



WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Grant-aid to Local Organisations APPLICATION FORM

(PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

(1) Your Organisation			
Name of Organisation	Witney Town Band		
Correspondence Address	[REDACTED]		
Post Code	[REDACTED]	Tel No.	[REDACTED]
Contact Name	Jon Warwick		
Position in Organisation	Treasurer (i.e. Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)		
Registered Charity	NO	Registration No.	
<i>What are the activities and/or aims of the organisation:</i>			
<p>Witney Town Band (WTB) is a community brass band with approx. 30 members, and welcome all new players. We are an enthusiastic group of amateur local musicians who rehearse for two hours every Tuesday evening in the Witney Methodist Hall. We play a wide repertoire of music, from traditional Brass Band fare to the contemporary, and popular movie themes. The focus is always for enjoyment and to entertain an audience, although we also rehearse in order to master the technical challenges of competition test pieces. Whilst competition has an important role to improve playing ability, the main aim of the band is to provide entertainment, and we are proud to represent the local community.</p>			
(2) Membership			
How many members do you have?	30		
Approximately how many of your members live in Witney?	Almost all members live in Witney or in the surrounding area		
Is membership restricted in any way?	No		
What is your annual subscription, if any?	Nil		
Are you affiliated to a national organisation?	We pay membership to the Oxfordshire		

If so, which one?	District Brass Band Association (ODDBA)		
Local venue/meeting place	Witney Methodist Hall		
(3) Grants			
Purpose for which the grant is required:			
<p>(1) To help finance the routine functioning of the band, and the grant will supplement the income received from our performances. There are fixed costs relating to Methodist Hall rental, insurance, and expenses for the Musical Director. Variable costs relate to music purchase, travel expenses, competition entry, and instrument purchase & maintenance.</p> <p>(2) The band will be delighted to perform at 3 civic functions: the Remembrance Day parade, St George's Day parade and the Mayor's Christmas Carol Service are important dates in our diaries. The normal fee charged by the band for such events is £220, and so our grant application this year reflects this.</p>			
Amount of grant applied for	£660		
Has your organisation previously applied to the Town Council for a grant?	YES		
If YES please give details	Previous annual grant application for £500		
Have you applied for a grant to any other body or organisation?	NO		
If YES please give details			
(4) Financial			
<p><i>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.</i></p> <p>As a community society we do not have audited accounts. Neither do we intend to generate profit, or file tax returns. We are not a business. We do produce a Treasurer's annual report that is made available to all members at our AGM (attached).</p>			
(5) Fundraising			
<p>What fundraising events or activities will your organisation be holding this year?</p> <p>A program of performance for both public and private functions. However, this program is restricted in comparison to our performance schedule in previous years and is yet to significantly recover post-pandemic.</p>			
(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.

WTB does not charge subscriptions to its members, but we rely on generating sufficient income through performance. A community band that is free to join, participate in and enjoy is an important part of its ethos. We are a band that loves to perform, be it local fetes, community events, dinner nights, or our own shows. However, owing to the tragic consequences of the recent pandemic, the band's performance calendar has been exceptionally quiet and has this has had a marked effect on the band's finances. Our current account balance is currently approx. 1/3rd of its pre-pandemic level. As the band's treasurer I have some concern that we need a more comfortable "cushion" to meet any unexpected costs, and I try to do all I can to optimise the band's income. One obvious factor is to ensure we are adequately paid for any performance that we undertake, and £220 per local event is our commercial rate that we feel is fair and reasonable. The annual grant from WTC has an expectation that we perform at 3 events during the year, and so our annual grant application now reflects this.

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: Jon Warwick

Date: 23/5/22

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.	