

BELPER TOWN COUNCIL

APPLICATION FOR SMALL ONE OFF GRANT

1. NAME of ORGANISATION: Transition Belper – AMOS (Alton Manor Open Space) Volunteers

2. NAME and ADDRESS of CONTACT:

Julie Wozniczka
29 Mill Lane
Belper DE56 1LG

3. POSITION in ORGANISATION: Co-Ordinator of the AMOS Volunteers

TELEPHONE Daytime: 07452 967730 _ _ _ _ _ Evenings:

EMAIL: julie@wozniczka.co.uk _____

4. Briefly Outline what the current activities of your group are:

The AMOS Volunteers will look after Alton Manor Open Space (AMOS) as a project under the auspices of Transition Belper (TB) in a similar way to how the Belper Parks volunteers work.

AMOS is a hidden gem. Close to the football pitch and swings there is a lovely tranquil area, rich in wildlife and bigger than 4 football pitches along Coppice Brook close to Whitemoor Rec, between Nailers Way, Gregory's Way and Whitemoor Lane in Belper. It is quite overgrown and inaccessible and most people walk past along the path without seeing what lies beyond.

AMOS volunteers, as part of TB, are working in partnership with land owners AVBC so that **Alton Manor Open Space will be a welcoming, wildlife-rich and enjoyable open space and a wide range of people will be involved, including people who face difficulties and disadvantages.** We will

1. Look after Alton Manor Open Space, in liaison with AVBC.
2. Carry out conservation activities such as removing invasive Himalayan Balsam at Alton Manor.
3. Improve access by cutting back vegetation encroaching on paths, and possibly installing interpretation.
4. Involve the local community including people of all ages and abilities.
5. Carry out stream restoration projects where feasible, securing funding for this through other sources.

This project builds on work done at the site by Julie when she worked at Trent Rivers Trust as part of 'The River Starts Here' which was supported by BTC and AVBC.

We aim to be an accessible, friendly group who will meet at least monthly to carry out the above activities.

5. How many people are currently involved in the running of your group?

Employed full-time worker	0	Volunteers.....5	<input type="text"/>
Employed part-time worker	0	Members	<input type="text"/>
Support or external worker	0	Informal helpers	<input type="text"/>

Committee Members: Transition Belper Committee structure

Others (please state)

6. What will the grant be used for, how are you going to do it and where?

This grant will fund publicity, tools, safety equipment etc. so that we can get started and welcome people to carry out the activities outlined above.

We want to involve a wide range of people, not just those who see themselves as able-bodied and 'outdoorsy'. This will mean providing some tools, wellies and waterproofs as they won't all have their own. We want to provide hot drinks so will need flasks too (Kelly kettles would take too much time out of a session). Basically, if you want to attract people who wouldn't normally do this sort of thing, you have to make sure they are as comfortable and happy as possible and cheer them up and appreciate their efforts with hot drinks and biscuits.

We are planning a public 'taster session' on March 13th to draw people in and gauge interest. Leaflets in local streets and temporary signs at the site will publicise it. From this, we aim to hold regular monthly volunteer sessions, with maybe a public event such as a picnic in summer. We will also reach to out adults with learning difficulties from the Whitemoor Centre as it is so local.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary

7. When will the project start: Month March Year_ 2022

8. When will the project finish: Indefinite. This small investment will allow for considerable ongoing benefit.

9. Where will your project take place – address and postcode, if different from the contact address given:

Alton Manor Open Space DE56 0HX

10. How will you advertise the project and encourage involvement?

To start the group, a small number of volunteers are planning a 'taster session' and will deliver 1000 leaflets in neighbouring streets to advertise it, as well as putting up temporary signs at AMOS for a range of activities and issues.

This grant will also fund a portable sign put up during sessions to tell the public who we are and encourage them to talk to us and find out more and get involved.

TB will advertise the group on its website

BTC will promote the group to the Youth Council and would be very welcome to advertise it generally.

11. Do you work with any other groups or agencies? If so, please outline how you work together:

Julie has liaised with BTC, who have been encouraging throughout and some councillors have been to visit the site.

Transition Belper provides support, organisational structure and experience, insurance, publicity and trustees.

AVBC – partnership by which they continue maintenance of sports pitches and changing rooms. They are very positive about the project and have agreed to:

- allow AMOS Vols to use toilets for activities to make them more accessible
- carry out some tasks with mechanised equipment eg they have removed a fallen branch which blocked access, will mechanically clear a path with a heavy duty mower and are looking into removing low stumps which pose tripping hazards and repairing some derelict steps.
- explore whether Groundwork can work with this project as they do with volunteer groups on other AVBC sites.

AMOSVols will focus on making some of the harder to reach places more accessible using hand tools and on ongoing maintenance of access, litter picking etc.

We have liaised with Trent Rivers Trust and the AMOSVols work will build on what TRT has achieved there in recent years.

We have spoken to the Whitemoor Centre aiming to involve people with learning disabilities who use the centre. During the pandemic this has not been possible but staff have said that normally it would be a good opportunity for their people so we will continue to liaise with them.

Julie has a good working relationship with Derbyshire Adult Community Education Service (DACES) from her previous work here. A group of 17 to 19 year olds from around Amber Valley who would otherwise not be in education or training has been involved and we would like to do this again.

As we move forward we would like to reach out to other community groups, the Youth Forum and scout and guide groups.

12. How do you know that the project is needed?

The response to the work done to date by Trent Rivers Trust, and various conversations with various local residents have all been positive.

The example of the Parks Volunteers shows how a green space can be made much more welcoming and enjoyable and we would hope to achieve similar results eventually at AMOS.

At the taster event we will be consulting local people about what they like/don't like about AMOS and what they would like to see and would be guided by this, alongside ecological understanding.

13. How many people will benefit from the project/grant?

Estimate:

20 or more local volunteers through taster day and direct involvement
6-10 people from Whitemoor
6-10 people from DACES
General public – 30 people per day benefit from the improved access, hundreds or thousands per year.

14. Who will benefit from the project/grant in Belper Parish?

The volunteers and most of the general public will be from Belper Parish. The Whitemoor people will attend the day centre in the parish and some will live locally, while the DACES group will be more widespread.

15. How will they benefit from the project/grant?

Public - more green space to enjoy in Belper, with well-known physical and mental health benefits
Volunteers – physical and mental health benefits, pride in local area and their part in, social benefits, learning new skills, gaining confidence.
We are keen to involve volunteers who would not normally see themselves doing things like this. Experience at TRT is that people feed back that they can gain a great deal from this experience.

16. Describe how the project/grant will benefit people with a Disabling Condition?

AMOS will be more accessible for all, though care will be taken to ensure that some areas are still prioritised for wildlife. There will be better visual access into parts of AMOS which are less accessible because of boggy ground conditions so more people with mobility difficulties will still be able to enjoy it.

The ethos of all volunteer activities will be to be respectful and accessible to a wide range of people including those with disabling conditions, and adjustments will be made to maximise inclusivity, depending on people's needs. Publicity will encourage involvement by all.

A) Please confirm that you have carried out the Accessibility Training referred to in Section 9 of the notes below

I have, and would encourage our volunteers to do this training too.

B) Please confirm you have completed the Questionnaire referred to in Section 9 of the notes below

I have

17. How will you show that your project/grant has made a difference? We aim to gather baseline information by consulting people at the taster event. By analysing this we can set priorities along with ways of gauging progress. This can include:

Photos (Before and after)

Simple surveys before and after volunteer sessions

With this grant to 'kick start' us, we may be able to apply for further funding from other sources (Julie has succeeded in the past in securing such funding) eg Lottery Fund for specific projects such as further access improvements like a small bridge or boardwalk over muddy areas.

We could quantify such funding and show the outcomes of it.

Restoration of the stream to a more natural course which would be more enjoyable and better for wildlife is also possible in partnership with Trent Rivers Trust. (It's currently largely in a concrete channel)

18. How much will your project cost in total?
Including other grants as above, this could be £50,000

19. How much do you require from Belper Town Council? : £1000

20. Where will the rest of your funding come from – if applicable? up to £130 from TB for a print run of leaflets and hi-viz vests for volunteers. TB will also cover insurance costs (which would otherwise cost £100s). Private donations of refreshments for sessions and occasional expenses.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary

Please provide breakdown of items required:

Item Description	Quote Y/N	Cost £
Tools (loppers, bowsaws, 'hooky poles' for Himalayan balsam and storage boxes) and 3 robust storage boxes for tools and PPE (encourage people to bring own tools but don't want this to be a barrier)	and some est.	£327
PPE – 30 pairs each of leather and rubber gloves, hi-viz bibs with Transition (and BTC?) logos, small number of wellies and waterproofs for people who don't have and can't afford them. Encourage people to bring their own but don't want this to be a barrier. Need a good supply of gloves due to covid security.	Some Y and some est.	£470
Publicity materials – portable lightweight sign put up each session, temporary signs on site for a week or two around events	Y	£155
Other equipment 2 x 5l Flasks	Y	£96
Total		£1048

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary

21. How is your project responding to climate change and the global climate emergency?

By making a local area more appealing we will encourage local use, cutting down on car travel to go for a walk etc. Over the years the project will enhance biodiversity and hence resilience to climate change.

We will source second hand equipment where possible and source equipment and supplies locally wherever possible too.

Tree growth will be encouraged, though it's true certain branches will be cut back to improve access.

22. How long has the organisation existed and how many Belper residents does it serve:

The AMOSVols were accepted as a TB project in Autumn 2021. Transition Belper was founded in 2009. Transition Belper are a group of local people who, as part of the wider [Transition Network](#) movement, are exploring how to re-imagine and rebuild our world at this unprecedented time of global crisis. Our activities are aimed at making the market town of Belper a more sustainable place for us all to live, work and play, and at the same time reducing our impact on the planet and our individual and community carbon footprint. We currently have over 1000 people that follow us on facebook and a similar number that are registered to receive our newsletters. We would estimate we have about 100 people that are actively involved in activities to do with Transition Belper (whether regularly or as one offs)

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary

23. Explain why this project cannot be funded from your own funds:

TB is run entirely by volunteers and does not have any regular income streams. Our only revenue comes from donations at the Repair Café – which often cover the running costs (<£100) but with little if any surplus overall. Belper Goes Green, a yearly event, pre-Covid also generates some money which is used to seed fund new projects (usually about £100). Since BGG has not been run for the last two years, there has been no real revenue, whilst new projects and ongoing ones' costs have continued during Covid. TB are planning to host BGG in 2022 with the expectation that a large part of their reserves will be needed to finance this (whilst also keeping some funds back for other initiatives)

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary

24. Please state your group/organisation finances for the last financial year:

Accounts date	Month __December__	Year __2021__

Total (gross) income	- £	-----
Total expenditure	- £	-----
Surplus/deficit at year end	- £	-----
Unrestricted Savings/Reserves	- £	-----
Restricted Savings/Reserves?	- £	-----

If you have restricted reserves – please explain what they are restricted for:

Declaration:

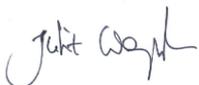
I declare that I have the authority of the organisation to apply for the grant and that the information contained herein is accurate.

Enclosed:

Copy of the latest published ACCOUNTS: **YES** NO

Copy of the organisations CONSTITUTION: YES **NO**

The organisation will, if requested by Belper Town Council, produce evidence to show that the grant has been spent on the declared project.

Signed  _____ Dated _____

- 1 Belper Town Council budgets a set amount each financial year to give as grant aid in support of local initiatives. To enable the Council to maintain proper management of its budget no application will receive more than is requested in each application.
- 2 The application form must be completed **IN FULL** giving as much detail about the proposal as possible. A separate sheet may be attached.
- 3 Organisations applying should attach to the application form a copy of their latest balance sheet and profit and loss together with a copy of their constitution.
- 4 **Completed application forms should be returned to the Town Clerk, Belper Town Council, The Butts, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 1HX and emailed to clerk@belpertowncouncil.gov.uk.**
- 5 The Council's Clerk has delegated power to review applications, request further information, give advice and refuse applications that do not meet the Grant Aid criteria. The Clerk will refer applications to the Council's Full Council meetings on a monthly basis for decision. Applicants will be notified of the date and time of the meeting and be given an opportunity to address the meeting on the application. The decision will normally be made known to the Applicant in writing within seven days.
- 6 Grants will only be considered for projects and proposals which will enhance the quality of life of the people served by the Town Council. Applications from bodies outside the town boundaries may be granted where the proposals show a distinct benefit to the residents of the town.
- 7 Grants will normally only be considered for new / start up organisations and/or projects and/or one off events that meet one or more of the following criteria: The organisation/project or event
 - goes some way to filling in gaps in existing provision
 - is innovative and exciting
 - considers the needs of disadvantaged individuals and groups
 - takes positive steps to promote a healthy environment
 - promotes equality of opportunity and access for all
- 8 Grants will be considered for organisations/projects and events that can either show match funding is available, either through own resources or other grants and that the organisation/project/event is viable without further recourse to Council funding.
- 9 Belper Town Council has produced an Accessibility Strategy and agreed to apply it to every area of its works and the services it provides. Working in partnership with Accessible Belper we want to encourage all organisations in the Town to appraise what they do and consider how accessibility can be improved in relation to people who have disabling conditions. To help you in this process we would ask that you:
Carry out the training – <http://www.accessiblebelper.org/video.html>
Complete the business questionnaire – <http://www.accessiblebelper.org/questions.html>
- 10 Please complete the SLA grant form if your application is for one of the below:
 - fund general running costs of organisations
 - support applications from organisations which then go on to make donations to other charities and groups
 - give more than one grant in any one year to the same organisation
 - give a grant to an organisation that receives an annual grant (SLA) from the Council
- 11 **All successful projects MUST recognise Belper Town Council's funding in their literature and publicity and should also keep the Council informed of the development of the**

project funded by the Council. A timescale for reporting back will be given in the funding agreement.