APPLICATION FOR RURAL RATE RELIEF

Please Read the notes on the back before filling in and sending back this form to: Revenues Services (Non-Domestic Rates), Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QG.

Address of property for which relief is being claimed:

Mailing address of ratepayer (if different to above)

Name of ratepayer: Property Ref No: Rateable value:

Details about your business: PLEASE TICK

Is your property a general store? Yes □ No □
Is your property a post office? Yes □ No □
Is your property a public house? Yes □ No □
Is your property a petrol station? Yes □ No □
Is it the only such business within your settlement? Yes □ No □
Is your property on land previously used for agricultural purposes? Yes □ No □
If your property is not a general store, post office, public house, or petrol station please give details of the purpose(s) for which it is used:

In what way is your business of benefit to the local community:

IF YOU ARE APPLYING FOR DISCRETIONARY RELIEF, PLEASE SEND A COPY OF YOUR AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE LATEST FINANCIAL YEAR.

Declaration: I declare that the information I have given on this form is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _______________________________  Date ________________

Name in block letters _________________________  Tel No. ______________
**Rural Rate Relief**

1. **What is Rural Rate Relief**

   This is a scheme to help rural businesses. There is a mandatory relief which gives some ratepayers a statutory entitlement to 50% rate relief. There is also a discretionary relief which enables a local authority to grant:
   (a) top up relief to 100% to those ratepayers in receipt of mandatory relief;
   (b) up to 100% relief to certain other rural ratepayers.

2. **Mandatory Relief**

   To qualify for 50% mandatory relief the property must:
   (a) be within the boundaries of a qualifying settlement (see below);
   (b) have a rateable value of £7,000 or less (£8,500 from 1\textsuperscript{st} April 2010) (£10,500 for public houses or petrol stations (£12,500 from 1\textsuperscript{st} April 2010));
   (c) be used in whole or part as a qualifying food store or post office (or both), a public house or a petrol station;
   (d) be the only general store, post office, public house or petrol station in the settlement; and

   To qualify for mandatory relief a general store must wholly or mainly sell food for human consumption and general household goods. Please note that, for these purposes confectionary does not count as ‘food for human consumption’.

   The mandatory relief has now been extended to include all “food stores”. A food store is one which wholly or mainly sells (by retail) food for human consumption (excluding confectionary, food for consumption on these premises and hot food for consumption off the premises).
3. **Discretionary Relief**

Local Authorities may grant additional relief to any general store and/or post office which qualifies for mandatory relief. They may also grant up to 100% rate relief to any rural business provided that:

(a) it is within the boundaries of a rural settlement (see below);
(b) it has a rateable value of £14,000 or less (£16,500 from 1st April 2010);
(c) it is used for purposes which are of benefit to the local community;
(d) it is reasonable for the Council to make such a decision having regard to the interests of council tax payers.

4. **Which areas qualify as rural settlements?**

Ashby, Burgh Castle, Filby, Fleggburgh, Fritton, Mautby, Ormesby St Michael, Repps, Rollesby, St Olaves, Scratby, Somerton, Stokesby with Herringby, Thurne, West Caister, Winterton-on-Sea.

The following areas do not qualify, either because they have not been designated by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions as rural or because they have a population in excess of 3,000.

Belton, Bradwell, Caister-on-Sea, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth, Hemsby, Martham, Hopton, Ormesby St Margaret,

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