



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)	Amplify Wellbeing Project	GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED	£ 3000
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Contact Details

Q1 Name of organisation making application:

The Hive (HMM Arts Ltd)

Name of contact for this application

Title:**Mr**.... First Name:**Tom**..... Surname:**Hayes**.....

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:

Voluntary Organisation:

(✓) Charity Registration Number1108488...

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Company Limited by Guarantee: () Company Number
Other – Please specify:

Q3 When was your organisation established?

The organisation (Belmont Arts Centre) became independent from Shropshire Council in 2005 and registered as a Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee. In 2008 we rebranded and changed the organisation name to The Hive.

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.

The Hive is a charity providing a safe path to personal and community growth, through inspiring, inclusive, creative experiences which transform lives and help those most in need in our communities.

The Hive is a valued town centre venue used by an average of 300 people of all ages from the local community each week. We hire the venue spaces to a variety of local groups for activities such as: Shropshire Youth Theatre (2 x per week), Shrewsbury Town Centre youth group (2 x per week), life drawing, Shropshire Jazz Network, Shrewsbury Film Society, Taking Part disco/music nights for adults with learning disabilities, Shropshire Inclusive Dance and Shropshire Architects, as well as running an open access café and gallery space with exhibitions held throughout the year.

In addition, the Hive programmes our own activities including popular weekly under 5s music sessions Buzzy Beats, regularly sold-out Folk gigs, workshops for young people with mental health issues and workshop programmes for children and young people in a range of art-forms including pottery, music, art & craft, film, animation, and photography during school holidays.

The Hive delivers social impact projects for vulnerable groups - especially for children and young people – which harness the power of creativity as a vehicle for progression. We run funded projects in partnership with local (Shrewsbury-based) organisations working with looked-after children, young carers, LGBTQ+ young people, Pupil Referral Units, refugees & asylum-seekers, as well as children and young people in healthcare settings (e.g., NHS mental health services and siblings of oncology patients through Hope House Hospice).

We currently reach over 2,500 children, young people, and young adults annually through music, media, and creative arts-based workshops.

We do not require a subscription fee and the venue is open Tuesday-Friday 9.30am-4.30pm, as well as for frequent events and room bookings during weekdays, evenings, and weekends.

The Hive has a Board of Trustees and, since 2024 we started developing a Youth Steering Group - a creative advisory committee comprised of young people engaging in our projects, aiming to: bring isolated communities together; direct, support, and guide the organisation; and influence our programming and strategy.

World-renowned and locally based comic illustrator Charlie Adlard became the Hive's first Patron in 2019, and award-winning playwright Hattie Naylor in became the second Patron in 2023.

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?

Please state which and attach a copy: **Memorandum and Articles attached**

Q7 What is your primary source of funding?

Most of our income comes from delivering charitable activities which incorporated a total value of £156,302 for the year-end 2024 and included funds from: Arts Council England; Shropshire Council; National Lottery Community Fund; Children in Need; Youth Music Foundation; Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings Microgrant; and National Lottery Heritage Fund. Legacies and donations equated to £78,092 and trading totalled £78,035 (including cafe income; ticket income; gift aid, and room hire).

Details of the project or activity you are planning
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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.

The Hive's Amplify Wellbeing Project has been hugely successful so far, working with local young people aged 13 – 25 to nurture talent and provide opportunities within the music industry, with essential support from creative freelancers to develop skills and confidence. (Web link: [Amplify - The Hive](#))

However, as testament to the popularity of the project, there is very high demand for workshops for those existing participants with broad ambitions and interests who are looking to delve deeper into the industry, and we have recently also had a large number of new requests to engage with the project. We would use the funding from STC to extend the project by offering an additional 6 sessions to explore areas including: sound engineering, lighting, programming, production, marketing, and performing. The sessions would be delivered at our Shrewsbury town-centre venue and a part of this funding would go towards covering participant travel and room hire costs.

The additional sessions will provide further opportunities for participant progression. Primarily the sessions are influential in their way to help participants develop personal confidence and key skills in their area of interest. Secondly, we have found that our workshops often acting as the starting point for young people to: move on to receiving mentoring from professionals, independently build their own networks in the field, and then move into local volunteering roles in the industry. Through this increased activity we will be able to signpost more young people on to appropriate activities to help them progress their careers.

The project is targeted at 13 – 25-year-olds living locally and funded by Arts Council England, and we would be able to offer match funding of £1500 from this project towards staff costs to run these additional sessions.

- 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.

With The Hive Approach we consult with our local communities as closely as possible and find ways for stakeholders to lead on key decisions and designing of programmes – with particular value given to the feedback of our project participants.

From our regular *Reflect & Review* sessions and *Artists Day* CPD activities we have gathered feedback from Creative Facilitators and project partners, who have consistently reported to us that there is a clear demand for more creative workshops as part of this project, to help participants move forward.

Our Youth Engagement Lead has been working very closely with the young people engaging in our Amplify project and has been consistently told by participants that they want more opportunities to focus on key areas of interest to them and make connections in the community. We would aim to deliver the six workshops within 3 months of receiving the funding.

The legacy of the pandemic for us has been a surge in demand for our creative intervention work, and we now find ourselves with a backlog of young people requesting our support to plug the gaps left from other services. Consequently, we are now supporting more isolated young people, with increasingly diverse needs, than ever before. The Hive is a registered charity with a small team but huge delivery: in 2023 alone, 6861 workshop places were created for children and young people, and we delivered 1443 hours of workshops in our community. Our venue has a weekly footfall of around 300 people, and in 2024 we attracted 996 visitors to our bi-annual Street Festival.

Our programmes are a regular social lifeline for many of the participants, and we work hard to ensure this provision does not drop away at a time where they need it most, especially as the cost-of-living crisis is impacting on them quite considerably in many cases. Our Wellbeing Projects participants recently created a powerful short film as part of our *Save The Hive* campaign to demonstrate benefits and impact, which can be viewed here:

<https://youtu.be/4xa1gZjZ4d0?si=1oLYm6rArcrW6RcB>

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

- 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	YES	The Hive has a robust reputation as a hub for diverse and inclusive activities, and is a locally iconic town-centre community safe-space
Supporting Shrewsbury Residents To Live Active And Healthy Lives Through The Provision Of Quality Services	YES	The Hive runs Wellbeing Projects delivering high-quality creative experiences, with a focus on health and progression, and often making up for gaps left by statutory services
Preserving Shrewsbury's Heritage	YES	The Hive has been a meeting place for a huge number of much-loved local arts organisations, and is a hugely important part of the Shrewsbury Cultural Heritage Landscape
Creating A Greener And Better-connected Shrewsbury		
Maintaining A Sustainable, Resilient And Efficient Organisation		
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?

All of our Wellbeing Projects work towards our Four Core Outcomes, which align with The Hive's values of being non-judgmental, community-centred, collaborative, adventurous and empowering. We use art, music and creativity as a vehicle to achieve 4 core outcomes, which are:

1. Feel positive and more confident
2. Feel comfortable in being who they are
3. Value working with others
4. Build their own resilience

As part of The Hive's Evaluation Framework, our Creative Facilitators report against these core outcomes. All workshops are also monitored to keep a record of the number of people attending sessions. We track the group as a whole in the session,

and also the progression of individuals on a case-by-case basis, and report using our qualitative and quantitative data. The Hive Feedback Suite Tutorial is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJHgk8MJD6U&feature=youtu.be>

This project will benefit at least 98 people in Shrewsbury, including:

- 90 x young people aged 13-25 years old (15 yp x 6 sessions)
- 2 x volunteers
- 2 x Freelance Creative Practitioners
- 1 x Youth Engagement Lead
- 1 x Project Manager
- 1 x Finance & Admin Assistant

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?

Public Liability Insurance, Contents Insurance.

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

N/A

- 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.*

DBS checks, Safeguarding Policy, Fire Safety Policy, Fire Risk Assessment, individual event Risk Assessments, Volunteering Policy, Health & Safety Policy Statement, Dignity at Work (Bullying & Harassment) Policy.

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.

Year	Project Description	Award £
2024	Nat Green – Local Councillor Grant	500
2024	Alex Wagner – Local Councillor Grant	500
2023	Improvements to The Hive's kitchen / café-bar area, and support delivery of music & movement workshops for Under 5s	1500
2022	Community garden and children's music projects	500
2021	Local Councillor's Fund – projects with children & young people	750
2020	Community Grant – sound studio works	500
2020	Theatre for children, projects with refugees and LGBT+ young people	750

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 **£ 3000** and provide a detailed breakdown as to how you have reached this figure

Project Expenditure	Amount of Project
Please list all items of expenditure for your project	
Music workshops - 6 x sessions * 2 x hours * £400 (2 x Creative Practitioners, including a female lead per workshop)	£ 2400
Travel costs for participants – 6 x sessions * 15 participants * £5	£ 450
Room hire – 6 x sessions * £50	£ 300
Youth Engagement – 2 days * £175	£ 350
Project Management & Evaluation – 3 days * £250	£ 750
Admin & Finance	£ 75
Design & Marketing	£ 175
Total	£ 4500
Project Income	
Please list how the project shall be funded	
Arts Council England – <i>Amplify</i> project match funding	£ 1500
What is the difference?	
This should be the same as the amount of Grant you are applying for	£ 3000

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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?

The Hive will need to cover the shortfall from our unrestricted funding. This will be challenging for our charity in the current climate due to the cost-of-living crisis causing funding pressures and rising bills. If needed we'd delay delivering the additional sessions, however this extended programme of activity is currently much needed with more and more requests from participants.

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?

Currently The Hive is looking to apply to Arts Council England and National Lottery for larger strategic grants to help support our core costs and enable The Hive to employ an in-house fundraising manager. Having a fundraising manager on payroll will help us to establish a robust sustainability plan. We aim to get ourselves to a position where The Hive is much less reliant on grant-funding. We were in a much stronger position and heading for financial sustainability pre-pandemic, so we are working very hard to get back to this place again as a charity.

Despite the current cost-of-living and funding pressures, The Hive is making some in-roads into financial security and sustainability by developing income generating plans for the venue through room hire for corporate and community events and activities, ensuring we work to a full cost recovery business model on most of our projects. This way we can see a way to building charity reserves again in the future and planning for future growth for the organisation.

Through the process of running our *Save the Hive* campaign last year we have identified and enacted organisational efficiencies, significantly raised our profile, increased our number of donors and donations, widened our network of funders, and developed plans to start a monthly subscription-based Supporter Scheme.

Your Accounts

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

Total Income

£ 313,068

Less Total Expenditure	£ 371,167
Surplus / Loss	£ (58,099)
Savings (Reserves, Cash, Investments)	£ 77,485

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.**

Account name: [REDACTED]

Sort Code: [REDACTED] Account Number: ... [REDACTED]

Bank/building society name: [REDACTED]

Bank/building society address..... [REDACTED]

Who are the signatories and what position do they hold in your organisation?

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | Name ... [REDACTED] | Position ... Chief Executive Officer |
| 2 | Name ... [REDACTED] | Position ... Finance Administrator |
| 3 | Name ... [REDACTED] | Position ... Trustee |

Any Other Information

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

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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 **The Hive (HMM Arts Ltd)**.....
(insert name of organisation):*

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: ...**Chair of Trustees**

Title: [REDACTED] First Name: [REDACTED] Surname: [REDACTED]

Organisation address:

[REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Signed: [REDACTED]

Date: [REDACTED]

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 from is true and correct. I understand that you may ask for additional information at any stage of the application process.

Signed:



Date:10/07/25.....

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: ☐

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