



Seaford Town Council



SEAFORD TOWN FORUM

2025/2026 Grants Scheme

Awardee Insights



www.seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk



01323 894870



Seaford Town Council

2025/2026 Grants Scheme

In 2025/2026 the Town Council granted £20,528 as part of its annual grants scheme to benefit the town and its residents.

The Town Council would like to thank these organisations for their continued hard work and contribution to the town and are delighted to be able to assist and support these organisations where possible.

Culture Connect Project CIC was awarded £540 towards arts & crafts materials.

Family Support Work was awarded £900 towards the costs of home visit support.

Gardening in Action CIC was awarded £1,500 towards supporting the volunteers working on the Seaford Station planters & other community spaces by providing funding for volunteer PPE, gardening tools and signage for the new Peverells Community Orchard.

Rhapsody Artist Development was awarded £2,880 towards funding to cover the cost of venue hire at St James' Trust for a full year to allow the continuation to deliver weekly singing sessions to young people and maintain consistent session times and durations across all age groups.

Seaford Bonfire Society was awarded £3,000 to pay for medical emergency professionals & help towards the cost of event security.

Seaford Community Events Committee Seaford Motorfest - Seaford Motorfest was awarded £1,450 as a contribution towards the event's public liability, field hire, toilets and first aid.

Seahaven Poets was awarded £910 to put on LitFest in April 2026.

St James Trust (Seaford) was awarded £3,000 to fund the weekly minibus hire for their Tuesday lunch club which is essential to its success as many of their clients no longer drive and are unable to use public transport.

St Wilfred's Hospice (Eastbourne) was awarded £2,000 to allow most people to remain at home when they are diagnosed with a terminal illness.

Teddy Treats Childrens Charity was awarded £3,000 for the top talent programme sponsorship via local after school clubs/support families at Christmas via the local food bank.

The Mayor of Seaford, Cllr Maggie Wearmouth said, "*The Seaford Town Council Grants Scheme is a way of recognising and supporting the wide range of community activity in Seaford. Congratulations to all applicants whether or not successful. Your hard work and commitment to others help to make Seaford a special place to live*"



Thank you to Seaford Town Council for generously funding arts and crafts materials for workshops held at Mercread Youth Centre and Peverells Community Garden in Seaford.

This support enabled the purchase of a wide range of creative resources, including beads sourced from Ghana for cultural activities.

Their contribution has been invaluable in helping us deliver engaging creative workshops for youth, to celebrate and promote diversity.



WHAT WE ACHIEVED WITH YOUR GRANT AT FAMILY SUPPORT WORK

Seaford Town Council generously supported Family Support Work with a grant of £900 towards the costs of trips and outings for vulnerable families in Seaford

TRIPS AND OUTINGS



Phillipa welcomed 25 children and their families to take part in inclusive trips where children could simply enjoy being children. The outings gave families something to look forward to, offering opportunities to try new experiences, have fun together and interact with other families with similar challenges.



CHICHESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION FOR FAMILY SUPPORT WORK | CHARITY NO 285337 |
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE REGISTERED NO 1648903 |
REGISTERED OFFICE: GARTON HOUSE, 22 STANFORD AVENUE, BRIGHTON BN1 6AA



WHAT WE ACHIEVED WITH YOUR GRANT AT FAMILY SUPPORT WORK



Funding enabled families to attend the Christmas Pantomime, the Sea Life Centre, Drusillas Park and Knockhatch Adventure Park, with all travel costs covered to remove financial barriers.

Feedback from parents showed the trips had a strong positive impact:

- 85% said their children benefited a lot from the trip
- 87% felt better able to cope
- 80% reported feeling less socially isolated

THANK YOU!



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GIA (Gardening In Action) CIC

Seaford Town Council Grant Impact Summary 2025–2026

GIA (Gardening In Action) CIC was awarded £1,500 from Seaford Town Council to support community horticulture initiatives across Seaford, focusing on Seaford Station Planters, Seaford Community Orchard, and volunteer support and equipment. This funding has enabled practical, inclusive and environmentally beneficial improvements to public spaces across the town.

How the Grant Was Used

Volunteer PPE was provided to ensure safe working in public areas. Investment in quality gardening tools enabled planting and maintenance work. Funding also supported development of the Seaford Community Orchard, with full installation to be completed in 2026.

Community Impact

Over 600,000 annual station users benefit from improved surroundings. More than 40 volunteers and into-work participants have been supported. Community groups benefit from enhanced green spaces. The full population of Seaford, approximately 23,000 residents, benefits directly or indirectly from these improvements.

Wider Outcomes

Creation of biodiverse public spaces, development of practical skills, increased volunteer engagement, and strengthened community stewardship.



For more information, please contact:

Dan Ori MHort (RHS), MCIHort
Director
GIA (Gardening In Action) CIC
gardeningin.org



Rhapsody

ARTIST DEVELOPMENT



The large grant funding from the council has made a genuine difference to what we are building here, and we are incredibly grateful for the support. What started as a small local singing group is quickly becoming a real community hub for young people, and this funding has played a key part in that.

On a practical level, it has allowed us to secure the hall for longer and with more consistency. That stability has meant we can plan ahead and grow properly. We've been able to open up more classes for different age groups, and I'm really pleased to say that our senior group is now completely full. There is clearly a strong demand locally, and without this support, we simply wouldn't have been able to accommodate as many children.

What has stood out most to me personally is the impact on the children themselves. Singing together each week is doing far more than just developing their voices. It's building confidence, friendships, and a real sense of belonging. Some of the quieter children have really come out of their shells, and parents often tell me how much happier and more confident their children feel. In a time where young people's mental wellbeing is so important, having a safe, positive space like this in the community is invaluable.

The funding has also helped us improve the overall experience. We've been able to invest in microphones and a PA system, which has made a big difference to how the sessions run. It gives the children a chance to feel like they are part of something more professional, especially when we perform, and that really boosts their confidence and pride in what they're achieving.

Another area I'm particularly proud of is how our older students are progressing. Some of them have now stepped into assistant roles, helping with the younger groups. Watching them take on responsibility, support others, and grow in confidence has been one of the most rewarding parts of the journey so far. It's not just about singing—it's about giving them belief in themselves and a sense of purpose within the group.

We've also been fortunate to receive recognition through awards, which has been a great boost for everyone involved and reflects the positive impact the group is having locally.

For me, this project has always been about more than just music. It's about creating something positive for the community—somewhere children feel welcomed, supported, and proud to be part of. The council's funding has helped turn that vision into something real and growing, and I'm excited to see how much further we can take it.

Charity number 1211255



Seaford Bonfire Society 2026

Since the Society restarted in 2011 Seaford Bonfire has become one of the most popular events in the town's calendar. We pride ourselves in being inclusive, diverse and family friendly and we are always looking to bring more to our event making it fun for everyone and bringing the community together.

As you would expect the event takes a lot of planning, in fact we start planning the next year's night almost immediately after the last one!

Putting on the Bonfire celebration is also a major financial commitment. Last year's event cost just over £30,000, which is why the generous support from Seaford Town Council means so much to us. The 2025 grant helped cover our medical team and part of our security costs, allowing us to continue providing a safe and welcoming night for families.

We are proud of our relationship with Seaford Town Council and work with them throughout the year helping them marshal such events as Remembrance Sunday and the ever-popular Christmas Magic as well as helping Rotary with the Seaford Half Marathon. Our members are more than happy to contribute to not just Seaford Bonfire but all events in our wonderful town.

Of course, Bonfire isn't all we do! We host a range of social events all year round, open to everyone. These gatherings bring people together and help strengthen our connection with the whole town.

Thank you

Seaford Bonfire Society

**Supported by
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**Through the Financial
Community Grant Scheme
2024-2025**

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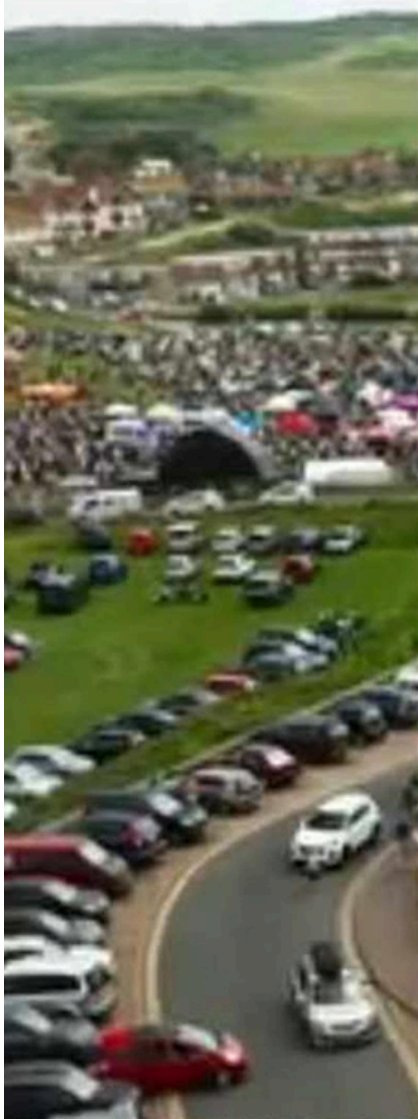
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SEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL



Seaford Motorfest is the second-largest event in Seaford and is proudly organised by the volunteers of the non-profit Seaford Community Events Committee.

Held annually on the fourth Sunday in June, Seaford Motorfest takes place on the Martello Fields from 11:00am to 5:00pm. This free, family-friendly motoring event showcases an exciting range of classic, American, custom, and vintage cars, alongside motorbikes, scooters, and trikes. Visitors can also enjoy a funfair, beer tent, local business and charity stalls, hot food and drink, and live music throughout the day.

Our first Motorfest took place in 2015 and ran successfully until 2019. Unfortunately, the event could not go ahead in 2020, 2021, or 2022 due to COVID-19 restrictions. We returned in 2023 with a bigger and better event for the people of Seaford and the surrounding areas.

As a non-profit organisation, it costs approximately £9,000 each year to deliver a safe and enjoyable event, covering essential requirements such as safety, facilities, and licensing. We rely heavily on the generous support of local businesses, grants, stallholders, and donations. Without this support, the event would not be possible.

Seaford Town Council kindly awarded us a grant of £1,450, which contributed towards public liability insurance, field hire, toilet facilities, and first aid provision.

The event provides an important fundraising opportunity for local committees, businesses, and charities, including Martello Rotary, Seahaven Scouts, local Bonfire Societies, St Wilfrid's Hospice, and many others who depend on the income generated.

Thanks to the support of Seaford Town Council, residents and visitors alike can experience a safe, fun-filled day out. The event continues to put Seaford on the map, generating positive feedback and widespread engagement on social media, with many attendees returning year after year.

Thank you once again to Seaford Town Council for your continued support.

From all the volunteers at Seaford Community Events Committee



Seahaven Poets

Large Grant Recipient, 2025/26

Seahaven Poets were extremely grateful to receive a Large Grant for £910 for the 2025/2026 financial year.

The purpose of the grant was to enable us to put on our annual Literary Festival – LitFest – which we ran from the 14th to the 21st of March 2026.

As a consequence of this funding, together with funding received from the Chalk Cliff Trust, LitFest '26 has been a huge success.

Our spending of the Large Grant from Seaford Town Council is as follows:

Item	Cost	Description
Venue: Florence House	£575.00	Hire of Florence House for a day, to run workshops, a storytelling taster session, and a keynote talk
Venue: St James's Trust	£88.50	Hire of the Lower Hall, to run a Performance Poetry Masterclass
PLI	£202.84	Necessary
Publicity: Facebook	£30	Boosting events on Facebook to widen our reach
Refreshments	£15.95	For the evening session at Florence House
Total	£912.29	

Our events were all incredibly well received, with almost all our reviews awarding us Five Stars.

Some of the comments we received:

“Transformational”

“Exciting”

“Revelatory”

“Magical”

“Inspirational”

One enormous benefit of having the Grant, was that we could subsidise our ticket prices. This kept every event accessible, and – for the first time – we were able to offer concession prices, and a small number of bursary tickets.

This is a key part of Seahaven Poet's mission – to hold accessible events.

St. James' Trust (Seaford)

Supporting Groups & Clubs in Seaford

Registered Charity No 1109613

St James' Trust is a small, local independent Charity and Community Centre supporting Seaford elderly residents and the wider community. We are tucked away on Blatchington Road, Seaford and as well as being a busy Community Centre, we run a Lunch Club every Tuesday.

Our Lunch Club is run entirely by volunteers, and a fresh home cooked meal is prepared onsite for up to 25 elderly residents.

We were very lucky to be awarded a grant from Seaford Town Council for £3,000 in July 2025 to cover the cost of hiring a minibus for 40 weeks.

Having transport available for our clients is essential as many of them no longer drive and are unable to use public transport and, coming to the Community Centre is often the only time in the week when they can socialise and meet new people in a safe, warm and comfortable environment whilst enjoying a home cooked meal.

We have an amazing team of volunteers who give up their time each week to cook, set up, serve food, clear away, drive the minibus and assist with our passengers in the minibus.

Our Lunch Club is at full capacity with over 30% of our clients relying on the minibus to bring the Clubhouse and taken them home.

Having the minibus each week is crucial to the success of our Lunch Club, and we would like to thank Seaford Town Council for their continuous support.

Thank you from St Wilfrid's Hospice, Eastbourne



St Wilfrid's Hospice

St Wilfrid's Hospice provides high-quality care and support for people across Eastbourne, Seaford, Hailsham, Uckfield, Heathfield (and all points between) with life-limiting illnesses. Support is offered at the hospice, in patients' own homes and in care homes. Over 70% of the funds to provide these services come from voluntary donations.

We have faced the most challenging times in the last year as a result of our very real financial pressures. As part of our need to transform St Wilfrid's Hospice and make sure we are here for generations to come, we have had to make some very difficult decisions and have had to say goodbye to colleagues as we have made changes to some of our services including our Care@Home team. Whilst there has been a lot of feedback from the community around this, we are aware that the reason for the strong feelings is due to the enduring connections that many people have with St Wilfrid's, such as through a wonderful experience of care of a loved one.

"It's like we have a big blanket around us. They have been amazing. They are like the hub arranging all the care." Relative of a patient.

Despite our challenges, we remain true to our central purpose of enabling people to live well until the end of their lives and no more so than in Seaford, which is a key part of our catchment area with town residents accounting for 16% of our total patient case load. In 2025-26, our community nursing team supported 180 patients and 40 family members in the town. Additionally, Seaford patients and their carers made a total of 1,581 calls to our 24 / 7 Hospice Line last year.

"They were so, so kind. There was nothing they wouldn't do for her, or me. If you're going to die - and we're all going to die - you couldn't wish for a better place." Relative of a patient

Allowing for modest transport costs of £8 per visit, Seaford Town Council's most recent £2,000 grant paid for 250 (69%) of a total of 362 visits by our nurses to Seaford hospice patients. Thanks to the generous support of Seaford Town Council, we will continue to offer hope, nursing care, support and a sense of community to people like Chris, Don and June.

"Going to different hospice therapy groups helps with my general wellbeing," Chris said. "It's not about getting better, it's about keeping going the best I can while I can and making the most of my time left by keeping as fit as I can. The people who run the Living Well Drop-In group are pure gold and make us feel we are not alone."

"St Wilfrid's offered Don and the family great support from the minute he was diagnosed with Mesothelioma to the time of his passing," says Don's widow, June. "The home support team were wonderful, available for advice and help 24 hours a day. Don had his final days in the hospice where we were surrounded by professional, caring staff. They helped us navigate this difficult path and nothing was ever too much trouble."

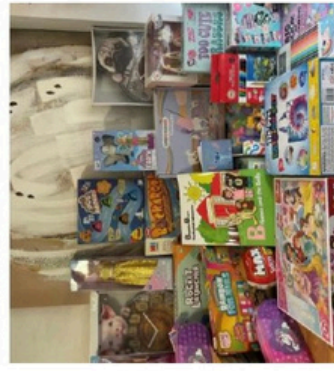
"I have so much respect and gratitude for St Wilfrid's Hospice. The care they have given my family is second to none." Relative of a patient

You can find out more about ways to get involved and keep up to date with our work by visiting our website at www.stwhospice.org or following us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Many thanks again Seaford Town Council from us all at St Wilfrid's.



Thank you to the amazing **Teddy Treats Children's Charity** for their donation of toys to the baby bank. Your support is hugely appreciated



Teddy Treats Children's Charity love the work Bond School of dance do supporting young people to do what they love

HUGE Thanks to @teddytreatschildrenscharity for continuing to support @bond007school



Seahaven Dance 10 Feb

We are incredibly grateful for the ongoing support from @teddytreatschildrenscharity whose donations help our children access dance training. Your generosity allows young dancers to grow in confidence, creativity, and love for dance an... more



Thank you to Seaford Town Council for awarding the large grant to Teddy Treats Childrens Charity. Some of the work we have been able to complete from purchasing toys at Christmas donated to local children, local groups, Teddy Treats Book campaign, free books for children and sponsoring young people in the town do what they love in creative arts.

Please check out our website www.teddytreats-childrenscharity.org.uk and email us if you would like to help teddytreatschildrenscharity@outlook.com We are all volunteers, working with local groups in the community

