

Section 3: About Your Organisation

Name of Organisation:

'Hilda House Community'

What type of organisation are you? (please tick)

Registered Charity

Unregistered community group/Club/Society

Other (please state) **In process of registration as charity or other form of Non-for-Profit organisation**

Do you have a set of rules or a constitution? (please tick)
(please supply a copy if this is your first application to BTC)

Yes

No

Where does your organisation work? (please tick)

MAINLY in the Berwick, Tweedmouth
and Spittal area

Some educational work
Regionally in the North East
and/AND Southern Scotland

Throughout Northumberland YES

Nationally (some educational
areas)

For the most recent financial year please state:

Income: None

Expenditure: None

Year End Balance: N/A

What does your organisation do:

The 'Hilda House Community' was launched at Spittal Community Centre on 9th November 2024.

It is an open, inclusive, educational community, working towards combating misogyny and patriarchal injustices in the churches and other institutions and society generally.

We seek to work towards empowerment especially of women and girls, and all marginalized groups, including LGBTQIA+ groups, those who are elderly and feeling alone, people living with disabilities, including mental ill health and trauma, and people from ethnic minorities. This we seek to do through compassionate pastoral care, creative events, lectures, training and publication within a gentle, inclusive Christian ethos. Our progressive and radical approach to meaningful faith works at the interface of psychology, ecology, spirituality, theology and the arts.



Our logo was generously created by Raine Bryant and gifted to us.

How many people take part in your activities each year?

A nucleus of six people working towards the registration of a charity or other not for profit organization.

Four professional, official consultants. Database of 71 actively interested and involved and others who have asked to be kept informed. This interest is growing.

How many people are involved in your organisation? (Committee, volunteers, paid staff)

As above – all volunteers. We do not intend to become employers.

Section 4: Your Project

A Local Celebration for 'International Women's Day' on Saturday March 8th 9.30am-12.30pm for Berwick and surrounding villages

This first year we are keeping to the morning, hoping it will be the first of an annual larger event. It is taking place at Spittal Community Centre (just up from 'Hilda House', where occasional other events and meetings take place.) We are looking forward to Darcy, the Salmon Queen, opening the event and there will be some stalls of the creative work of local women of varying ages. Women from various heritages will share for a few minutes how the countries they have dual nationality with support the empowerment of women and girls. There will be music, video and hopefully dance from other lands. We would like those who share this special occasion to feel they are connected globally with women and girls who also seek to work to '#Accelerate Action' towards equality in social, cultural, faith and educational areas of life. We will have a moment of silence to remember those we think about, e.g. women and girls in Afghanistan. We want the morning to be a celebration of difference and unity, of justice and equality, beauty and creativity, helping us all to be determined to '#accelerate action' towards equality in the areas we live, work and study and to know we are not alone..



Why is it needed? (include details of any research you have carried out to identify the need 2and describe any specific benefits for the people of Berwick, Tweedmouth and Spittal)

I have been the director of a therapeutic and educational charity in Thirsk for the last 31 years and worked with many people from the North East, and had my home in Wooler, before moving to Spittal. Before that I worked as a youth and community worker and as a priest among women and girls on housing estates, inner-city streets, and country villages. Inequalities, especially through misogyny has been and still is rife, causing abuses of all kinds, spiritual emptiness, mental and physical ill health and suicide. Others working with me have had similar experiences, and we are building on our experience and expertise to make a difference to people's lives, whatever their gender and circumstances. Locally we are already seeing an empowering effect on some residents, including some men, who are relieved to discover 'Hilda House Community' It seems to have given hope for change.

How will you measure the success of your project?

We will measure this project on the day itself with a creative form for people to fill up, perhaps in small groups around a coffee before they leave if they wish to.

We will also be alert to any further conversations about the day and the theme in coming months, and encourage some schools and churches to take the theme forward.

What is the total Cost of your project?

PLEASE PROVIDE A PROJECT BUDGET:

Official Events Pack:

£234

Printing and admin: approx:

£25

Rent, Spittal Community Centre:

£75

Hospitality at 'Hilda House' for speakers and some visitors:

£35

Total: 369

Have you asked any other organisations for help to fund the project? Yes

No

If yes, please give details below

Organisation	Amount requested	Outcome
Berwick County Council Grant	£234 for events pack	
Rent of Spittal Community Centre	£75	
Other costs should be covered by any donations on the day and voluntary gifts of hospitality		

Section 4: Your Project (Continued)

What will the Town Council grant be used for?

Here you should list either individual items you want the Town Council to help pay for e.g. Toilets or insurance or areas of expenditure you want help with e.g. printing or publicity. Do not provide a list of unrelated items and a single cost for them all.

Item	Cost	Purchase or hire?	Town Council contribution
International Women's Week Events pack	£234		

Rent of Spittal Community Centre	£75		
Total requested from the Town Council This amount must not exceed £2500			£309

How will you publicize the Town Council's assistance (for example at the event and/or in publicity or other material)
YES this is important – in our publicity, posters and flyers and facebook, and newsletter and word of mouth and in 'The Point' and church magazines.

What will happen if you are not given funding at this time?

These costs will have to come out of the pockets of those setting up registration and others who offer to assist in this way. It is most likely to be women who contribute.

Because the 'Hilda House Community' is not yet registered it is not possible for us to go for other grants. We chose to apply to Berwick County Council because it is the only event of this kind in the area and important for the residents of Berwick and area to look towards change towards equality for women in the many areas, personal and at work, that local women find themselves in. We are aware of the good work the County Council does for residents and concern for these justice issues.