

St Austell Town Council

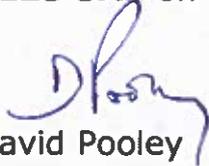


Community Committee

To: All Members of the Community Committee (Councillors: Cohen, Clemo, Hamilton, Hawken, Kimber, Lingham, Nott, Preece, Rowse, Stephens, Taylor, Thompson, Whitehouse and Young).

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend a **Meeting** of the **Community Committee** to be held at **Chi Austel, White River Place, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5AZ** on **Monday 23rd March 2026 at 6pm.**



David Pooley
Town Clerk

17th March 2026

Tel: 01726 829859
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Website: www.staustell-tc.gov.uk

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**

(Purpose: To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other non-registerable interests in respect of items on this agenda).

- 3. Dispensations**

(Purpose: To receive requests for dispensations under the Code of Conduct).

4. Minutes of meeting held on 23rd February 2026

**Pages
1 to 6**

(Purpose: To agree that the minutes of the above meeting be signed as a correct record).

5. Matters to Note

A verbal update from the Town Clerk on the actions taken since the last meeting. Note: No decision may be made under this agenda item.

6. Public participation (15 minutes maximum)

The Chairman will invite members of the public to address the meeting in relation to the business to be carried out at the meeting. *15 minutes will be allocated for public participation (this can be extended at the Chairman's discretion). Each person addressing the Council will be allocated a maximum of two minutes.*

7. Mr Jake Richards (at the request of Councillor Taylor)

(Purpose: To receive a presentation from Mr Jake Richards on a proposed community project in the town centre).

8. Small Grants Scheme

**Pages
7 to 36**

- Cornwall Performing Arts CIC
- Cornwall International Male Choral Festival
- Cornwall Pride CIO
- i-sight Cornwall
- St Austell Shed (to follow)

9. Projects Update

(Purpose: To receive a verbal report on the projects currently being worked on). (Verbal update).

10. To consider excluding the press and public.

Under Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, it is proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the business specified for the following item:

Item 11 is confidential because it contains commercially sensitive information.

11. Priory Car Park

(Purpose: To appoint contractors to carry out emergency repair works in Priory Car Park).

12. Re-admit Press and Public

13. Dates of Meetings

(Purpose: To note the date of the next meeting. Monday 1st June 2026.

MINUTES of ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE held on MONDAY 23rd FEBRUARY 2026 at Chi Austel, White River Place, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5AZ at 6pm.

Present: Councillors: Cohen, Clemo, Hamilton, Hawken, Kimber, Lingham, Nott, Preece, Stephens, Taylor, Thompson, Whitehouse and Young.

In attendance: David Pooley (Town Clerk) and Sara Gwilliams (Deputy Town Clerk).

Also in attendance: Councillor Gray, A Etheridge (interpreter).

CC/25/42) Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rowse.

CC/25/43) Declarations of Interest

None.

CC/25/44) Dispensations

None.

CC/25/45) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 24th November 2025

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 24th November 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record.

CC/25/46) Matters to Note

The Clerk advised that further to minute number CC/25/36, the Community Area Partnership (CAP) received a presentation from Emily Hudson and the following was agreed:

- Write to Noah Law MP supporting the Smartphone Free School campaign.
- Connect Emily to the Education Lead at Cornwall Council so that she can have a dialogue about Smartphone Free Childhoods.
- Request that Cllr Cunningham, as a member of the Children's Overview and Scrutiny Committee, asks the Committee if they would consider including the issue on their future work programme.

CC/25/47) Public Participation

Members of the public present:

Mr Simon Pollard – St Austell Festival of Children's Literature

Stephanie Housman – St Austell Amateur Operatic Society

Melody Gray – St Austell Amateur Operatic Society

In order to assist the members of the public present, the Chair agreed to bring Agenda Item 11 Small Grants Scheme forward to the next item.

CC/25/48) Small Grants Scheme

St Austell Festival of Children's Literature

The Chair welcomed Mr Pollard to the meeting.

Mr Pollard thanked the Committee for inviting him to the meeting and explained that the festival is in its fourth year and will be run on similar lines to the previous years on the weekend of 12th and 13th June 2026. He advised that this year is the National Year of Reading and to encourage as many young people as possible and their families to attend the festival a nominal fee of £1 per person will be charged to attend. Mr Pollard outlined the key activities that will take place across the town which include author events at the library and a Junior Book Club on one Saturday a month throughout the year.

Arising from a question, Mr Pollard confirmed that the Academies contribute £1 per pupil to take part and offer assistance in kind.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve a grant in the sum of £1,000 towards the cost of putting on the 2026 St Austell Festival of Children's Literature Festival.

St Austell Amateur Operatic Society

Stephanie Housman provided an overview of the Society, the costs of putting on a show, the community benefit and the success of a committee member who started out in social media for the society. Melody explained that the show planned for 13th – 18th April 2026 is called "Come From Away" and outlined the story behind the production.

During discussion, Stephanie and Melody confirmed that the tickets have been on sale since August and can be purchased through social media.

A proposal to award £500 was proposed by Councillor Kimber and seconded by Councillor Clemo.

An amendment to the proposal to award £1,000 was proposed by Councillor Nott and seconded by Councillor Cohen.

The amendment was carried 8 votes for, 4 votes against.

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £1,000 to the St Austell Amateur Operatic Society towards the cost of putting on their 2026 production "Come From Away"

Edible St Austell

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £250 to Edible St Austell towards the repair of their timber shelter.

St Austell Library Support Association (SALSA)

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £250 to SALSA towards the cost of hosting Easter activities at the library and the hire of donkeys.

St Austell Fire Station

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant in the sum of £250 towards the cost of improving the memorial garden at the St Austell Fire Station.

CC/25/49) Deaf Awareness

Councillor Nott provided a short presentation on deaf awareness. His presentation explained the problems that deaf people experience and outlined helpful tips on how to communicate with the deaf. He provided some basic words in sign language and encouraged members to attend his deaf awareness course held in White River Place, every Tuesday.

CC/25/50) Poltair Cafe

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the current tenant of Poltair Café has given notice that she will be leaving after the 2026 summer season. She explained that the way forward needs careful consideration and will be discussed informally at the Chair and Vice-Chair meeting later in the week and a report will be brought for consideration by a suitable committee meeting in due course.

CC/25/51) Poltair Park Play Equipment

The Clerk advised that there is an increasing need to consider replacing the large helter skelter play unit in Poltair Park as it is now 16-17 years old and, due to its age, is becoming increasingly expensive to repair as replacement parts are becoming discontinued or require custom manufacturing.

The Clerk further advised that the helter skelter is a very visible piece of equipment and suggested that its replacement should be equally significant, robust and have lots of play value and that following extensive research the "Birds' Nest Tower" was deemed to be a suitable replacement.

The Clerk added that the replacement value for all the play equipment across the Town Council's 17 parks and open spaces is over £1m and the reserve for replacement playground equipment stands at £440,000. The purchase of the Birds' Nest Tower, including installation would be in the region of £80,000 excluding VAT.

During discussion, Members raised the following:

- Consideration of a disabled swing being the replacement for the helter skelter;
- The need for the helter skelter to be replaced with a significant piece of play equipment with lots of play value
- The need for a consultation process to take place to ensure that any replacement has the support of users
- The potential for a consultation to take place in the library, to include images of equipment from suppliers ensuring that school children, Young People Cornwall and the Youth Council are all consulted.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the helter skelter in Poltair Park is replaced with a suitable piece of play equipment that has the support of users gained through a robust consultation process at St Austell Library with a budget in the region of £80,000.

CC/25/52) Poltair Park – Wheelchair swing (at the request of Councillor Taylor)

The Clerk advised that at the request of Councillor Taylor, research had been undertaken with regard to the potential for a wheelchair swing at Poltair Park. He advised that they are considered “high risk” pieces of play equipment due to their size, weight and high ground clearance and are rarely found in public parks. If they are installed in public parks, they are strictly locked when not in use. Research suggested that they are usually installed in schools and nurseries where their use can be closely supervised and monitored.

The Clerk added that he had taken the opportunity to speak to the Town Clerk at St Blaise Town Council who advised that they had installed a wheelchair swing in their park at Polgreen approximately six months ago and that on average it has 3 users a month and has been vandalised once.

The Clerk advised that if Members were mindful to instal a wheelchair swing in Poltair Park, the only flat space within the play area to accommodate it is close to a set of junior swings which would have to be removed to make room for it. He advised that to mitigate risks, it would have to be locked when not in use with a key or combination code being obtained from either the library or café.

The Clerk concluded that the installation of a wheelchair swing at Poltair Park would be of high risk to the Town Council and recommended caution to Members.

During discussion, Members raised the following:

- Whether a wheelchair swing could be installed in the area close to the bat house;
- Whether there is any data demonstrating community interest in a wheelchair swing in the park
- The need for an audit of accessibility at Poltair Park;
- Whether a wheelchair swing could be installed in another park;
- Concern that the swing would not be available for use when the library or café are closed;
- Concern with regard to the risk of mis-use and injury if not properly supervised.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that a consultation process be undertaken with wheelchair users to ascertain the appetite for a wheelchair swing in Poltair Park and an Accessibility Audit be undertaken to assess the accessibility of the play area in Poltair Park.

CC/25/53) Tree Policy

Members considered the draft tree policy.

During discussion, a view was expressed that the policy should encourage private homeowners to maintain their land so that there is no inappropriate encroachment onto public areas.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to approve the Tree Management Policy subject to the addition suggested above.

CC/25/54) Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Renewal

The Clerk advised that Cornwall Council has consulted on a renewal of the county-wide Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) prohibiting street drinking associated with anti-social behaviour. He clarified that the order is not a ban on alcohol in the streets listed but provided power to control drinking in public spaces.

It was **RESOLVED** to support the renewal as outlined subject to the spelling errors being corrected.

CC/25/55) Closure of Payphones

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from Cornwall Council on BT's proposal to remove 2 telephone boxes within the parish of St Austell on the grounds of lack of use. He advised that both had been the subject of anti-social behaviour complaints in the past.

It was **RESOLVED** to support the removal of the two payphones, located at Carclaze Road/Agar Road and Daniels Lane/Buckers Lane as outlined in the consultation due to a lack of use.

CC/25/56) Projects Update

The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk provided an update as follows:

Town Vitality Fund

Holy Trinity Church. The corner where the welfare hut was situated is complete and blends in well with the rest of the piazza.

Pump Track. The pump track is complete with a formal opening event planned for May when hopefully the better weather arrives.

Town Revitalisation and Improvement Plan (TRIP)

The Priory Car Park signage is in situ and the improvements to the old fire station have been finalised with just the planters to put in place. The railings outside the Baptist church have been installed and are awaiting planters. The planters outside Studio 4 have arrived and will be installed during the next week.

CCTV. The CCTV is on winter monitoring hours with 25 cameras installed across the town. The mobile camera is currently being repaired and discussions have commenced with the organisations located in Polkyth and Enevero about the potential to instal cameras at Polkyth following a successful grant application to the OPCC.

Young People Cornwall (YPC). YPC continue to lever in grant funding and the Town Council representatives meet with the Steering Group quarterly. The Chief Executive, Nick Smith, is the guest speaker at the Annual Parish Council meeting in April. YPC facilitated some schools games in the Town Council's parks last summer utilising the games trailer and it is hoped that they will do the same again this year.

Youth Council. Councillor Preece advised that a letter has been sent to the two secondary schools for their attention following half term. The letter outlines the objectives of the youth council, who can be on it and how it will work. It is hoped that the Membership of the Youth Council will be made up of approximately 12 young people and will be supported by Town Councillors.

Anti-social behaviour. There are a few new faces around the town, particularly in the vicinity of the Travel Lodge which we understand Cornwall Council is using as temporary accommodation. Shop lifting continues to be a problem, but the security guards are providing an excellent service assisting shops and are invaluable to the Police for providing intel and assistance.

Grounds Maintenance. The winter maintenance schedule continues with winter jobs such as path clearance, weeding flower beds, play equipment maintenance, tree works, fence repairs and library maintenance all being carried out over recent weeks. The grass cutting season will start towards the end of March/beginning of April when the ground should be drier.

Arts Centre. The feasibility report is still awaited from Cornwall Council.

Cornwall Armed Forces Day. The Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk are assisting with the road closures for the event which will be quite significant, particularly with regard to traffic management and parking for the attendees and spectators. A funding request will be considered by the Council meeting on the 16th March to assist with the cost of security personnel for the road closures. The event is a county event and will be managed at a county level.

Arising from the above, Members expressed their gratitude to Bill McCardle for all his hard work with the town centre revitalisation projects that he has helped facilitate over the few years he has been employed with the Town Council.

CC/25/57) Dates of Meetings

It was noted that the next meeting of the Community Committee is scheduled for 23rd March 2026.

The meeting closed at 7.58pm.

ST AUSTELL TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE – 23rd MARCH 2026

SMALL GRANTS SCHEME - APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider funding requests received under the Town Council's Small Grants Scheme.

2. LEGAL AND RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The Council has the legal power to grant funding under the General Power of Competence which was formally re-adopted by the Town Council on the 12th May 2025.

3. RESOURCE ISSUES

The Council has earmarked the sum of £8,000 for the small grants scheme in the 2025/26 financial year. To date £7,075 has been awarded leaving a balance of £925.

4. EQUALITIES ISSUES

The Small Grants application form asks organisations to demonstrate their commitment to equal opportunities.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The environmental impact for proposed projects will vary for each grant application received.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- (i) Consider and determine whether they wish to support the grant applications received.

Background

The application forms for the funding requested are reproduced with this report. Supporting information for the grant applications (including financial) can be viewed upon request prior to this meeting.

1. Cornwall Performing Arts CIC

Cornwall Performing Arts CIC is seeking funding towards a creative writing project for children and young people in the St Austell area. The project will take place in the St Austell Arts Centre.

2. Cornwall International Male Choral Festival

The Cornwall International Male Choral Festival is taking place on Sunday 3rd May 2026 at St John's Methodist Church and the organisation is seeking funding towards the overall cost of putting the event on.

3. Cornwall Pride

A funding request has been received to assist with the overall cost of putting on St Austell Pride in July 2026.

4. I-Sight Cornwall

A funding request has been received from i-Sight Cornwall for funding towards transport support for their Blind Using Guided Sights (BUGS) Shooting Club in St Austell.

SARA GWILLIAMS
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

St Austell Town Council



Small Grants Scheme

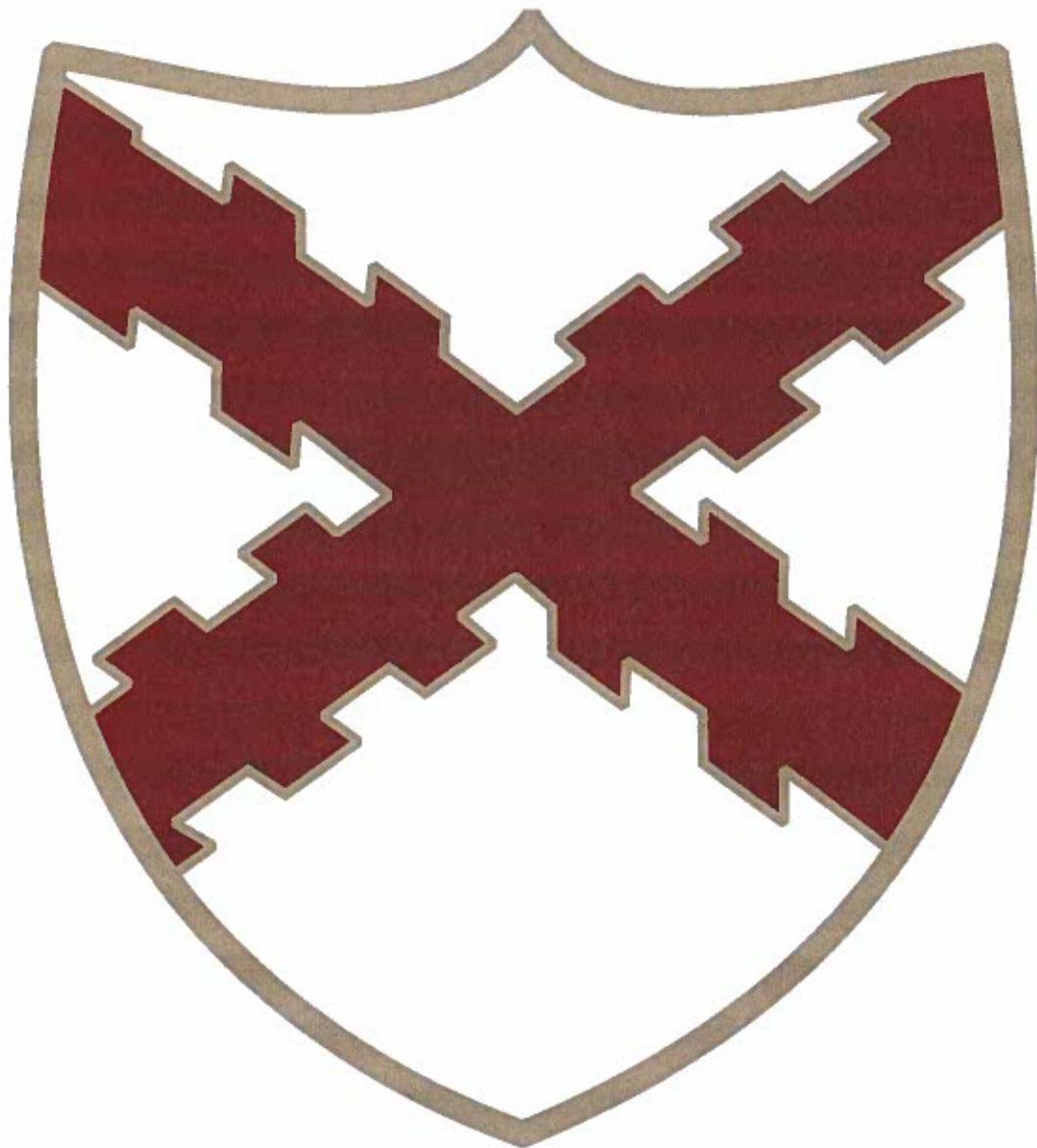
Application Form

PART B

1. Your organisation

Name of Organisation	Cornwall Performing Arts CIC
Charity/company number (if applicable)	Charity No: Company No: 11883202
Are there any Members of St Austell Town Council on your Committee? (if so, please list them)	

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2. Purpose for which the grant is sought

Project title:	Creative Writing for Young People in St. Austell
Description of project (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):	<p>This project is for a Creative Writing education class for children and young people from age 8 upwards in the St. Austell area. The class will provide opportunities for students to learn a range of creative writing skills, including journalistic skills, story writing, script writing, copy writing, and poetry. The class aims to provide a safe and supportive environment that is focused on the creative element of creative writing to remove barriers to participation in English and writing that some students can face in the traditional school classroom. The students will gain highly transferable life and career skills and will work towards real life projects such as writing for performance.</p>
How would this grant be of benefit to the community in St Austell? (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):	<p>This would benefit the community by providing a new opportunity for young people. This offering is unique in the area and offers young people a chance to engage with creative writing in a different environment, focusing more on real world transferable skills and valuing student's creativity and collaboration. It also offers young people the chance to meet like minded people and form a new community of friends.</p>
What arrangements do you have in place to ensure safeguarding of children and young people (applicable only if your project involves working with this client group).	<p>Safeguarding policy attached. The class will be taught by an educator with Qualified Teacher status who is well informed of current safeguarding practices.</p>

3. Finance

What is the total cost of the project?	£250
Amount of grant applied for	£250

<p>What are the aims and objectives of your organisation?</p>	<p>Our organisation has a positive impact on the lives of children and young people in our community, primarily through theatre and performing arts. We seek to provide life changing opportunities for the young people that engage with us. We provide this through education, training, work experience, industry training, mentoring, certificates and qualifications, and performance experience. The key overall impacts we seek to make are -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • development of specific and transferable skills for future studying/employment • CV development • social and mental health benefits • qualifications • raising aspirations • community cohesion <p>In addition to these we also ensure that our syllabi include a wide range of activities that support and benefit the development of -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • key skills such as literacy • communication skills • co ordination and motor skills • language development • social and emotional development • problem solving • critical thinking • creativity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • independence
<p>Please demonstrate your organisation's commitment to equal opportunities (please enclose any relevant policies)</p>	<p>We are committed to creating an inclusive environment where every student, regardless of age, ability, background, or identity, has equal access to high-quality performing arts education. We actively promote diversity in our classes, workshops, and performances, and ensure that our teaching practices support fairness, respect, and opportunity for all</p>

(Up to £250) *	
Have you previously received a grant from St Austell Town Council?	Yes
If "Yes" please indicate: a) When b) Amount received c) For what purpose	St. Austell Zombie Walk - October

* Should you wish to apply for a grant over £250, the Council may consider a larger grant in exceptional circumstances, but you may be asked to provide a presentation to the Town Council.

Please list any applications you have made for funding from other organisations.

Organisation	Contribution Sought (£)	Applied (please tick as appropriate)	Granted (please tick as appropriate)

4. Further information enclosed

Information	Enclosed (please tick)
A copy of your organisation's most recent bank statement(s) (mandatory)	
A copy of your constitution (or similar document showing the organisation's status)	
A copy of your organisation's latest set of accounting statements (if any exist)	

5. Publicity

Please explain how you will publicise and acknowledge the Town Council's grant.

We have various forms of social media that we can promote and acknowledge this on

Please return your completed form to:

Sara Gwilliams
Deputy Town Clerk
The Stable Block
Pondhu House
Penwinnick Road, St Austell, PL25 5DP

E-mail: sara.gwilliams@staustell-tc.gov.uk

St Austell Town Council



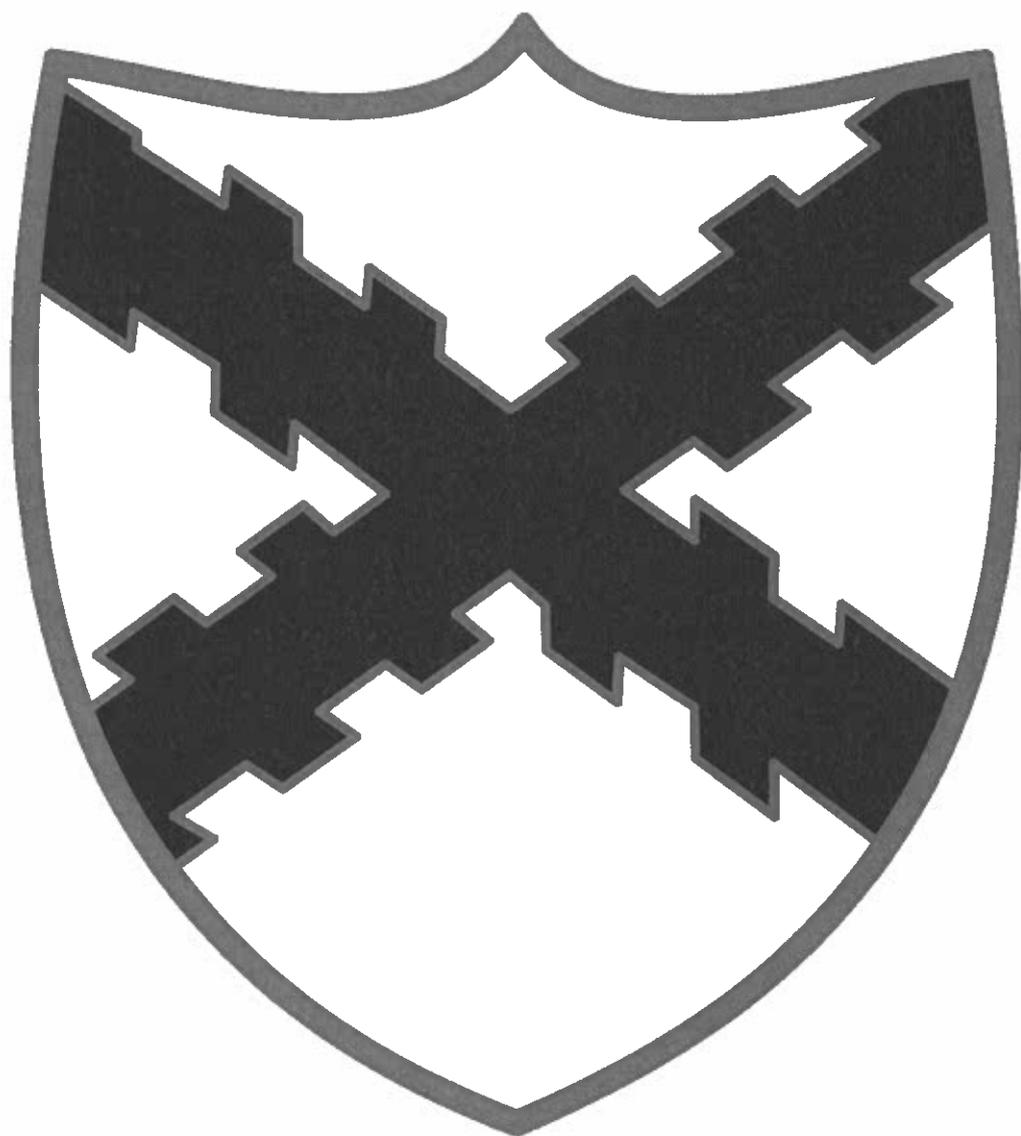
Small Grants Scheme

Application Form

PART B

1. Your organisation

Name of Organisation	Cornwall International Male Choral Festival
Charity/company number (if applicable)	Charity No: 199924 Company No: 509936
Are there any Members of St Austell Town Council on your Committee? (if so, please list them)	No
What are the aims and objectives of your organisation?	<p>We aim to create the largest and most influential international Male Choir Festival in Britain and Europe in order to maintain and extend male voice singing as an important aspect of Cornwall's cultural heritage;</p> <p>To increase the membership particularly of younger male singers and introduce an educational aspect into the Festival programme to achieve this;</p> <p>To encourage composers in Cornwall, the UK and overseas to write new works for male choirs;</p> <p>To advance, promote, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of male voice singing in all its aspects, particularly, but not exclusively through the holding of an international festival.</p> <p>Male Voice Choir singing is deep in the culture of Cornwall having roots in Methodism, mining, fishing and agriculture. Male voice concerts in St. Austell are always well attended and local male choirs recruit well from the area.</p>



<p>Please demonstrate your organisation's commitment to equal opportunities (please enclose any relevant policies)</p>	<p>Whilst we have no formal written policy, we are committed to equal opportunities. We encourage all choirs to join us and have a long history of including a diverse range of backgrounds in the festival.</p> <p>We champion the Male Choral tradition as a musical genre. Music is written in TTBB (Tenor, Tenor, Baritone, Bass) rather than SATB (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and has a unique sound that has been appreciated for generations. We do allow choirs to attend who include female choristers, but our focus is on the TTBB male choral tradition.</p>
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2. Purpose for which the grant is sought

<p>Project title:</p>	<p>Cornwall International Male Choral Festival 2026 St. Austell Gala Concert Daytime singing in Mevagissey Youth schools workshops</p>
<p>Description of project (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):</p>	<p>We are a biennial Festival having started in 2003. We are expecting more than 1700 singers from over 40 choirs to take part in some 30 events across Cornwall.</p> <p>As well as over 25 Cornish Choirs, we will have 20 from the rest of the UK, and 3 from abroad.</p> <p>Mevagissey Male Choir will host a Gala concert in St. John's Church on Sunday 3rd May. This will also include Imerys Mid Cornwall Male Choir, Risca Male Choir, Seer Green Singers, Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir.</p> <p>Meva will also host singing on Middle Wharf in Mevagissey for our new Harmony in the Harbour event. The choirs for this are: Seer Green Singers, Sussex Gruffs Male Voice Choir, Cowbridge Male Voice Choir, Choral Saint Dominique De Bujumbura</p> <p>We are inviting schools to join us for our Education Outreach events to participate in workshops led by boys choirs</p> <p>The festival operates as a Company Limited by Guarantee and as a Registered Charity, and engages a Festival Director. Our honorary President is Colonel Edward Bolitho. The Trustees / Board members are all volunteers and most take an active role in running part of the Festival operation. We measure our success in audience numbers, youth attendance at workshops and our financial bottom line.</p> <p>Mevagissey Male Choir will host the Gala concert and will provide all the necessary organisation, safety, and security.</p> <p>We hope to sell all the paid tickets at the concert and that will be the immediate indication of our success.</p>
<p>How would this grant be of benefit to the community in St Austell? (please continue on a separate sheet if</p>	<p>We have run regional concerts in St. Austell with international choirs since 2003. These have always been well attended. Many of your residents are members of choirs who are performing in at events across that weekend. It is well known that singing in choirs has many health</p>

necessary):	benefits for people of all ages, but particularly the young and the old.
What arrangements do you have in place to ensure safeguarding of children and young people (applicable only if your project involves working with this client group).	<p>Most of our choirs are entirely adults.</p> <p>Our Youth Programme is run in conjunction with Cornwall Music Service Trust and complies with all their safeguarding procedures.</p> <p>The boys' choirs have their own management group of adults travelling with them and looking after their safeguarding needs. We actively engage with the venues regarding this.</p>

3. Finance

What is the total cost of the project?	<p>Concert Expenses £15,500</p> <p>Competition Expenses £9,000</p> <p>Visiting Choir Support £5,000</p> <p>Marketing & Promotion £7,200</p> <p>Director and Administration £41,600</p> <p>Total £78,300</p> <p>St. Austell TC grant will be used as support for visiting youth choirs.</p> <p>Grant funding is a big part of our income and is absolutely vital to us surviving from one festival to the next. Since the last festival the "energy" crisis and now the "cost-of-living" crisis have impacted everyone. Particularly significant for the festival has been in increase in the cost of venues hire. We would like to increase our request to £500 to partially offset our increased costs across the entire budget.</p>
Amount of grant applied for (Up to £250) *	£250 (We would like to request £500, but note your £250 maximum. We would gratefully accept any amount you might be willing to provide to help us.)
Have you previously received a grant from St Austell Town Council?	Yes
If "Yes" please indicate: a) When b) Amount received c) For what purpose	<p>In the last 5 years we have received £750. The council has made three awards, 2019 (£250), 2022 (£250), and 2024 (£250)</p> <p>These grants have been used to support our youth outreach and ensure our festival continues.</p>

* Should you wish to apply for a grant over £250, the Council may consider a larger grant in exceptional circumstances, but you may be asked to provide a presentation to the Town Council.

Please list any applications you have made for funding from other organisations.

Organisation	Contribution Sought (£)	Applied (please tick as appropriate)	Granted (please tick as appropriate)
Other Cornish Town Councils	~£7,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

4. Further information enclosed

Information	Enclosed (please tick)
A copy of your organisation's most recent bank statement(s) (mandatory)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A copy of your constitution (or similar document showing the organisation's status)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A copy of your organisation's latest set of accounting statements (if any exist)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Publicity

Please explain how you will publicise and acknowledge the Town Council's grant.

On our website, and in our publicity.

Please return your completed form to:

Sara Gwilliams
Deputy Town Clerk
The Stable Block
Pondhu House
Penwinnick Road, St Austell, PL25 5DP

E-mail: sara.gwilliams@staustell-tc.gov.uk

St Austell Town Council



Small Grants Scheme

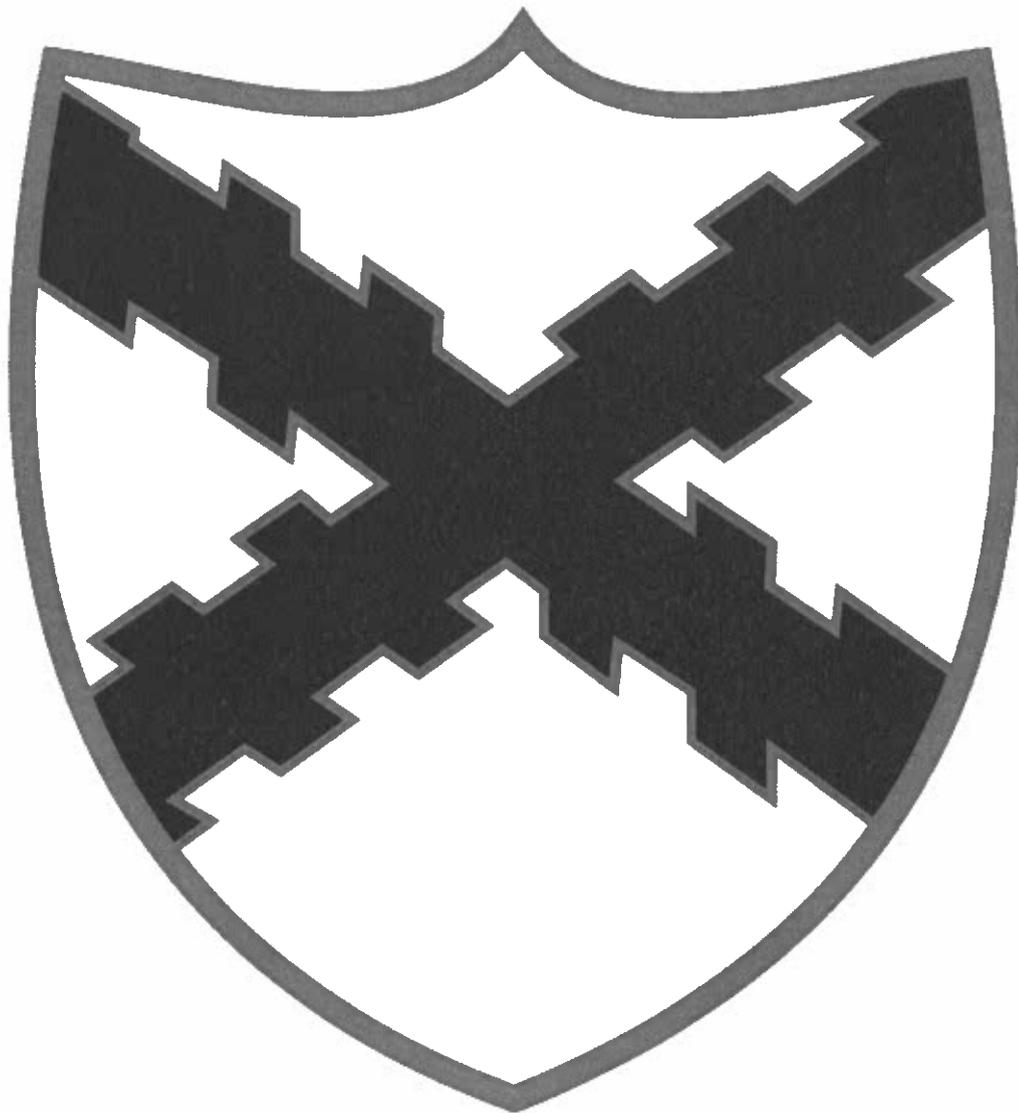
Application Form

PART B

1. Your organisation

Name of Organisation	Cornwall Pride CIO
Charity/company number (if applicable)	Charity No: 1191003
Are there any Members of St Austell Town Council on your Committee? (if so, please list them)	N/A
What are the aims and objectives of your organisation?	To promote and support equality and diversity; advance education, eliminate discrimination and support mental health on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and romantic orientation. For residents of and visitors to Cornwall, (the area of benefit) and where relevant nationally and internationally in such ways as are charitable at law.
Please demonstrate your organisation's commitment to equal opportunities (please enclose any relevant policies)	You can find Cornwall Pride's policy on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_SMua6sRABsTpXyiCf2q4LPE_3_Rafn_BF76m6jE3ll/edit?usp=drive_link

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2. Purpose for which the grant is sought

<p>Project title:</p>	<p>St Austell Pride 2026: a joyful celebration of LGBTQIA+ community and marginalised identity in the heart of St Austell.</p>
<p>Description of project (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):</p>	<p>We're seeking a grant from St Austell and Town Council to safely deliver our free community event St Austell Pride in July 2026. Safely delivering our event means building key infrastructure that can help us welcome the community to the best of our ability. These include but are not limited to organised security costs, First Aid provision and the resources needed for a community hub where people can access quiet space and crisis support. This isn't just about logistics, though, it's about building a genuinely inclusive and accessible Pride space in the heart of St Austell.</p> <p>Connecting hardly-reached communities and bringing people together from across East Cornwall and beyond, St Austell is a key moment in our year, wholly encompassing our mission to embed hyper local events into our wider pride programme. A colourful, vibrant celebration will allow us to connect together local communities, grassroots organisations and national partners that are all committed to uplifting the LGBTQIA+ community alongside other marginalised groups.</p> <p>For the people of St Austell, our message is clear: together we can create tangible visibility, and joy. In a county where LGBTQIA+ people, especially in rural areas, can feel disconnected or unsafe, this event is a chance to change the story. It transforms the town centre into a space where everyone can feel proud of who they are, without fear or shame. The visibility that St Austell creates for us (both on the ground and online through imagery and video posted on social media- our marketing package generates in excess of 2 million people in reach across our platforms) is vital. The story of St Austell Pride has previously and will continue to create huge community interest, as community centred Prides across a region like Cornwall is not being achieved anywhere else globally.</p> <p>We know Cornwall's geography can isolate people. That's why we take Pride to them. Not everyone can travel to one big city Pride so we've built a model that brings support and real visibility into town centres and rural spaces that often go without. We know that St Austell Pride will directly generate community and partner interest which in turn will support us delivering adjacent Prides and events in 12 towns in 2026. Now and into the future each one is shaped directly by the voices and needs of the local community. From Human Rights and Wellbeing to Climate and Creativity, every town has its own focus, but the message is always the same: Love Who You Want To Love and Be Who You Want To Be. Financially supporting St Austell</p>

	<p>Pride ultimately contributes to Cornwall Pride being able to reach people who most need us, not just in St Austell but everywhere across the Duchy.</p> <p>Cornwall Pride has become a lifeline for some and a celebration for all. But none of it's possible without proper support. We've got the community and the expertise, what we need now is help to make it secure, and sustainable. So the question really is, what does it take to create a space where someone feels free to be themselves? For us, it starts with making sure our spaces are prepped and the events and security team has our backs. That way, everything else, the love, the connection, can happen.</p>
<p>How would this grant be of benefit to the community in St Austell? (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):</p>	<p>From previous years we know there is a huge positive impact on local people who attend St Austell Pride, and it can be a deeply personal experience for members of our community. From new art forms they have not come across before to experiencing their first, life changing interaction with the Queer community, St Austell Pride is much more than "just an event". For many local isolated members of the LGBTQIA+ community it's the only time they feel safe enough to simply be themselves in public. You'll hear people say, "I didn't know something like this was possible here", and that's the point.</p> <p>Our work is town-wide. With hundreds of people attending throughout the day and many more spectating or taking part across St Austell as a whole, Pride creates a space that supports local business, bringing increased footfall, visibility, and positive economic impact during the shoulder season.</p> <p>Whilst Cornwall Pride are thrilled to organise loud and proud celebrations of identity, our events are also grounded in supporting the mental health recovery and wellbeing of the local LGBTQIA+ community and other marginalised people here in Cornwall. As there is no dedicated, permanent provision for the LGBTQIA+ community in the county, St Austell Pride is an opportunity to create a space in which people can access support from groups/charities who work with/across domestic violence, sexual health, homelessness, vulnerable people, young people, older people and disability, in one place. We know from experience that many under-resourced people in Cornwall haven't had access to these services before face-to-face and St Austell Pride creates vital opportunities for this.</p> <p>The impact of St Austell Pride is not also limited to one day. The work continues through social media with the legacy of the event existing through the stories of real people which are documented year after year. The event is filmed and photographed from start to finish and then documented and</p>

	<p>archived, creating a resource that will live on for future generations of LGBTQIA+ people. With increasing hostility towards the LGBTQIA+ community in the UK's social/political climate, there's a risk of diverse voices disappearing from rural communities entirely.</p> <p>Each year, St Austell Pride continues to create a real opportunity to tackle this and make steps towards Cornwall Pride's long term mission of building a hate free Cornwall. It builds long-term momentum, with St Austell leading the way, it encourages other towns across Cornwall to step up and celebrate inclusion too</p>
<p>What arrangements do you have in place to ensure safeguarding of children and young people (applicable only if your project involves working with this client group).</p>	<p>Cornwall Pride's Management team have Enhanced DBS checks and we also have a safeguarding lead and deputy safeguarding lead in place within our team and trustee board.</p> <p>Cornwall Pride has a robust safeguarding policy on how we work with children and young people which can be accessed here:</p> <p>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Pxo2D95kzbcNVqvsA3auaA5F1igNi4GntvrWjm07M3c/edit?usp=drive_link</p> <p>You can also access Cornwall Pride's safeguarding policy regarding vulnerable adults here:</p> <p>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1GOq0VflhMJD3w-D5P0IFztdSOBoGnkZAB4OR_TncuE/edit?usp=drive_link</p>

3. Finance

<p>What is the total cost of the project?</p>	<p>£ 7250</p>
<p>Amount of grant applied for (Up to £250) *</p>	<p>£ 250</p>
<p>Have you previously received a grant from St Austell Town Council?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>If "Yes" please indicate: a) When b) Amount received</p>	<p>June 2021, £250, Cornwall Pride Bus Tour</p>

c) For what purpose	
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* Should you wish to apply for a grant over £250, the Council may consider a larger grant in exceptional circumstances, but you may be asked to provide a presentation to the Town Council.

Please list any applications you have made for funding from other organisations.

Organisation	Contribution Sought (£)	Applied (please tick as appropriate)	Granted (please tick as appropriate)
Seasalt	£5000		YES
Watson Marlow	£1500		YES
Stalls	£500	YES	

4. Further information enclosed

Information	Enclosed (please tick)
A copy of your organisation's most recent bank statement(s) (mandatory)	YES
A copy of your constitution (or similar document showing the organisation's status)	YES
A copy of your organisation's latest set of accounting statements (if any exist)	YES

5. Publicity

Please explain how you will publicise and acknowledge the Town Council's grant.

On our website, social media and in our 2026 printed Pride booklet that is distributed to hundreds of venues and community spaces across Cornwall

Please return your completed form to:

Sara Gwilliams
 Deputy Town Clerk
 The Stable Block
 Pondhu House
 Penwinnick Road, St Austell, PL25 5DP

E-mail: sara.gwilliams@staustell-tc.gov.uk

St Austell Town Council



Small Grants Scheme

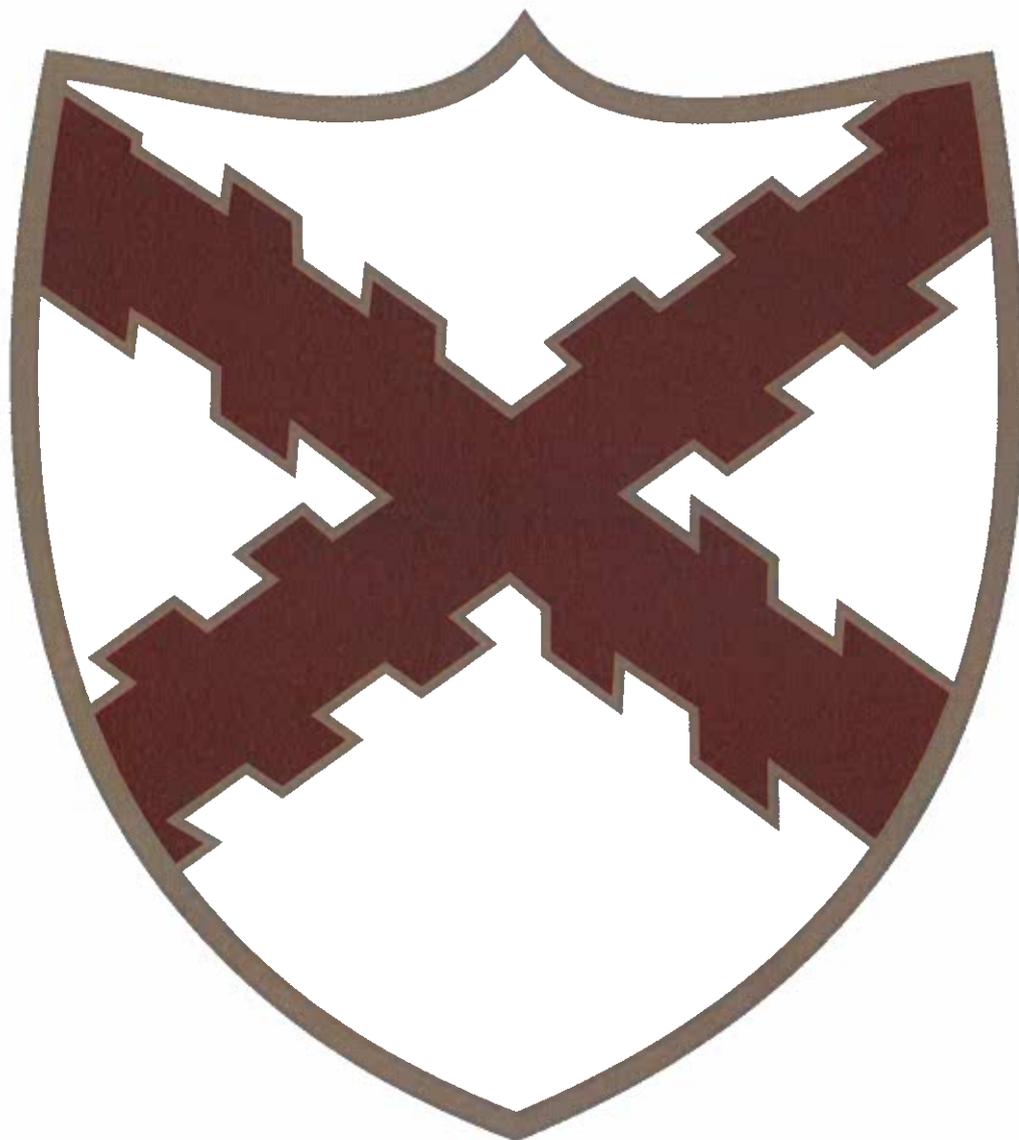
Application Form

PART B

1. Your organisation

Name of Organisation	iSightCornwall
Charity/company number (if applicable)	Charity No: 1108761 Company No: 05357432
Are there any Members of St Austell Town Council on your Committee? (if so, please list them)	No

PLEASE LEAVE THIS PAGE BLANK



What are the aims and objectives of your organisation?

1. Deliver comprehensive, county-wide, and personalised support and information to individuals of all ages at any stage of their sight loss journey, empowering them and their families to confidently navigate the challenges of visual impairment.

2. Promote independence, inclusion, and wellbeing by providing expert emotional and practical support tailored to each person's unique needs and aspirations – enabling full participation in everyday life, including work, education, and social activities. This includes clear guidance on welfare and benefits.

3. Ensure individuals feel informed, reassured, and equipped by offering dedicated customer support, personalised advice from sight loss advisers, and practical demonstrations of daily living aids. We help people understand their eye conditions, access NHS-provided aids, and explore affordable assistive technologies that enhance daily living.

4. Champion awareness and accessibility by delivering impactful training to businesses, public services, and healthcare providers – highlighting the real experiences of people with sight loss and offering practical steps to create more inclusive, accessible services. This includes everyday activities such as using public transport, shopping, and managing healthcare appointments, leading to better outcomes and a more inclusive experience for all.

5. Strengthen connection and reduce isolation by creating vibrant opportunities for social interaction through groups, clubs, and community events that encourage peer support, shared experiences, and active engagement in leisure and sporting activities – all made possible by the amazing, dedicated involvement of the Charity volunteers.

Please demonstrate your organisation's commitment to equal opportunities (please enclose any relevant policies)

iSightCornwall is firmly committed to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion in everything we do.

Our core aim is to support people with sight loss to live independently, participate fully in their communities, and achieve their personal goals. We do this by providing expert emotional and practical support tailored to each individual's unique needs, ensuring everyone has equal access to opportunities in daily life, work, education and social activities.

We actively reduce isolation and promote inclusion by running a network of accessible clubs and activity groups, including BUGS. We work closely with partner organisations to deliver social, sporting and recreational activities that encourage community participation and bring people together.

Our training courses in sight-loss awareness and guiding techniques help the wider community understand visual impairment better, fostering more inclusive attitudes and environments.

Our services are designed to deliver clear public benefit. We support people who are blind or partially sighted, as well as anyone seeking information, training or guidance.

We provide emotional support, practical advice, assistive technology guidance, and help individuals understand their eye conditions so they can maintain independence and wellbeing. By offering open access to support, we ensure our work has a meaningful and inclusive impact beyond our core membership.

Inclusion is central to our culture. We are committed to creating safe, welcoming and encouraging environments for everyone. Our team of employees, volunteers and trustees reflects, as far as possible, the diversity of the people we support and the community we serve. We actively encourage under-represented groups, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds, to participate in decision-making about the services we offer.

We view diversity as a strength and are committed to ensuring individuals can develop their skills and contribute fully regardless of background or personal circumstance. We work to remove barriers in our workforce and remain proactive in reaching out to groups who may be under-represented.

We ensure that people with disabilities are not discriminated against at any stage of employment or volunteering. We strive to recruit, support and develop

individuals based on their skills and potential, making reasonable adjustments wherever needed. This includes:

- Adjusting roles, duties and assessments to ensure fair access.
- Making physical adjustments to our Sight Centre to ensure it is accessible and safe for all.
- Adapting working arrangements so that disabled employees and volunteers are not placed at a disadvantage compared to non-disabled colleagues.

Through these commitments, we work continuously to ensure that equality of opportunity is embedded across our services, our workforce and our community partnerships – helping create a more inclusive Cornwall for everyone.

An example policy is attached: Supporting Employees with Disabilities in the Workplace.

2. Purpose for which the grant is sought

<p>Project title:</p>	<p>BUGS (Blind Using Guided Sights) Shooting Club</p>
<p>Description of project (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):</p>	<p>About BUGS (Blind Using Guided Sights) Shooting Club</p> <p>iSightCornwall established the Blind Using Guided Sights (BUGS) Shooting Club in 1999, in partnership with the St Austell Rifle & Pistol Club. BUGS is one of eight specialist clubs and activity groups we run to support people living with sight loss across Cornwall. All day-to-day activities — including member support and accessible transport — are delivered entirely by our dedicated team of volunteers.</p> <p>On a day-to-day basis, BUGS is run entirely by a dedicated team of ten iSightCornwall volunteers. Our lead coordinators are accredited safety officers, ensuring that every session is managed to the highest standards. Volunteers provide door-to-door transport for members, driving them from home to the club and guiding them safely throughout their time at the venue. They set up and check the range each week, support members during shooting sessions, and organise a pasty lunch and refreshments for the group. This ensures that every Wednesday is a full day of safe participation, social connection and enjoyment.</p> <p>Members use air rifles fitted with electronic acoustic sights. These sights detect light reflected from the target and convert it into sound: the pitch increases as the shooter gets closer to the centre. This allows participants to independently aim and fire by listening through headphones. The club meets weekly every Wednesday.</p> <p>BUGS members regularly enter national competitions, and the club has gained recognition for its inclusivity and sporting achievements and helped set up similar clubs across the country.</p> <p>iSightCornwall provides and funds the essential infrastructure for BUGS to operate safely and sustainably. This includes purchasing and maintaining the adapted rifles and sights, public liability insurance for club activities, Employers' liability insurance for volunteer drivers and coordinators, DBS checks for all volunteers, and the cost of mileage claims @45p per mile for our volunteer drivers to ensure members can attend sessions. Individual members contribute by paying their own shooting membership and range fees.</p>

	<p>In 2024, BUGS was proudly recognised for its remarkable inclusivity and achievements by local Olympian Helen Glover.</p> <p>And celebrated 25 Years of inclusivity and achievement.</p> <p>This £250 grant would specifically be allocated to fund the transport support for the year to help us continue providing a fully accessible activity for people in St Austell.</p> <p>All the grant funding is used to reimburse volunteers for their mileage claims. iSightCornwall does not retain any portion of the grant.</p>
<p>How would this grant be of benefit to the community in St Austell? (please continue on a separate sheet if necessary):</p>	<p>Access to reliable, safe transport is one of the biggest barriers preventing people with sight loss from taking part in any local sport, social activities and community life. Most of our BUGS members are unable to travel independently. Without supported transport, most members simply would not be able to attend.</p> <p>This grant would directly benefit people with sight loss in the St Austell community by helping us continue to provide door-to-door volunteer transport for BUGS members. Our volunteer drivers are more than just transport providers — they are trusted companions who guide members safely from their homes, support them throughout the session, and remain at the club all day to ensure everyone feels confident and included. By removing the travel barrier, members can take part in a full day of sport, social interaction and peer support every Wednesday. For many, BUGS is the only regular activity they can access independently and safely.</p> <p>There is also a very strong and long-standing connection with the main St Austell Rifle & Pistol Club. They are exceptionally supportive of BUGS and recently refurbished one of their shooting ranges specifically for our members, adapting it to make the space safer, more comfortable and more accessible. Their commitment ensures that BUGS members feel fully welcomed within the wider shooting community and have a high-quality environment in which to participate and progress.</p>
<p>What arrangements do you have in place to ensure safeguarding of children and young</p>	<p>Not applicable for this project.</p>

people (applicable only if your project involves working with this client group).	
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3. Finance

What is the total cost of the project?	£1,000 annually
Amount of grant applied for (Up to £250) *	£250
Have you previously received a grant from St Austell Town Council?	Yes
If "Yes" please indicate: a) When b) Amount received c) For what purpose	2017 £250 Community Outreach 2019 £500 Community Outreach

* Should you wish to apply for a grant over £250, the Council may consider a larger grant in exceptional circumstances, but you may be asked to provide a presentation to the Town Council.

Please list any applications you have made for funding from other organisations.

Organisation	Contribution Sought (£)	Applied (please tick as appropriate)	Granted (please tick as appropriate)
Public donations	£250	-	£250
Collection Tins and Used Stamps	£300	-	£300

4. Further information enclosed

Information	Enclosed (please tick)
A copy of your organisation's most recent bank statement(s) (mandatory)	x
A copy of your constitution (or similar document showing the organisation's status)	x
A copy of your organisation's latest set of accounting statements (if any exist)	x

5. Publicity

Please explain how you will publicise and acknowledge the Town Council's grant.

We will acknowledge St Austell Town Council's support across all of our communication channels. iSightCornwall is very active on social media, particularly [Facebook](#), where we regularly share updates about our clubs and volunteer activities. We would publish a dedicated post recognising the Council's grant and highlighting its impact on our BUGS members.

All supporters are also formally acknowledged in our [bi-annual magazine \(p11\)](#) and, our annual report and on our website.

In addition, we would be happy to recognise the Council's support at BUGS sessions and events, and to provide updates or photographs demonstrating the difference the grant has made for our members in St Austell.

Please return your completed form to:

Sara Gwilliams
Deputy Town Clerk
The Stable Block
Pondhu House
Penwinnick Road, St Austell, PL25 5DP

E-mail: sara.gwilliams@staustell-tc.gov.uk

