



Organisation			
Name of Organisation	Witney Town Band – Training Band		
Registered Address (including Post Code)	[REDACTED]		
Website	https://www.witneytownband.org.uk	Telephone	[REDACTED]
Facebook/Twitter		Email	[REDACTED]
Contact Name	Eric Byers		
Position in Organisation	Treasurer (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	NO	Registration Number	
<p>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation?</p> <p>The Training Band of Witney Town Band plays a vital role in nurturing beginner and young musicians, and in many cases, it serves as an entry point into the main Witney Town Band. Designed for players at the early stages of learning a brass instrument, the Training Band offers a supportive and encouraging environment under the leadership of Ms Ali Howes. Players can develop their skills, build confidence, and gain experience playing as part of a group. With regular weekly rehearsals, the band helps players progress musically while fostering a strong sense of teamwork and community. As players improve, they are given the opportunity to move up to the Main Band, ensuring a smooth and natural transition. This progression path not only strengthens the Main Band but also ensures a sustainable future by continuously developing new talent from within our local community.</p>			

Membership	
How many members do you have?	18 regular players.
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	All are from our local community.
Is membership restricted in any way?	No. It is a community band, open to all.
What is your annual subscription, if any?	£40 per term, £120 pa.
Are you affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth or other similar umbrella organisation? If so, which one?	We pay membership to the Oxfordshire District Brass Band Association (ODDBA)
Do you have safeguarding procedures in place?	Yes, via Brass Band England (BBE)
Local venue/meeting place (if applicable)	High St Methodist Church, Witney.
Grant-Funding	
<p>Purpose for which the grant is required:</p> <p>Witney Town Training Band is seeking funding to purchase a new tuba, a vital instrument for any brass band. The tuba provides the essential bass foundation that underpins the sound of the entire ensemble, helping to create musical balance and depth. Without a strong bass section, the band cannot achieve the full, rich sound that defines traditional brass band music. Unfortunately, tubas are among the most expensive brass instruments and are often out of reach for young learners and their families.</p> <p>Our training Band plays a key role in developing young musicians and preparing them for progression into the main Witney Town Band. We have a strong track record of nurturing talented young tuba players, two of who have gone on to become core members of the senior band. To preserve this legacy and continue offering opportunities to aspiring players, we urgently need an additional tuba available for use. It will ensure that no interested learner is held back due to lack of access, and it will strengthen the band's overall musical quality.</p> <p>Support for this grant would directly benefit local youth, promote musical education, and help sustain the future of our community brass band.</p>	

Amount of grant applied for		£1,500.00
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?		YES
If YES, please give details	The Training Band was supported with a £500 grant from Town Council in 2024, and £300 in 2022.	
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?		No
If YES, please give details		
Financial		
Please enclose a copy of your latest audited accounts, a financial projection for the period following the balance sheet or a Business Plan if a new organisation.		
Fundraising		
<p>What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?</p> <p>The Training Band does not undertake its own fundraising activity, but we hope that the band will join the Main Band for a concert in the Corn Exchange later this year. Money raised will be shared equitably between the band accounts.</p>		

General

Please provide or attach any additional information which may assist the Council in reaching its decision.

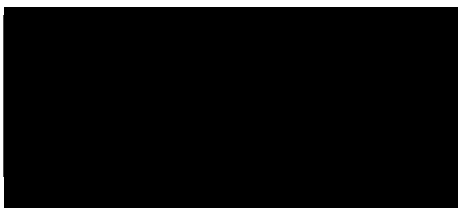
We have given careful thought as to which tuba to buy for Training Band use. In our experience, the cheaper “student” tubas (new price sub £1000) fail to provide the robustness required and are easily damaged, but “professional” models are far too expensive (often £5-8,000 per instrument). We believe the best purchase will be a good quality used instrument.

We have identified a Boosey & Hawkes Imperial model for sale by Rosehill instruments (The Old House, 64 London End, Beaconsfield, HP9 2JD). This is a professional Eb tuba, silver finish, 15-inch bell, serial no.585960, that would meet our specification. Cost £1500.

See: <https://www.rosehillinstruments.co.uk/c/461/pre-owned-tubas>

I certify that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that I am authorised to make this application for Grant-aid.

Signed:



Date: 10/06/2025

If posting, please return your completed application form to the address overleaf, for the attention of the TOWN CLERK

For office use only:			
Acknowledged		Previously Applied	
Grant Aid Awarded/Amount	Y / N	Chq No.	