through creative activities and events, using these as a way of upskilling and building self-esteem, confidence and resilience in young people.

We undertake commissioned projects which help young people develop a range of life and employability skills. Our young associates programme does this through training and mentoring young people through event organisation. Starting with small events through to actively organising DissFest' they learn to plan, budget, communicate and co-ordinate public facing events of all kinds. We are also involved in youth forum activities, helping to train and arrange mentoring for young people to engage in civic life, particularly in their local

communities. We also have a live theatre show which raises awareness of young carers and how their additional responsibilities impact all aspects of their lives. This professional production Freefall tours the East of England visiting schools and community venues. We are currently looking to expand our work through music and the blues rock academy, and also to help young people with mental health issues.

Maximum of 300 words

7. What was your organisation's total income for last financial year?

8. What was your organisation's total expenditure for last financial year?

9. Does your organisation have more than six months running costs? Yes / **No**

10. What are your organisation's current unrestricted reserves or savings?

11. West Suffolk prioritises building resilient families and communities that are healthy and active. Please indicate which of the following areas your project contributes towards:

- A thriving voluntary sector and active communities who take the initiative to help the most vulnerable.
- People playing a greater role in determining the future of their communities.
- Improved wellbeing, physical and mental health.
- Accessible countryside and green spaces.

About your project – why are you applying for this funding?

12. What do you want the funding for? Please be specific. Please note that 'project' is meant to describe the project for which you are seeking funding, and not your organisation.

This funding would help to fund Bury Youth Forum, a project which we have successfully been involved in previously, and with which the voluntary directors of Unit23 have experience.

The purpose of Bury Youth Forum (henceforth BYF) is to give young people a chance to at the very least experience civic life within their local community, and gain a better understanding of how decision making is carried out and what they can do to be involved. However our intention is to actually get them actively involved in civic life, understanding the decision making process and actively feeding into it.

This would be done through recruitment at local schools in the area where the forum would be explained and individuals can sign up. This process would also be a chance to discover what issues motivate different groups of young people. This would help to draw up a plan for the year and then a series of meetings would be carried out to build the forum into a **sustainable** entity. A constitution and continuity plan drawn up and then the appropriate training given for the young people to address the issues they feel need addressing in their locality. There would also be possibilities of mentoring for the young people, given chances to attend, and /or follow willing staff and/or councillors within the local area.

Whilst previously this has been a very "hands off" process as we have been keen to facilitate rather than lead the group, experience has shown that this can work well while the groups is a cohesive team, however this year we would be little more "hands on" ensuring that the groups remains more team orientated and that a full committee is in place to ensure no individual feels too responsible, or overwhelmed by their roles.

Maximum of 300 words

13. How has the project been developed out of the community's desire to improve the lives of local people? What evidence do you have that there is a need for this project? Please include sources of evidence, including any public/user/community consultation.

It is widely reported, and recognised that fewer and fewer young people engage in civic and political life. There are various surveys, including the YMCA who report that young people (those aged up to 24) are particularly disillusioned by the Brexit decision with 72% across the country and at least 65% in each region wanting to remain.

Whilst there are Suffolk wide youth events (SAY for example), giving young people in Bury St Edmunds a voice within the town is important to its future. It raises issues that are of concern to young people but also helps them to look for answers to these issues. The forum not only helps the young people involved directly, but their peers and families who learn about it. The ultimate goal would be for this forum to remain in perpetuity and at least inform, at best influence decisions made about the town of Bury St Edmunds.

It would also be an aim of the project to link the Bury Youth Forum to the Suffolk Assembly of Youth in order to maximise the use of the resources available, the TheSource website and services.

Through a small grant from Community Action Suffolk we have successfully worked with the forum for the past 12 months, creating the Happy Days campaign, having all Police & Crime Commissioner candidates in for a panel debate and a number of other health related organisations for developing the work. However, the main leader is heading to university and the next leader has not had the time to commit. We know there is a need and desire for youth voice & representation and we are in the best possible position to support the next generation of young civic leaders deliver this.

Maximum of 300 words

14. How will the project help local people to support one another?

The very working of such a forum, with a constitution and continuity plan should provide the foundations of a team in which everyone is supported by each other. Alongside this, there would be opportunity for councillors and council staff to support to young people through mentoring programs which we will organise.

This forum would then be able to support the other young people of the town by addressing issues that are of concern to them, through signposting them to support or raising that issue if there is nothing readily available to help in the area. This should again feed into TheSource Website and SAY where appropriate.

Local representation, leading to local solutions to identified local challenges, ensures the whole community can work cohesively regardless of age. Meetings will facilitate these conversations and ensure empowerment of the local community is at it's heart.

Maximum of 300 words

15. Are you working with any other organisations on this project? **Yes / No**

If yes, please state the names of these groups and the nature of the relationship.

We will work alongside Mark Straw from Community PRAXIS who will work with us particularly regarding recruitment, and identification of issues that concern young people as well as helping to organise mentoring programmes and offering us regular external supervision. Mark plays a key role in SAY, which is a county wide Youth Assembly and it would be intended for links to be made between a Bury Youth Forum and SAY to reflect both local town issues and wider county concerns. This is also reflective of political structure and will create additional opportunities for young people to be involved with.

Mark is an evidence based consultant whom has over 20 years of experience working in all settings. He has worked in HMYOI's modelling participation throughout the secure estate demonstrating that the young people should be seen as the solution and not the problem. Central to his model of desistance is the notion of identity affirmation, accountability and responsibility through his interpretation of cultural praxis.

Currently he is involved in asset transfer opportunities fusing sustainable community engagement and participation together with the Business,

enterprise growth and skills agenda. Working as a consultant enables him to drive a community orientated agenda into the hearts and minds of the statutory, voluntary and community sector. Mark is also an Associate of the National Youth Agency where he is has become an expert in Participation and Informal Learning.

Maximum of 300 words

16. When will the project start?

April 2017

17. When will the project finish?
project ongoing?

January 2018

or is the

If this is an ongoing project, how will it be funded and continue going when the funding ends?

We will continue to look for funds to support the forum as a supporting organisation but more importantly, we will train the members of the forum in grant finding and application skills and would ultimately expect that the forum would apply for its own funding. Running on a sustainable basis but with our support wherever they need.

Maximum of 300 words

18. Which years funding are you applying for?

2017

19. How many people do you expect to benefit directly from the project on either a weekly, monthly or annual basis?

Direct beneficiaries on the forum 12 young people

20. What results (including targets/numbers) do you expect to see as a result of the funding and how do these relate to the Community Chest funding criteria? If your project is health related how does it improve health outcomes for residents within community networks and beyond?

We would expect the results to be widespread across the town. For example, if bullying was an issue that the forum felt strongly about, it could run a campaign in local schools to raise awareness and signpost support agencies, or even to hold an event to which local councillors and students might be invited to discuss what can be done to address it.

Last year, the main concern addressed was emotional wellbeing and it may be that is still a priority, but it will be the issues that directly affect the young people of

Bury St Edmunds that will be addressed, in whatever way the forum feels reaches the needs of those it will be representing.

We will hold at least 6 publicly accessible meetings and 1 public event. This will just be the foundations.

Maximum of 300 words

21. What is the total cost of the project? £5,000

Please provide a full breakdown of the total cost of this project, including VAT if applicable along with any in-kind contributions such as volunteer hours.

Item or activity	Cost (£)
18 hours per month for general meetings & support @ £20p/h = £360 per month	£3,240
20 hours additionally dedicated to support requested by YP with training & consultations or live activity. This will include mentoring program initialisation	£400
3 hours per month for additional administration support for YP's travel arrangements @ £15p/h = £45 per month	£405
Staff expenses allocation Towards travel costs to meet with YP regularly (allocated at £35 per month)	£315
Digital communications platform cost	£30
Monthly BSEYF meeting costs & YP expenses allocation @ £40 per meeting (Enhancing current activity & supporting greater accessibility for those that need bus fares for example)	£360
Allocation towards material costs for local consultation costs (especially supporting further funding bids)	£250
Total cost of items listed above:	

22. How much funding are you applying to us for?

£5,000

23. What funds have you raised so far for this project?

Source	Amount (£)
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Total fundraising:	

24. What other funders have you applied to for further funding for the project?

Funder	Amount (£)	Timescale for decision
Total:		

Funder	Amount (£)	Reason for funding
Forest Heath DC	£5,000	Freefall Last Year

Total:		

25. What other grants and contracts has your organisation received over the past year from either Forest Heath District Council or St Edmundsbury Borough Council?