

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	Installation of cold storage
Applicant:	Farm, Field and Forest Ltd
Address:	40 High Street Lindfield
Type of business:	Butchers
Grant Request to MSDC	£2,000
Total project cost:	£14,000

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To install a cold storage unit in a new premises.

Background

Farm, Field and Forest Ltd (trading as Cottenham's of Lindfield-Craft Butcher) is a small retail craft butcher, with a focus on supporting the Sussex farming community, by both selling produce and promoting the farms where the meat comes from. The business is to soon take on a new lease of an adjacent derelict building. The building will be fitted with a large cold storage unit, in order to store produce more effectively. The main benefit of this will be that the business will be able to use the area to manage seasonal increases in supply, such as the upcoming Christmas period. The new space will also allow the business to expand its venison supply, which is in high demand.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – the ability to store more supply will allow the business to increase its customer base, especially during busy seasonal periods

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – the additional storage space will allow the business to develop its product lines

Enabling more employees to be taken on –

Delivering community benefit – The increased storage will allow the business to better support local farms through increased purchase of supply

Officer evaluation of the project

Farm Field and Forest Ltd fit the criteria of a micro-business with three full-time employees and one part-time employee. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The grant funding will support the installation of a cold storage unit in new premises in order to better meet customer demand. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £2,000 is awarded Farm Field and Forest Ltd to aid in the installation of a new cold storage unit

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	Business expansion including new website
Applicant:	Marvolio's Nostrums
Address:	Furzefield Road, East Grinstead, RH19 2JL
Type of business:	Production of spirits and liqueur.
Grant Request to MSDC	£2,000
Total project cost:	£11,000

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To aid in the process of expanding the business to its own dedicated premises.

Background

Marvolio's Nostrums is a small business which produces and sells spirit drinks and liqueurs. They have had a good response from retailers, both online and in stores who are stocking their products. The products themselves recently won awards at the International Spirits and Wine Competition. Currently sales and supply efforts of the business are constrained by a small marketing budget and the fact that the business is run, and the products are made, entirely from home.

Building on the success of their products so far, Mavolio's Nostrums are seeking grant funding to aid in the expansion of their business and relocation to dedicated premises. The expansion will entail the relocation, development of the website to include an on-line sales function, development of new products, booking stands at promotional events, and improved marketing materials. The business hopes to then take on an additional full-time member of staff. The grant funding will be directed at the development of their website and purchase of marketing equipment to be used at events.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – this project will allow the business to generate a larger client base through improved marketing.

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – the project entails the development of a new product to be sold by the business.

Enabling more employees to be taken on – once the expansion is successful the business plans to hire an additional member of staff.

Delivering community benefit – not applicable

Officer evaluation of the project

Marvolio's Nostrums fits the criteria of a micro-business with one full-time employee and one part-time employee. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The grant funding will support the growth of the business through improved marketing as part of a larger expansion project. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £2,000 is awarded to Marvolio's Nostrums to aid in the development of a website and marketing material to allow the business to expand.

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	Building Renovation
Applicant:	Slake Café Ltd
Address:	20 High Street, Lindfield
Type of business:	Café
Grant Request to MSDC	£2,000
Total project cost:	£28,000

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To aid in the preparation and refurbishment of new premises.

Background

Slake Café Ltd is a new business due to start trading in September. The aim of the business is to set up a small, luxury coffee shop, with a positive atmosphere and 'on-trend' branding. Slake Café Ltd is seeking grant funding in order to aid in the renovation and preparation of its first store in Lindfield. The store will have a seating area and a section dedicated to the sale of branded products such as re-usable cups and coffee samples.

Due to the high footfall of the chosen location, the shop will also offer a takeaway service, provided via a sliding window being installed on the storefront. The grant will help Slake Café Ltd fund the purchase and installation of the coffee machines, necessary for the business.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – the preparation of premises for Slake Cafe will allow the business to begin trading.

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – a start-up business will begin trading as a result of this grant.

Enabling more employees to be taken on – the start-up of a new business will require staff to be taken on.

Delivering community benefit – not applicable

Officer evaluation of the project

Slake Café Ltd fits the criteria of a micro-business with one full time. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The project will assist the business in renovating the space to be used at its first store. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £2,000 is awarded to Slake Café Ltd to support renovation and preparation of new premises.