

Hednesford Town Council

Community Support Grant Application Form 2025

SECTION 1

To be completed by all applicants .

CONTACT AND ORGANISATION INFORMATION

Name of organisation / group	Stand By Me
Full name of individual completing application	Jason Titley
Position within organisation	Chairman
Full address and postcode of organisation	
Registered address if different to above	
Company number if applicable	N.A
Charity number if applicable	N.A
Company status i.e. Charity / Not for Profit / Community Interest Company	Constituted not for profit
If part of an affiliated / national organisation please state	N,A
Does your group have a constitution or set of rules? If YES please attach a copy	Yes
Does your organisation have a bank account? If YES please attach the most recent bank statement	Yes
State name(s) of bank account signatories	Jason Titley Gregory Barwick Chris Benton
Years / Months operating	4 Years 0 Months
Number of volunteers if applicable	6
Number of members if applicable	30
Contact Telephone number	

Contact Email address	
Website	www.standbymestaffs.co.uk

SECTION 2

To be completed by all applicants.

ABOUT YOU

Tell us about your group / organisation **(Max 200 words)**

Stand By Me is a men's support group built on honesty, brotherhood and real conversation. We create safe spaces where men can talk openly about mental health, life pressures, relationships and the stuff that usually gets bottled up.

There's no judgement, no fixing, no ego. Just men standing shoulder to shoulder, learning how to carry life a little better.

Through group sessions, creative projects, wellbeing resources and community events, we encourage strength through vulnerability and connection through shared experience. Whether someone is struggling, rebuilding, or simply looking for solid ground, Stand By Me offers a place to be heard and understood.

We believe prevention starts with conversation. We believe in showing up. And we believe no man should feel like he has to face life alone.

Stand By Me is not about having all the answers. It's about standing together while we figure things out.

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Please give a specific example of how your group / organisation has benefited the community and residents in Hednesford **(Max 200 words)**

Since launching, Stand By Me has created consistent, safe spaces for men across the area to talk openly about mental health, reducing isolation and encouraging early intervention. Men who previously felt alone have built supportive friendships, improving confidence, emotional resilience and overall wellbeing.

Our weekly sessions have helped members develop practical coping tools, from stress management to communication skills, which positively impacts their families, workplaces and wider community. When one man learns to manage his struggles in a healthier way, the ripple effect extends far beyond the room.

We have collaborated with local organisations, supported awareness campaigns, and hosted community events that challenge stigma around suicide and men's mental health. These initiatives have sparked important conversations in homes, workplaces and social groups across the area.

Members have reported reduced feelings of hopelessness, improved relationships, and a renewed sense of purpose. Some have gone on to volunteer, mentor others, and actively contribute back into the community.

By strengthening men at an individual level, Stand By Me strengthens families, workplaces and neighbourhoods. The result is a more connected, supportive and proactive local community where men feel seen, heard and valued rather than silent and struggling alone.

SECTION 3

To be completed by Community Grant applicants .

YOUR PROJECT

Please explain your project. **(Max 200 words)**

"The Weight We Carry" is a portable, interactive exhibition exploring the hidden impact of male suicide in Staffordshire. Designed to tour community venues, libraries and public spaces, it will feature pull-up banners displaying artwork, photography and poetry from local creatives, alongside a symbolic clothes rail installation where garments carry anonymous thoughts men often keep hidden.

Visitors will be invited to write reflections on a Perspex engagement wall, creating a growing piece of community artwork. Information leaflets will provide clear signposting to local support services.

The exhibition aims to challenge stigma around male mental health, encourage open conversation and promote earlier help-seeking. We want visitors to recognise they are not alone and to leave knowing support is available locally.

This exhibition forms part of a wider Stand By Me suicide awareness campaign, including community outreach, social media engagement, partnerships and wellbeing resources. The exhibition acts as the campaign's physical focal point, creating an emotional and visible space that sparks conversation and directs people toward support.

When will the project take place? Please note that grants cannot be awarded retrospectively.

The project will run over an 8-month period, beginning in May 2026 (subject to funding approval).

Months 1–2 will focus on securing venues, confirming creative contributors and finalising exhibition design.

Months 3–4 will cover production of exhibition materials, including portable banners, installation elements and printed resources.

Month 5 will see the official launch event.

Months 6–7 will involve touring the exhibition across confirmed community venues in Staffordshire.

Month 8 will focus on evaluation, collecting feedback, measuring engagement and reporting impact.

No expenditure has been made in advance of this funding request, and the exhibition will not begin production until funding is confirmed.

How will your project benefit the residents and community of Hednesford? Your answer will be used to help panel members decide on your application

This campaign creates a safe and honest space for conversations that many people struggle to start. By using art to explore suicide and mental health, it allows difficult emotions to be expressed in ways that feel accessible rather than overwhelming.

For residents, the exhibition offers three key benefits:

1. Reducing Stigma

Seeing honest creative work helps normalise conversations around suicide and mental health. When people realise they are not alone in their thoughts or grief, shame begins to loosen its grip.

2. Supporting Those Left Behind

The project acknowledges the ripple effect of suicide. By including voices of those bereaved, it validates their experience and reminds them their grief is seen and understood.

3. Encouraging Early Conversations

Art can open doors that statistics cannot. Visitors may leave feeling more able to check in on a friend, speak about their own struggles, or seek support sooner.

Ultimately, this campaign strengthens community connection. It turns isolation into shared understanding and transforms silence into dialogue.

And in a subject like this, connection can save lives.

Please describe clearly why you believe this project or activity is required. **(Max 200 words)**

The project will directly benefit residents of Hednesford by creating a visible, safe and engaging space to address male suicide and mental health stigma within the local community.

We anticipate engaging approximately 300–500 residents during the exhibition period through venue footfall, launch events and facilitated discussions. In addition, wider campaign promotion is expected to reach over 2,000 local residents through social media and partner networks.

Anticipated outcomes include increased awareness of male suicide in the area, improved knowledge of local support services and stronger community conversations around mental health. We expect at least 100 individuals to actively participate in the interactive elements, with written reflections and feedback collected for evaluation.

The expected impact is reduced stigma, earlier help-seeking behaviour and increased visibility of local support pathways. By positioning the exhibition within Hednesford venues, we aim to strengthen community cohesion, encourage peer support and ensure residents know that help is available locally.

What are your group members / volunteers / gaining from this project? **(Max 200 words)**

Our group and volunteers are contributing significant time, lived experience and community connections to deliver this project. Volunteers will support planning, creative development, venue liaison, installation, facilitation during exhibition days and evaluation activity. We are also contributing existing campaign work, local networks and promotional support to maximise reach and engagement.

Several volunteers bring lived experience of mental health challenges and suicide loss, which helps ensure the exhibition is authentic, sensitive and grounded in real community need. Their involvement strengthens trust and relatability within the local area.

If this is a new project and you aim to carry it on in the future, how will you make sure it continues after the funding from the application has been used?

This project is designed with sustainability in mind. After the funded exhibition period, we plan to continue the campaign by:

1. Creating a touring model – exhibition materials (pull-up banners, clothes rail, Perspex wall) are fully portable, allowing us to rotate the exhibition between local community venues, libraries and schools at minimal cost.
2. Building community engagement – residents and volunteers will be encouraged to contribute photos, messages and reflections, keeping the exhibition evolving and relevant over time.
3. Strengthening partnerships – we are engaging local venues, organisations, sports clubs and creative contributors who have expressed interest in hosting future iterations, helping to secure ongoing locations and support.
4. Extending the wider campaign – Stand By Me will continue its social media and community outreach alongside the exhibition, keeping the conversation alive year-round.
5. Leveraging future funding – we will use the outcomes, evaluation and impact evidence from this initial project to apply for further grants, sponsorships and community funding to maintain and expand the initiative.

This approach ensures the project remains a living, flexible resource, creating lasting impact and ongoing awareness around male mental health in Hednesford and beyond.

SECTION 4

To be completed by all applicants.

COSTS

The maximum Grant that can be awarded is **£500.00**

Please state how much Grant you are applying for and clearly explain how the grant funding will be used (**Max 200 words**)

£500.00

Please provide an itemised breakdown of project costs below and detail **Item / Quantity / Cost**.

Pull-up banners / printed artwork	Portable display of photographs, creative pieces, explanatory text	£150
Clothing rail & hangers	Installation for men's clothing with anonymous thought tags	£80
Perspex sheets & paint pens	Interactive visitor wall for reflections and messages	£100
Printing of exhibition photographs	High-quality prints for display	£120
Leaflets & support materials	Signposting to local mental health services	£50

Is the total cost of the project greater than the amount applied for? Yes

If **YES**, please tell us how you plan to raise the rest of the money. Please let us know if you have applied for other funding to make up the difference.

Further fundraising required through the group at other local events.

Have you received any grants from us previously? Yes

If **YES** please state the amount, the date of the award and a brief summary of the project.

£300.00
March 2025

Have you applied for any other grants / funding streams to support this project? No

If **YES** please provide details including the name of the organisation and the level of funding you received.

Please detail below any fundraising efforts to date supporting this project including any sponsorship, crowdfunding, etc **(Max 200 words)**

Go fund me-

Raise money for Stand by me by shaving his head
Participant- Greg Barwick (members of the board for Stand By Me)

Money raised towards this project £150.00

Data Protection Statement

We need the information we ask for on this form to assess your grant application.

By submitting this application, you are consenting to us sharing appropriate information on this application with employees, Councillors and Grant Panel members. This information may be used for publicity purposes if the grant is awarded.

Media consent form

I consent to being photographed/recorded by Hednesford Town Council and authorise that the photos / recordings may be used in the following ways:

- In publicity materials, including printed publications, promotional videos, and digital media including Hednesford Town Council website and social media
- In news releases sent to the media, including local press

Name (please print)

Signature

Date

If you'd like us to stop using an image / recording please let us know by emailing: **matthew.johnson@hednesford-tc.gov.uk** or telephone **01543 424 872**.

Under the 1998 Data Protection Act, your rights include:

- Your consent to the publication of your images can be withdrawn at any time
- Your images / recordings will not be used for any other purpose without your further consent
- The contact information you have provided will only be used to contact you about these images

Conditions of use

- We will not include personal e-mail, postal addresses or telephone numbers on video, our website or in printed publications and advertising
- We may use group or class images with very general labels such as 'Winners of Council grants'
- We may use the image in literature unrelated to when the picture was actually taken
- We may include your full name with the image
- We will retain your consent form for five years; however we reserve the right to store and retain the images/recordings in our archive indefinitely

Return application forms

By Post or in person to:

Community Grant Application
Hednesford Town Council
Pye Green Community Centre
Bradbury Lane
Hednesford
WS12 4EP

By Email to:

Community Grants - Matt Johnson, Community Officer
matthew.johnson@hednesford-tc.gov.uk

Guidance Notes and Conditions of Funding

Hednesford Town Council awards grants to local organisations and community groups to assist them in achieving their aims and objectives.

Please ensure that you read **all** the following conditions prior to applying for the funding.

Funding Guidance/ Terms and Conditions:

- Funding applications can only be accepted from groups or organisations who work within Hednesford and benefit the Hednesford community
- Please ensure that **all questions** on the form are completed in full and provide any additional documentation as needed to support your application
- Grants are for a maximum of £500.00 and awarded and agreed by Full Council
- The funding is available for start-up groups and organisations as well as those already operating and established (We do require a bank account in the groups/organisations name, relevant signatories and documentation relating to the constitution of the group)
- There are some things that **will not** be considered for funding, including:
 - **Applications from individuals**
 - **Activities that occur outside of Hednesford**
 - **Discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, age, disability, religion**
 - **Buying, selling or consumption of alcohol**
 - **Activities that support any political or religious activities**
 - **Profit-making / fundraising activities**
- Statutory duties such as Education, Health or Social Services for which the Central Government, Health Authority, District or County Council are the appropriate funder will not be considered; although local schools **may apply for funding for items not considered statutory**.
- Groups / organisations must clearly state aims and objectives and provide a written constitution or governing documents in order to be eligible to apply for the funding.
- Hednesford Town Councillors and relatives of serving Town Councillors are not eligible to apply for the Grant
- Your group/ organisation is required to have its own bank account in its own name, with two authorised signatories as named on the application form.
- Your group / organisation is required to submit accounts that have been independently considered by a qualified person for the previous financial year or in the case of a new group /organisation a budget and plan.
- The Town Council has the right to reclaim the grant in the event of it not being used for the purpose as outlined on the application form.
- Organisations receiving grant money **MUST** acknowledge the Town Council's contribution on all media/publicity work.

- A representative from your organisation **MUST** be available to attend the Annual Town Assembly on Friday 16th May 2025 if the application is successful.
- All Grant awardees **MUST** complete a Project Report Update at **6 months** and **12 months** detailing the positive impact that the grant funding has had for their organisation. **This will be emailed to you by the Community Officer**

Declaration

We have read, understand and agree to the terms and criteria of the Hednesford Town Council Community Grant Scheme.

We declare that all the information given by us is true and we understand that if any funds are not used for the purpose outlined in this application, then they are liable to be recovered by Hednesford Town Council.

We will keep full records of all receipts relating to expenditure and will provide to the Council within six weeks of completing the work outlined in this application form if requested. If the group or business is dissolved and equipment has been purchased with this grant, any such equipment remaining will be distributed within the community at the discretion of Hednesford Town Council.

Signatures authorising this application from your group or organisation

(Two people must sign this form unless you are the sole company director).

Signature 1

Signature 2

Name (please print)

Name (please print)

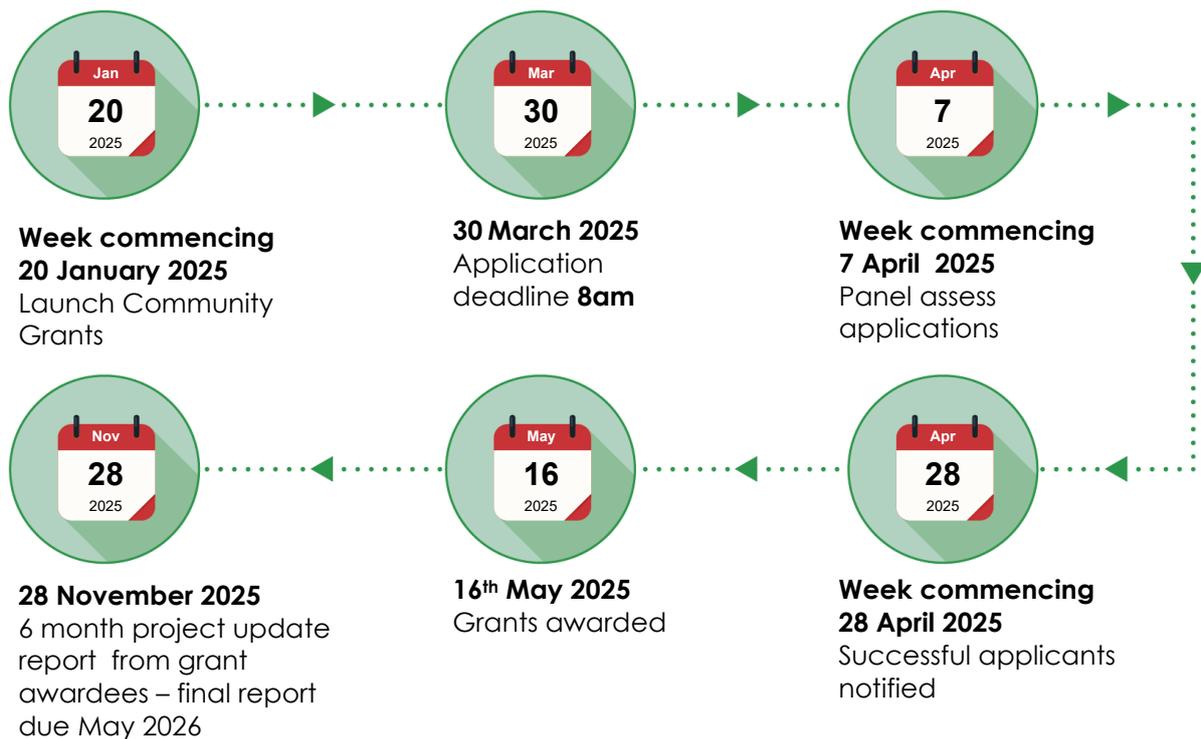
Date

Date

Please remember to include any supporting documents including your organisation constitution /rules or statement of your company aims/objectives, recent copy of organisation bank statement and any other supporting information that may assist your application.

Grant application timeline

Please note that we **do not** accept late entries or second applications from organisations in the same funding round.



Further information

If you have any enquiries regarding the funding or application process, please contact Hednesford Town Council on **01543 424872** or visit www.hednesford-tc.gov.uk – projects and community - funding

Community Grants

Matt Johnson
Community Officer
matthew.johnson@hednesford-tc.gov.uk

Hednesford Town Council
Pye Green Community Centre
Bradbury Lane
Hednesford
WS12 4EP