

**Congleton Town Council**  
**Application for Financial Assistance**

**Part 1: Applicant(s) and Project Details**

<b>Application Reference Number (office use only)</b>	<b>GR10-2324</b>
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1.1	<b>Applicant(s):</b>	Peter Ranson
1.2	<b>Representing:</b>	The Old Saw Mill
1.3	<b>Email Address:</b>	<a href="mailto:info@theoldsawmill.org">info@theoldsawmill.org</a>
1.4	<b>Tel No.</b>	
1.5	<b>Project Title:</b>	Apple juice and cider production
1.6	<b>Project Objectives:</b>	To reduce the amount of apples wasted and left to rot; To use the surplus from peoples' gardens to produce local, organic apple juice and cider. To use the money from sales of the juice to provide community support and facilities in the Old Saw Mill
1.7	<b>Brief Project Description:</b>	This project has been active for over ten years and was originally initiated by the Congleton Sustainability Group to reduce the waste of good apples and use them for the benefit of the town. Originally the apples were collected from people's homes and taken to a farm in Dunham Massey to be juiced. When premises were found the production was switched to what became the Old Saw Mill and equipment was purchased using loans from committee members. Production expanded and is now a well established feature in the town with juice sold in a number of outlets including the OSM café, the Town Hall and local markets. Our juice has won awards. When possible we take back used bottles and re-use them following washing and sterilising.
1.8	<b>Details accounts/budgets</b>	The cost of bottles has increased by 30% since last year. The pasteurisation process is very heavy on power, requiring a 3-phase feed which heats 109 bottles at a time to 72 degrees and holds this for 20mins. We can do up to 5 runs a week. Four pallets of 816 bottles, tops, shrinks with boxes + delivery cost £2302. NB These are the most competitively priced ones we can find. Our target this year is at least 4000 bottles of juice and 500 bottles of cider which will require at least 4 pallets of bottles + tops, shrinks and boxes. We will re-use at least 700 returned bottles.

**Part 2: Cost Details / Resources / Timescale**

2.1	<b>Total Cost of Project:</b>	£2392 (4896 bottles, tops, shrinks, boxes) Cost of power for sterilisation 360KWH @ 40p = £144
2.2	<b>Total contribution sought:</b>	£2500

2.3	<b>What will the money be spent on?</b>	Purchase of bottles, tops, shrinks and boxes as well as power to run the sterilisation tank
2.4	<b>Any ongoing costs:</b>	No
2.5	<b>Details of confirmed match funding include source</b> Cash:  In kind:	The OSM provides the premises, energy costs and water. The apple press relies on water pressure so water usage is high. The water from each pressing is used for washing apples and cleaning the equipment.  All labour is carried out by at least five volunteers who use their personal cars to pick and collect apples if requested and to transport cases of juice to Rode Hall and other markets.
2.6	<b>Resources needed:</b>	Empty bottles, tops, shrinks and cardboard boxes for storage.
2.7	<b>Estimated timescale of project from start to finish:</b>	August 2023 – November 2023 (apple season) August 2023 – August 2024 Sales

### Part 3: Potential Benefits / Outputs

3.1	<b>What are the potential benefits/outputs to residents of Congleton</b>	Delicious apple juice and cider to drink. Fewer wasted apples which would otherwise rot in gardens and go to compost Happy pigs – the pulp is taken by a local pig farmer. Most importantly support for the Old Saw Mill which provides a wide range of opportunities for local people to get support and engage in community activities. It will also support the provision of meals to people isolated in their homes and food bank referrals.
3.2	<b>Are there similar services/projects provided in the area</b>	No

### Part 4: Evaluation

4.1	<b>How will the project be evaluated and who will carry out the evaluation?</b>	At the end of the season the numbers of bottles produced will be recorded and the income from selling them will be calculated. The impact of the Old Saw Mill on people's lives will be significant and recorded through our system of collecting comments from users of our service.. All the volunteers who make the juice are retired. One volunteer sees this as something which gives him a renewed purpose in life.
4.2	<b>Describe how you will promote the Town Council in your project.</b>	We will acknowledge the support of the TC in our newsletter and press releases to the Congleton Chronicle.
4.3	<b>Please acknowledge you have read our Grant Application Criteria</b>	Please see the Policy on our Grants page on our website: <a href="http://congleton-tc.gov.uk">Grants - Congleton Town Council (congleton-tc.gov.uk)</a>  I/we have read the policy: YES

Signature: **Redacted**

Date: 08-09-2022