



COMMUNITY GRANTS FUND APPLICATION

Please answer all questions which are relevant to your organisation – failure to do so may result in a delay in the determination of your application

PROJECT (In no more than 25 words)	Creating accessible alcohol-free community events in Shrewsbury, including sharing circles, wellbeing workshops, and social activities, supporting connection, MH and positive lifestyle.	GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED	£2500
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Contact Details

Q1 Name of organisation making application: Shrewsbury Soda Club (CIC pending)

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Name of contact for this application

Title:Mrs.... First Name: Charlie

Surname: Fae

Position held in the organisation: [REDACTED]

Contact Address, including full postcode:

[REDACTED]

..... Postcode: [REDACTED]

Contact Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Email address: [REDACTED]

About your organisation

Q2 What type of organisation are you?

Tick (✓) relevant category:

Registered Charity: () Charity Registration Number

Voluntary Organisation: ()

Company Limited by Guarantee: () Company Number

Other – Please specify:

I have put in an application to create it as a CIC (community interest company) PENDING
CIC REGISTRATION – registration in progress – expected in 4 days

Q3 When was your organisation established?

.....December 2025.....

Q4 Briefly describe your organisation.

Describe your organisation, including how many members/users you have, whether there is a subscription fee and the usual activities/services you provide.

If you are a new organisation, describe the services/activities you plan to provide.

Shrewsbury Soda Club CIC is a small community interest company focused on providing alcohol-free social events and wellbeing activities. We do free walk & talks, creative workshops, mutually supportive sharing circles, and wellbeing sessions, aiming to reduce social isolation, promote mental and physical wellbeing, and create a supportive local community in the area. Membership is open to all residents, and no subscription fee is required at present. A subscription fee might be a good way to increase money to go back into the project.

Q5 If you are a subsidiary of a larger organisation, please state which one.

.....N/A.....

Q6 Does your organisation have an agreed Constitution or Memorandum of Association?

Articles of Association (Small Membership, CIC Limited by Guarantee) – copy attached

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Please state which and attach a copy:

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Q7 What is your primary source of funding?

..... None at present – focus on free events. This grant will support costs to enable more varied activities and participation without fees.....

Details of the project or activity you are planning

Q8 Describe the projects/activity you plan to use this grant for.

i. Try to be specific about what you will do and how you will do it.

We will deliver a series of accessible alcohol-free events in Shrewsbury over six months (and hopefully beyond), including peer-sharing circles, wellbeing workshops, creative activities, and social walks. Funding will cover venue hire, materials, online hosting, and promotion to ensure events are free or low-cost for people to make it as inclusive / accessible as possible. We will also create free resources for people on these topics.

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ii. Please state how you have identified this need and how the project will benefit the people of Shrewsbury, together with the estimated time span. If you are seeking continuation funding for this project, please provide evidence for this continued need.

There is local demand for inclusive alcohol-free social spaces to reduce isolation and support wellbeing. I identified this need as I work for the NHS mental health team and there are extensive wait lists and the people I work with frequently struggle with addiction and social isolation. This programme benefits participants by offering peer support, skill-building, wellbeing sessions, and community connection. Funding covers an initial 6-month programme, with evaluation to inform continuation.

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iii. How many people from the Parish of Shrewsbury do you expect to benefit directly from your project or activity?

100+

Our Facebook has only existed 2 months, and we already have almost 400 followers. I have had emails and messages from over 50 people, and our WhatsApp community (created less than 24-hours ago has 28 members).

iv. Please indicate which of the key pillars of the Council's Vision are met and how:

Pillars	Met	How
Building Resilient Communities For Shrewsbury	X	By providing alcohol-free social spaces, mutual peer-support circles, and creative workshops that connect residents and reduce isolation. Building up resilience through wellbeing awareness / education. It also promotes diversity and difference by celebrating those who choose not to drink which is against the cultural norm for many.
Supporting Shrewsbury Residents To Live Active And Healthy Lives Through The Provision Of Quality Services	X	Through wellbeing-focused events, mindful walking activities, and skills workshops that support healthy lifestyles and mental wellbeing. This will be done in a safe and inclusive environment, and safeguarding policies support this.
Preserving Shrewsbury's Heritage		
Creating A Greener And Better-connected Shrewsbury		
Maintaining A Sustainable, Resilient And Efficient Organisation	X	By using grant funding to cover running costs, allowing free participation and sustainable delivery of events over time. Starting slow and increasing frequency.
Taking Positive Action To Tackle Climate Change		

Q9 What criteria will be used to measure the success of the project and how many people from the Parish of Shrewsbury do you expect to benefit from it?

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Participation numbers: number of people attending each event (target 8–20 per event, 50 to 100 total over six months). For the sober disco we already did, 30 people got tickets. For our recent walk & talk, 10 people attended.

Feedback & satisfaction: post-event surveys and informal feedback to assess impact this is having and will have. We received great feedback after our recent events.

Community impact & contact: number of new participants engaging with the CIC and repeat attendees indicating ongoing engagement – this is already happening through social media numbers, emails, and direct messages.

Accessibility: all events remain free or low-cost to ensure participation is not limited by finances. This means that lots of people will have access. We can make donations optional to receive additional support from those who can.

Estimated beneficiaries: 100+ Shrewsbury residents directly engaged in events over the six-month programme. This has the potential to benefit a huge number of people though, through resources and content created on social media, and eventually our website once built.

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Health & Safety

Q10 What, if any, special safety issues are related to your project/activity?

Please provide the following information:

- i. What kind of insurance does your organisation have?

Shrewsbury Soda Club has public liability insurance and professional indemnity insurance.

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ii. Do the leaders have the relevant qualifications and/or experience?

.....Yes – the director is a qualified coach, mental health professional, with various qualifications in addiction coaching and wellbeing-related fields. She has experience working directly with communities for 5 years, and has led many groups / workshops. She has also been sober for over 5 years, and has attended and been involved with various sober communities and events. She also created Sober Society at UoL when she studied her master's there – which is still running and has over 500 members.

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iii. What policies does your organisation have in place (i.e. Health and Safety, Child Protection/Safeguarding, working with vulnerable adults, Equal Opportunities, CRB Checks etc.)? *You may be required to submit copies of your policies.*

Health and Safety, Equal Opportunities, Safeguarding / Working with Vulnerable Adults, Data Protection, and Risk Assessments. Copies can be submitted if requested.

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Funding of your project

Q11 Previous Applications

If you have applied for and received funding from Shrewsbury Town Council in the past please provide details of the amount, the year and briefly what the funding was used for.
N/A

Year	Project Description	Award £

Q12 Project Funding

Please provide details of the amount of funding you need for your project and give us a breakdown of what the money is for (please enclose any relevant estimates or details).

Tell us the amount of grant requested £..... and provide a detailed breakdown as to how you have reached this figure

Project Expenditure Please list all items of expenditure for your project	Amount of Project
Venue hire for workshops & events	£1000
Materials for creative and wellbeing activities	£700
Refreshments for participants	£300
Marketing, communications (posters, social media, ads, website creation)	£500
Hiring of external specifically qualified people for certain events e.g. yoga, and other miscellaneous costs	£500
Total	£3000
Project Income Please list how the project shall be funded	
Participant contributions (voluntary & donations/low-price ticketed events)	£500 est.
	£
	£
	£
	£

What is the difference? This should be the same as the amount of Grant you are applying for	£2500
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Q13 Covering a Shortfall

If the Town Council makes an offer less than the amount requested, how will that impact on the Project and how will you cover the shortfall?

If there is a shortfall, we will offer less frequent events, do less marketing, and minimize external professional hire. Additionally, we can put ticket prices so that costs can be covered, but this is not very in alignment with my ideas about making things free and low-cost as possible.

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Q14 Sustainability

What plans do you have in place to ensure that your organisation becomes more sustainable and less reliant on grant funding, particularly from the Town Council?

... We plan to ensure long-term sustainability by:

- Keeping events low-cost or free to attract steady participation, e.g. regular walks & online groups, potentially introducing optional donation contributions. This accessibility factor means the word will likely spread further and faster, meaning more people could potentially make donations.
- Applying for additional community grants or sponsorship from local businesses, as well as collaborating with established charities (communications have already been made with Share Shrewsbury).
- Developing partnerships with local community centres or organisations to share resources and costs.

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Your Accounts

Q15 Please provide the following details from your most recent annual accounts

Total Income	£0
Less Total Expenditure	£0
Surplus / Loss	£0
Savings (Reserves, Cash, Investments)	£0

Please provide a copy of your most recent annual audited accounts or, in the case of newly established organisations, the projected income and expenditure for the next twelve months.

You need to include these documents with this application.

Account Details

Q16 Please provide your bank or building society account details

You can only apply for grant if you have a bank/building society account in the name of your organisation. We will only pay grants into an account which requires at least two people to sign each cheque or withdrawal. **These people should not be related.**

IMPORTANT: The bank account is awaiting the registration of the CIC, which should take place in 2-5 working days. I hope this will not impact the application process. There will be two non-related signatories as required.

Account name:
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Sort Code: Account Number:

Bank/building society name:

Bank/building society address.....
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Who are the signatories and what position do they hold in your organisation?

1 Name Position Member.....

2 Name Position ...Secretary.....

3 Name ...[REDACTED]..... PositionMember.....

Any Other Information

Q17 Any other information which you consider to be relevant to your application.

..... Shrewsbury Soda Club CIC aims to create a safe, inclusive, alcohol-free environment for Shrewsbury residents to improve wellbeing, connect socially, and engage in creative and mindfulness activities. Events are free or low-cost to ensure accessibility. I am very passionate about this project. As someone with lived experience of addiction and recovery, I care deeply about creating these spaces. The amount of opportunities like this that don't involve alcohol are very limited in our town – I work in Shrewsbury and my family are here, and it's a need I often see. Other bigger cities have more sober communities & clubs, and I want Shrewsbury Soda Club to follow in those footsteps and be a catalyst for change.

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Declarations

Q18 Declaration

Please give details of a senior member of your organisation.
For example, this may be your Chairperson, Treasurer or Secretary. They must read the application and sign below. **(This must not be the main contact name in Q1).**

I confirm, on behalf of Shrewsbury Soda Club CIC:

That I am authorised to sign this declaration on its behalf, and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all replies are true and accurate.

I confirm that I have read the Terms and Conditions set out in the Notes which accompanied this application and further confirm that this application is made on the basis that if successful, the organisation will be bound to use the grant only for the purpose specified in this application, and will have to comply with those Terms and Conditions and any others which the Council might attach to the Grant.

Post held in organisation: Secretary

Title: First Name: Surname:

Organisation address:

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..... Postcode:

Telephone:

Signed: Date: ...07/03/26.....

Q19 Signature of Person Completing the Application

This must be the signature of the person named in Q1 as the main contact and **not be the same person who has signed in Q18**

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information in this application form is true and correct. I understand that you may ask for additional information at any stage of the application process.

Signed: Date: 08/03/26.....

Checklist

1. Have you answered every question?
2. Have all signatures been completed?
3. Have you included a copy of your constitution?
4. Have you included a copy of your most recent audited accounts?
5. Please state any supporting documents you are submitting:

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Documents:

- Projected income & expenses
- Models of Association document
- Insurance
- Evidence for community need – document containing anonymised quotes and feedback from the community showing demand for these events

Please return your completed application form to:

**Town Clerk
Shrewsbury Town Council
Livesey House
7 St John's Hill
Shrewsbury
SY1 1JD**

Telephone: 01743 281010

Email: Helen.ball@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk