

APPLICATION FORM FOR GRANT 22/23

Please read the policy on pages 1, 2 and 3 **before** filling in the form.

1. Name/Address of Organisation:

..... Weymouth Rowing Club

Supplied

Name of person making the application: Deb Appleby.....

Position in organisation: Member reporting to Management Committee

Contact phone number: Supplied

Email address: Supplied

About Your Organisation

2. Does your organisation:

	Yes
Have its own bank account, which requires two unrelated people to authorise cheques and make withdrawals?	√
Have at least three members on its management committee	√
Have a constitution, terms of reference or set of rules (<i>please contact for help with this if needed</i>)	√

3. Are you a registered charity? Yes:

If so, please give your charity number: 1166755.....

4. Is your organisation part of, or affiliated to, a larger organisation?

If so, which: Member of the Cornish Pilot Gig Association

5. Aims and objectives of your organisation; What does your organisation do and how does it benefit the residents of Weymouth?

The objects are to promote the community participation in the healthy recreation of rowing in Weymouth and Portland District and the surrounding area for the benefit of all-comers and in particular children and young persons, the disabled, persons with special needs and those who are otherwise disadvantaged.

Founded in 2000 by a group of local people who wanted something positive to come out of the tragic death of two young men, and still run entirely by volunteers, the club is committed to supporting the mental and physical wellbeing of its members.

Gig rowing is a low impact, all age activity with a thriving juniors programme and many social, recreational and training rows taking place each week. Current membership is 247 and we offers taster sessions to almost 100 new rowers each year. The club participates in regattas including the local Jurassic League and the annual World Championships in the Isles of Scilly.

More than 50% of our membership is from the DT4 postcode area. Prior to Covid we also had an active programme of schools rowing with All Saints, Budmouth, Wey Valley, Portland Academy and the middle schools which we hope to revive.

6. Where does your organisation meet?

The Boatshed on Nothe Parade as you approach Stone Quay .

7. How often do you meet? ...

There are rows at a wide range of times throughout the week - for example sunrise on a Wednesday, mid-morning, afternoon, post work and evening. The level of activity increases in the summer, but throughout the year there are daily rows with four or more boats in use at peak times— particularly Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Monthly activity peaked in July this year with 223 planned launches (186 actually took place due to variable weather).

8. How many members does your organisation have? 247

10% are U21; 28% are 60+; 65% are women. In addition, we offer training and/or occasional taster sessions to around 100 new rowers a year. Recent analysis shows that 40% of people who try rowing contact us because they have seen us rowing either in the harbour or on the bay.

9. How many people will benefit from this funding?

350 directly as club members or people undertaking taster sessions in any given year. There is a wider group of potential beneficiaries that includes all Weymouth residents, visitors and the tourism businesses within Weymouth. Essentially anyone who walks to the Stone Pier and the Nothe Gardens will notice the further environmental improvement that the refurbished boatshed will provide and can enjoy the bustle of our launch and recovery activities.

10. How many of these are Weymouth Town Council area residents?

More than 50% of our membership is from the DT4 (Weymouth) postcode area.

11. How much funding are you applying for? £5,000.....

The project will enable urgent repairs and an extension to our boatshed – home to two wooden boats, all of the oars, safety equipment etc used for rowing. A secure, dry storage and maintenance shed is essential to our operation as a gig rowing club.

This is a self-build project and WRC members who have the necessary skill will provide the labour. The total project costs are £31,796 and we have a fundraising strategy including applications to Sport England, the People’s Postcode Lottery, Dorset Council. our own reserves and local fundraising.

Phase 1 reinstates the existing shed and upgrades the power supply; phase 2 provides a 5m x 5m extension on land within our lease. This extension will be useful if we are working with schools or other prospective outreach groups for pre rowing briefings etc and allows us to consolidate equipment which is currently stored in metal containers on the quay side of the shed.

The detailed cost breakdown for both phases is attached.

During Phase 1 we will: Remove existing roof covering; Repair and upgrade timber work; Add skylights to improve natural lighting and ventilation; Replace roof with EPDM rubber; Install guttering; Replace damaged cladding on walls; Provide dedicated power supply.

Our current boat shed is located on land leased from Dorset Council. It was built in two parts: 2003 by club members who recycled a former prefabricated domestic garage on the site; extended in 2008 by Dorset Works Organisation and club members. The composite corrugated roof covering is failing.

12. What is the total cost of your project? £31,796

NOTE: Weymouth Town Council will only approve allocations up to £5,000 in exceptional circumstances that are clearly detailed in question 15, with regard to the information in Policy point 6.

13. Briefly describe the project or purchase you would like the funding for:

14. Which of the Council’s priorities does the project contribute to?

- Improve the wellbeing of the people of Weymouth.**
- Manage the Council’s assets and resources responsibly and transparently.
- Manage the Council’s services effectively to meet the needs of the communities we serve.
- Work to become greener and cleaner in our activities as well as supporting our communities and partners to be as green as possible.
- Promote opportunities for economic success of the area.**
- Strive for continuous improvement and service development.**
- Work with partners to deliver our core values and strategy.

We have marked in bold the council priorities that we think are relevant

15. If your application is for between £3,000 and £5,000 please give full details of the **exceptional circumstances** relating to your request. Please see policy point 6 for examples of what constitutes exceptional circumstances

Why it is important to refurbish and extend the boatshed

A secure dry space for storing and maintaining our gig boats and one which functions as a meeting and training space is essential to the continuing existence of this community-led club. The funding will help ensure a safe working environment for our volunteers, continued provision of activities which benefit both physical and mental health and which help tackle social isolation and will enable us to extend access to those activities to more members of the local community.

As a minimum, we need to complete phase 1 of the works over this coming Winter and we could start as soon as funding becomes available. It would be most practical to also complete the extension before the start of the new rowing season next April.

Why we can't afford to do the work without external financial help

Although we had reserves of over £25,000 at the end of December 2022, we cannot afford to undertake this project without external assistance. Once completed the refurbishment and extension will equip the club to celebrate its 25th anniversary in style and to have capacity to galvanise our schools liaison and consider other potential outreach projects.

We have outlined our fundraising strategy elsewhere in this application. It would be extremely helpful if Weymouth Town Council were able to provide a grant of up to £5,000 as this will demonstrate local support for our activities and help to lever in the further funding that we need from national funders such as the Lottery.

What happens if we don't complete these works?

The existing roof and damp proof course have reached the end of their natural life and we have regular water ingress which will result in the deterioration of our wooden boats and oars if they have to be stored in damp conditions through the coming winter. We need to complete whatever works we can with the resources available over the next few months.

Doing the work over the winter season will also minimise the disruption to the launch and recovery of boats for rowing, which is our core purpose.

16. How will you spend the money you are applying for? Please remember that Weymouth Town Council do not normally give grants for running costs unless associated with a specific project:

Item	Amount
Please see attached detailed breakdowns	
Refurbishment	£15,057
Extension	£16,739
Total	£31,796

17. How else are you funding your project? Include grants from other organisations, fund raising and existing reserves:

Source	£	Confirmed?
People's Postcode Lottery (applied 09/23)	15,000	Awaiting decision
Dorset Council Capital Leverage (to be submitted by 12/23)	6,350	N
Weymouth Rowing Club fundraising and reserves (balancing figure but say)	5,446	Y
Total	26,796	

If the Postcode Lottery application is unsuccessful, we are exploring options to apply to Sport England Small Grants / Awards for All. Unfortunately, our project does not readily fit the current Sport England criteria and priorities.

18. How will the funding benefit the community or residents of Weymouth?

Given its location, we also believe that improving the appearance of this area will help in the promotion of Weymouth as a destination for visitors and hence help to improve the local economy.

Our location, and the highly visible and accessible nature of gig rowing means that we can attract a wide range of people to try rowing. We are gathering testimonials from some of our recent new rowers which highlight the physical and mental health benefits that rowing offers – the benefits to older men are particularly noteworthy as this can often be a group that is harder to reach or engage with.

As with the hardstanding project that Weymouth Town Council assisted in funding in 2022, there will be a wider benefit to any local resident or visitor who walks to the Stone Pier and the Nothe Gardens. The improved appearance of the boatshed will enhance the look and feel of this part of the harbour; our ability to continue to store, launch and recover boats from the Nothe will provide a visual spectacle and enhance the bustle of harbour life which so many residents and visitors enjoy.

19. If your project focusses on a particular area of Weymouth, please give the name of the Councillor who is supporting your application?

Jon Orrell is the Councillor who best knows the Rowing Club and supports the health benefits and community contribution that the club makes. A number of club members live within the Weymouth East ward as well as this being the location for the club itself. Our Bosun, Andrew Goss is contacting Luke Wakeling and Graham Lambert as the local Ward Councillors and we would be happy to meet with them on site or virtually to share our current plans

20. How do you know that the groups you work with, or the local community, want this project to take place? Please detail any consultation undertaken:

The WRC committee and volunteers spent several years getting planning permission and then costings for a replacement boat shed on Nothe Parade. The site is particularly difficult to work on, given access issues and the proximity of 100 year old harbour walls. Although it is theoretically possible to build a replacement shed, the shared conclusion, confirmed at our 2023 AGM, was that the costs of rebuilding in that location were prohibitive and the project has been shelved in favour of a refurbishment / extension of the existing shed.

We will continue to liaise with key local stakeholders to progress with this improvement. This includes the Harbourmaster, Weymouth Sailing Club, the Sea Cadets and Dorset Council

21. How will this funding lead to greater self-sufficiency and lessen the need for future applications?

The work is essential to the operation of the Club. The proposed refurbishment (phase 1) will lead to reduced costs for repairs in future years. It is now becoming urgent to resolve these issues to prevent further deterioration and additional costs.

Phase 1 will also help in reducing our operational maintenance costs.

Phase 2 will enhance our capacity to undertake boat maintenance on site, and hence through voluntary effort.

Overall this project will contribute to reduced running costs. There will be no recurring costs relating to this improvement.

22. Weymouth Town Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency in 2019 and is keen to ensure that environmental impact reduction and opportunities for environmental enhancement are mainstreamed through its work.

How will this project help improve the environment and what mitigation measures will be put in place to limit environmental impacts such as use of single use plastics, waste generation, sustainable travel, reducing energy usage?

Gig rowing is a substantially zero carbon / non-polluting activity. The only energy consumed in undertaking the sport is human effort. Many rowers live within walking / cycling distance of the gig shed. Rowers are encouraged to use (and mostly do use) refillable water bottles. During some of the recreational / social rows a child's fishing net is carried on board and we use this to recover floating plastic bottles and other waste from the harbour / Weymouth Bay.

By seeking to refurbish and extend our existing shed rather than build a new one at this time, we are making the most effective use of resources.

23. How is your organisation normally funded? Not applicable to new organisations:

We have a membership of about 250, most of whom pay monthly membership subscriptions (there are arrangements in place for subsidised or free membership for people who might otherwise not be able to afford to row). The fees increased to £15 per month in April 2022.

Our day to day running costs, and routine maintenance are covered by subs – although in 2020 and 2021 our activities were curtailed by Covid and our expenditure exceeded income within the year. In 2022, we were able to hold the regatta again which boosted our funds, but the costs of the hardstanding and improvements to pontoons meant that we again had a deficit for the year.

Unfortunately due to the weather, the 2023 regatta had to be cancelled, and this income is lost for the year. However, subs will cover our running costs, and we are able to make a partial contribution to this capital project from our reserves.

24. What are your current/planned subs/fees/charges?

Since 1st April 2022, our fees are £15.00 per month for adults (previously £12 pm), £15.00pa for juniors, and £30.00pa for youths (16 to 21) and students

25. The Council wishes to ensure that its limited grant budget goes to help those most in need. The Council will not normally fund events or activities for which a charge is made e.g. tickets for a dinner or a fee to attend a club. If it is intended to have a charge, please let us know how much people will be charged to access this project and what steps are to be put in place to ensure as many people as possible from Weymouth are able to access the project.

If a surplus is to be made please detail how and when these funds will benefit the communities in Weymouth:

Not applicable

26. Have you applied for any other funds/grants towards the cost of this project or purchase? Please include details below:

Source of income	Timetable	Max
People's Postcode Lottery	4 Sep	£15,000
Sport England Small Grants / Awards for All (seeking guidance as to which if the above)	rolling	£15,000 / £10,000

application is unsuccessful)		
Dorset Council Capital Leverage	Jan 24	20% of total cost

27. What fund raising activities took place in the **last** 12 months and what fund-raising activities are planned for the **next** 12 months, if any?

Total income in y/e 2022 was 45,025. Membership fees at £32,191 made up 71% of our income in the year to 31 Dec 2022 (2021 : £20,430 equating to 85% of our income). We were also able to hold our annual regatta (income £5,215). This had been cancelled during Covid, and unfortunately also had to be cancelled due to the weather in May 2023, so this income is absent in the current financial year.

A total of £4,200 was raised in grants and donations, of which £3,000 was the grant from Weymouth Town Council.

In June 2023 an Elton John themed fundraising evening generated £1,120 for club funds

28. Anticipated income/expenditure for the next 12 months?

This will be similar to the income in 2022/23

29. Details of any grants or financial support received from local authorities including Weymouth Town Council in the past three years with dates:

Weymouth Town Council £3,000 – received May 2022

Weymouth Town Council £1000 towards the Melbury Games in 2021

30. Grants from non-local authority sources in the last three years with dates, if you have any:

None

31. Has the project that you want the funding for already happened? No (delete)

32. Will you be passing the funding on to any other groups (except to pay for goods and services)? No (delete)

33. If the funding is for security measures do you have the support of the local police and/or crime reduction officer?

Yes (name of contact) Not applicable

34. If the funding is for work with vulnerable adults or children, do you have the support of either Adult Social Care or Children's Services at Dorset Council?

Not applicable

Please give us details of the bank account that the grant should be paid into if approved (this cannot be a building society passbook account):

Name of Account: Supplied

Account number: Supplied

Sort Code: Supplied

Please ensure you have read the policy on pages 1 - 3 before signing the form.

Checklist (please tick the appropriate boxes)

Have you submitted the following?

- A copy of your most recent accounts (not more than 12 months old);
- Your most recent bank account statement & details of any other investments/savings (not more than 3 months old);
- A copy of your constitution / terms of reference / set of rules;
- A copy of the notes from your last Annual General Meeting;
- Details of your organisation's officers;
- A copy of your safeguarding policy if your group works with vulnerable adults, or children;
- A copy of your adopted equal opportunities policy or statement;
- Any other documentation you feel may help in assessing your application.

Privacy Notice

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), I/We agree that Weymouth Town Council will process and hold personal information about me/us and my/our group or organisation only in relation to this grant application. I/We consent to my/our personal information, including that contained in this form, being stored manually and/or electronically by Weymouth Town Council. It will be held securely and treated confidentially for six years after an application is made. I/We understand that it will only be accessed by authorised staff members to manage the grant application process.

I also understand that Weymouth Town Council may pass details onto an official organisation where required to do so by law or contract. I/We understand that my/our data will be disposed of securely six years after the application and that I/we have the right to correct the information at any time. I/We have been made aware of my/our rights under GDPR.

Declaration:

I declare that the information confirmed in this application is correct and that any grant received will be applied as detailed in the request.

I declare that we have read the policy on pages 1 - 3 and that our application complies with the policy.

I declare that we have included all the requested information. – bank statements to follow

I fully understand that if we do not include the requested information and/or if our application does not comply with the policy, the application may be rejected.

We fully understand that we will need to attend a Finance and Governance Committee meeting to present our request.

Signed:

Name:Deb Appleby.....

Date:19/09/23.....

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Grant applications must be checked against the following criteria. Any questions where the answer is no must be reported to the Finance and Governance Committee meeting where the application is being considered and must form part of the formal agenda items list for that meeting.

Yes	No (investigate)	
Yes		The grant will result in a benefit for the area covered by the Town Council and will contribute positively to the area of Weymouth?
Yes		Does the grant exclude ongoing running costs?
n/a		If the application is for running costs has the applicant included plans for where future running costs will be found from?
Yes		Is the grant for a group and not for individuals or organisations whose function is primarily undertaken by the health authority or Dorset Council's Social Services?
Yes		Is the grant for non-political or non-quasi-political organisations or projects?
	No	Is the grant application for £3,000 or less?
Yes		For applications between £3,000 or £5,000, has the applicant fully detailed the exceptional circumstances?
Yes		Does the application include the required financial and organisational information?
Yes		Is this the only application in this financial year from this group or organisation?
Yes		Is the applicant based in the Town Council area? If not, has the applicant detailed what proportion of beneficiaries of the grant reside in the area?
Yes		Is the application for future funding? (i.e. not retrospective)
Yes		Is the grant for the sole use of the applying group and not to pass on money?
Yes		Has the applicant demonstrated how one-off grant funding will lead to greater self-sufficiency and lessen the need for future applications?
n/a		For applications for funds for security measures, does the applicant have the support of the local police or crime reduction officer?
n/a		For projects involving vulnerable children or adults, do the organisers have the support of Adult Social Care or Children's Services at Dorset Council?
Yes		Will a representative be attending Finance & Governance Committee?

Assessing officer: Helen Legg

Date of assessment: 20th September 2023

Decision (delete as applicable): proceed to committee

Approved as agenda item for the Finance and Governance meeting on: 4th October 2023