



BRAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

THE BRAUNTON EXPRESS

August 2023

Grants for Village Centre Businesses to Enhance Premises

Existing independent town centre businesses in North Devon (including Braunton) are to be given a boost as a scheme that will award small grants for improving shop fronts or other potential enhancement projects has been launched.

The aim of the Town Centre Enhancement Scheme is to encourage businesses to upgrade, repair and refurbish shopfronts in North Devon's town centres in order to emphasise the individuality of the business premises and, where appropriate, the historic character of the town centres.

This is a capital grants scheme based on the award to North Devon Council within the UK Shared Prosperity fund investment plan for 2022/2024 within the 'improvements to town centres and high streets' strand.

The council will contribute up to 50% of total eligible project costs, with businesses expected to match the council's contribution. The maximum grant available is £2000 or 50% of eligible project costs, whichever is the lower amount. The grant is ideal for supporting small repair or improvement

projects such as fascia repairs, signage, painting and decorating, guttering, lighting and more.

We welcome grant applications from small or micro businesses and all charities and social enterprises. Retail, cafés, restaurants, pubs, financial/professional services, tourism and leisure businesses are all eligible for this grant, and other cases will be considered on their merits.

There is an open-application approach with no set deadlines throughout the year, meaning applications will be determined on their own eligibility and merit on a first-come, first-served basis. Buildings eligible for grant assistance from the council are commercial buildings that are situated within the sub-regional centre of Barnstaple or one of the following areas within North Devon: Braunton, Ilfracombe, Lynton & Lynmouth, Combe Martin and South Molton.

The decision as to whether any works proposed are eligible for a grant will be at the sole discretion of North Devon Council. Interested businesses can apply on North Devon Council's website.

Tarka Country Trust Biodiversity Awards 2023

The Awards are for individuals and community groups to carry out projects to help local wildlife. Each award comes as a package, which includes a grant of up to £1,000 and individualised support from the trustees.

The awards cover two themes:

- * **Addressing the loss of localised biodiversity**
- * **Reversing the decline of Devon's primroses**



The Trust would be pleased to receive applications from:

- * owners of land, which is of poor value in terms of biodiversity which would benefit from improvement
- * groups working together to improve biodiversity within the local area
- * individuals who want to improve the quantity and diversity of local wildlife

In the 2023 awards there are five awards of £500 to be spent on efforts to improve land for wildlife. There are also batches of 100 primrose plug plants for planting in suitable locations.

For each award, as well as funding, each successful applicant will be assigned the dedicated support of one of the trustees of the Tarka Country Trust to provide expert advice and support. The deadline for these applications is 31/08/2023. To find out more and to apply for an award go to the Tarka Country Trust website at www.tarkacountrytrust.org.uk and complete the application form.

Braunton Parish Council



Clerk's Office

Chaloners Road

Braunton

Devon, EX33 2ES

Phone: 01271 812131

Email: info@brauntonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Web: www.brauntonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Facebook.com/BrauntonParishCouncil

Twitter: @brauntonparish

Hours: 09:00 - 12:00 Monday - Friday

Tracey Lovell, Clerk to the Council
Angela Corner, Senior Council Officer

Meeting Calendar 2023

Full Council meetings are now being held back in the Council Chamber and additional meetings, to primarily consider planning applications, are being held virtually.

**Full Council Meeting, 7pm
Tuesday 8 August 2023**

**Additional Council Meeting, 7pm
Tuesday 29 August 2023**

