WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Grant-aid to Local Organisations
APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

(1) Your Organisation

Name of Organisation	APCAM		
Registered Address*	1 THE GREEN, ALVESCOT		
BAMPTON, OXFORDSHIRE			
Post Code	OX18 2QD	Tel No.	SEE PAGE 3*
Contact Name	LAUREN RIDLEY		
Position in Organisation	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	**YES**	Registration No.	1186256

What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation:

APCAM is a small Charitable Incorporated Organisation, founded in 2019, which supports children, young people and families across West Oxfordshire who are affected by mental health difficulties, special educational needs and disabilities, and disengagement from education.

We do this through three connected services, all free to families. Our therapeutic service offers trauma-informed, SEND-trained child and adolescent counsellors. Our parent and family support service helps families secure suitable education, navigate EHCPs and alternative provision, and access benefits and housing support. Our youth and outreach work includes WeGame, our inclusive gaming programme.

Working from Carterton Family Centre and Witney Corn Exchange alongside schools, Early Help and the local authority, we aim to promote young people's mental wellbeing, to secure suitable and accessible education for every young person, and to reduce isolation and promote inclusion for those with SEND or sensory needs, those who identify as LGBTQ+ and those disengaged from education.

(2) Membership

How many members do you have?	No paid membership; as a CIO our members are our trustees.
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	Many of the families we support.
Is membership restricted in any way?	No. Free and open to all families.
What is your annual subscription, if any?	None. All APCAM services are free.
Are you affiliated to a national organisation? If so, which one?	No.
Local venue/meeting place	Witney Corn Exchange and Carterton Family Centre

(3) Grants

Purpose for which the grant is required:

We are asking for funding to deliver five free WeGame inclusive gaming drop-in sessions for young people in Witney during the 2027 school holidays: one in the Easter holidays, three across the summer holidays and one in the October half term. Each session runs for four hours on a Monday, avoiding bank holidays, and is led by two experienced APCAM youth workers, with additional kit hired in for each session.

Proposed dates (Oxfordshire school holidays 2027)
Easter: Monday 5 April 2027
Summer: Monday 26 July, Monday 9 August and Monday 23 August 2027
October half term: Monday 25 October 2027

Costs
Youth workers: 2 workers x 4 hours x £30 per hour = £240 per session x 5 sessions = £1,200
Kit hire: £250 per session x 5 sessions = £1,250

Total: £2,450 (£490 per session)

Amount of grant applied for	£ **2,450**

Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	**YES**
If YES please give details	Previous funding for youth services

Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	**YES**
If YES please give details	West Oxfordshire Youth Partnership funded three WeGame summer sessions at Carterton Family Centre in 2026 (£1,656), which reached 37 young people. WeGame's regular programme is supported by the National Lottery Community Fund (Awards for All) and Cottsway provides core funding for our service. We also have applications submitted or in preparation with Oxfordshire Community Foundation, Carterton Town Council and the National Lottery Community Fund for other areas of our work. **None of these cover the Witney holiday sessions in this application.**

(4) 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.

As a small CIO, APCAM is not required to have audited accounts. Our latest annual accounts, as filed with the Charity Commission, are enclosed. In our most recent financial year we operated with a surplus and no long-term liabilities. Our 2025/26 accounts will be filed by 27 February 2027 and we are happy to share them once complete.

(5) Fundraising

What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?

Alongside trust and foundation applications, APCAM raises funds through regular monthly giving by Direct Debit and online donations through JustGiving. WeGame also contributes to our sustainability: any surplus it generates is donated back to APCAM to fund therapy hours for young people. At WeGame sessions we run a small tuck shop at a nominal charge that simply covers its costs, so that it stays affordable for every family.

(6) General

Recipients of a grant from the Town Council should acknowledge the fact on all relevant literature.

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

WeGame uses gaming as an incluisve, supervised way to reduce isolation and build social confidence among young people experiencing mental health challenges, SEND or social anxiety, and those who identify as LGBTQ+. School holidays are when these young people are most at risk of withdrawing, because routine disappears and free provision that suits them is very hard to find.

Our three summer 2026 sessions in Carterton reached 37 young people - during the heat wave! - with a number of families attending every session, and two families who first came to us through WeGame have since gone on to receive support from APCAM's wider service. As one parent told us, "I wish we had found this earlier, G has never engaged with other young people like this."

This grant would bring the same open-access offer to young people in Witney across the year's school holidays rather than in the summer alone. Sessions are free, need no referral or registration, and are run by youth workers young people already know and trust. We will acknowledge Witney Town Council's support on all session publicity, on our website and social media, and in our annual report, and we would be glad to share a short feedback report with the Council after the final session.

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: [redacted]	Date: 27/10/2026

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.	