

# APPLICATION FORM FOR GRANT 23/24

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

1. Name/Address of Organisation:

Wessex Folk Festival Association  
Provided

Name of person making the application:

Peter Munz

Position in organisation:

Chair

Contact phone number:

Provided

Email address: Provided

## About Your Organisation

2. Does your organisation:

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

3. Are you a registered charity?

No

4. Is your organisation part of, or affiliated to, a larger organisation? No

## 5. Aims and objectives of your organisation; What does your organisation do and

### **Objective**

The delivery of a folk festival (**Wessex Folk Festival 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd June 2024 South Harbourside of Weymouth**) that encourages, promotes and supports live performance of music and dance, especially that which is rooted in the tradition of the area.

Our specific aims are:

- to encourage, promote and support live performance, especially that which is rooted in the cultural traditions and heritage of the area
- to bring together the community of music and dance enthusiasts from around the local area in a weekend celebration
- to showcase emerging professional folk musicians
- to foster the local community spirit by providing a family friendly and enjoyable weekend.
- to provide a platform for young people to play music to an audience
- to celebrate the culture and heritage of the area, acknowledging significant figures such as Thomas Hardy.
- To support local voluntary organisations by using their services or providing opportunities for them to be involved in the festival.

### **Economic Benefits to Weymouth Residents**

It is estimated that several thousand people visit the festival over the two days, enjoying the music, using the local cafes, pubs and street stalls and making donations.

Enthusiasts are drawn from further afield, who holiday in Weymouth specifically to visit the festival. This brings revenue into the town. In 2023, the Wessex Folk Festival Website received over 30,000 visits during April, May and June 2023.

Some 20 Morris dance sides attend the festival. Each side has about 15 people including partners. Some local sides visit for the day but others from further afield stay at local guest houses or caravan/camping sites – again, bringing in revenue.

### **Culture, Art and Community Benefits**

The festival draws local musicians/dancers and their families to Weymouth. We encourage local young people to engage in music and to try their hand at performing. As all good festivals do, it provides a celebratory atmosphere where old friends and families can meet and enjoy the day together. This is hard to articulate - but so important to enhance the social well-being of a community. Festivals such as this are important.

The festival brings a carnival atmosphere to the area - enhancing the experience for casual visitors and their impressions of Weymouth. This cannot be measured - but along with all the other attractions through the summer that the town offers, it adds to the visitor experience for people holidaying at that time.

A recent feature is the emergence of Portland Port as a stopping point for cruise ships. For visitors from the ships, Hope Square is their first entry point to Weymouth. Experience tells us that they love the festival.

how does it benefit the residents of Weymouth?

6. Where does your organisation meet? The Organisation votes in a Committee who are charged with delivering the folk festival – helped by many volunteers.
7. How often do you meet? Once a month. We also meet at fund raising functions. The Festival will take place over the weekend 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 to 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024.
8. How many members does your organisation have? Some 400 people are on the mailing list
9. How many people will benefit from this funding? The benefits of the funding are translated into the success of the festival. No individuals benefit. The funding will provide security that base costs can be met with assurance – rather than rely on business sponsors or collections on the day – which is very risky. With assured funding we can make more certain decisions about booking established folk performers – thus enhancing the attractiveness of the festival – both to Weymouth residents and to people who specifically come to Weymouth to attend the festival.
10. How many of these are Weymouth Town Council area residents? Estimate: 80% . 20% are estimated to be visitors. (Note: we will attempt this year to validate these assumptions).
11. How much funding are you applying for? £3000
12. What is the total cost of your project? £20,300. However, this figure can be adjusted depending on the grant applications. If no grant aid, we will have to reduce the festival to its bare bones – very few professional acts, no children’s entertainment.  
**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:

Hire of Harbour stage, PA and sound engineer

Hire of Security staff

Hire of White Horse First aid team

Hire of additional waste bins from Dorset Waste Partnership

14. Which of the Council’s priorities does the project contribute to?
  - Improve the wellbeing of the people of Weymouth. Yes**
  - 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. Yes**
- Strive for continuous improvement and service development.
- Work with partners to deliver our core values and strategy.

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

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       |
|--|--------------|
| Hire of Harbour stage, PA and sound engineer | £2000        |
| Hire of White Horse First Aid                | £1000        |
|  |              |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>£3000</b> |

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

| Source                                       | £              | Confirmed? |
|--|----------------|------------|
| Fund raising concerts, collections, raffles, | 4000           | 50%        |
| Trade stalls                                 | 5,500          | yes        |
| Sponsorship (local businesses)               | 2000           | No         |
| Merchandise                                  | 1500           | No         |
| We are Weymouth BID                          | £1500          | No         |
| Arts Council lottery fund                    | £7000          | No         |
| Weymouth Town Council                        | £3000          | No         |
| Existing reserves                            | £13800         |            |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>£38,300</b> |            |

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

See the above text. The funding will allow the festival to go ahead with certainty. It is a free festival, so there is no reasonably assured funding stream such as a paid concert. The community benefits by enjoying the festival and being directly involved (local Morris dance teams, local performers and all the many volunteers that contribute over the weekend. Local businesses benefit through additional trade.

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

Cllr Luke Wakeling (WTC) and Cllr Clare Sutton (DC)

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:

In past year, the local businesses around Hope Square and Trinity Street have all contributed to sponsoring the Festival. They support the festival.

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

I cannot answer this question. We are an annual festival. The same funding challenges will confront us next year.

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?

We plan to use reuseable plastic cups – with the Wessex Folk Festival logo on. Happy to take advice on other issues we might improve on.

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

This is an annual event. The funding described above is how we fund the festival each year.

organisations:

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

We do not have any 'charges' as such.

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:

We do not charge for any of the events. The sessions, workshops and the two stages are all free to enter. We rely on contributions and the other funding streams outlined. If we make a surplus, it is normally added to our modest bank balance. We need that balance to protect ourselves for a 'wet weekend' washout -when we would lose a lot of money.

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

Dorset Council community fund round 6. £3000 applied for. **REJECTED**

Application to the Arts Council: £7000. Awaiting a decision.

We are Weymouth BID £6000 (optimistic) – last year they funded the joint use of a stage with Fayre in the Square. (estimated value £1500)

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?

Weekly raffle at Sailors Pub folk nite. Proceeds are donated to the Festival. Two events (a local folk concert and a quiz night) are planned in the coming 2 months. We will be seeking funding from Sponsors and selling advertising space in the Programme.

Annual income is as set out above: i.e £13000. Expenditure on the festival this year is projected to be £20,000. There are obviously savings we will have to make if no funding applications succeed.

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

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

No funding has been received from local authorities.

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

We receive funding from Weymouth BID which has funded the provision of a stage and PA in Hope Square which we share with Fayre in the Square (which takes place the preceding weekend).

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

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

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

Yes: We expect to do this but contact not yet agreed – particularly in the light of the pending Terrorism Protection of Premises Bill

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: Provided

Account number: Provided

Sort Code: Provided

**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? **YES***

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

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

I/We declare that I/we have included all the requested information.

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

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

Signed: Provided

Name: ...Peter Munz.....

Date: ...21<sup>st</sup> February 2024.....

### For Office Use Only

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<br>(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?                                   |
|         | No                  | Does the grant exclude ongoing running costs?   |
|         | No                  | 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?  |
| Yes     |                     | Is the grant application for £3,000 or less?  |
| n/a     |                     | 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?   |
|         | No                  | Has the applicant demonstrated how one-off grant funding will lead to greater self-sufficiency and lessen the need for future applications?                           |
| See Q33 |                     | 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?               |
| tbc     |                     | Will a representative be attending Finance & Governance Committee?  |

Assessing officer: Helen Legg

Date of assessment: 28/02/24

Decision (delete as applicable): proceed to committee

Approved as agenda item for the Finance and Governance meeting on: 07/03/24