

# BELPER TOWN COUNCIL

## APPLICATION FOR SMALL ONE OFF GRANT

---

1. NAME of ORGANISATION: The Belper Children's Book & Arts Festival Association

---

2. NAME and ADDRESS of CONTACT:

Jo Leigh  
2 Mill View  
Belper  
DE56 1FE

3. POSITION in ORGANISATION: Chair

4. TELEPHONE Daytime: 07739 178246

5. EMAIL: [joannaelgar@hotmail.com](mailto:joannaelgar@hotmail.com)/ [hello@flissgoldsmith.com](mailto:hello@flissgoldsmith.com)

---

6. Briefly Outline what the current activities of your group are:

We have recently set up a constitution with committee members dedicated to planning, preparing and organising a wonderful annual event for families in Belper town. The Belper Children's Book & Arts Festival will be a FREE and inclusive event for any local families to attend and take part in workshops, storytelling and visit stalls all themed around books and the Arts. We aim to provide opportunities to inspire and encourage children's love for books and the Arts.

---

7. How many people are currently involved in the running of your group?

Employed full-time worker	<input type="text"/>	Volunteers	<input type="text" value="4"/>
Employed part-time worker	<input type="text"/>	Members	<input type="text" value="6"/>
Support or external worker	<input type="text"/>	Informal helpers	<input type="text"/>
Committee Members	<input type="text" value="6"/>	Others (please state)	

---

8. What will the grant be used for, how are you going to do it and where?

In view of the growing number of published and aspiring authors in our area, we will be organising the Annual Belper Children's Book & Arts Festival, on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023. The event will occur in conjunction with the Belper Arts Trail. We are hosting the event in the lovely outdoor space near the library.

Our hope is that the festival will be both a Book Festival and a celebration of the Arts.

We will showcase local children's writers and illustrators as well as offer an opportunity to connect the lively and growing children's literary culture in our town with the one nation-wide. Local authors Fliss Goldsmith, Sophie Cartmell, Lisa Bentley Jess Bowers and Bernard Mensah all write books that focus on inclusion, acceptance and a broad-minded approach to parenting and life. We are proud to be associated with these exceptional writers and proud to be promoting them, around Belper and beyond.

There will also be a Child-Focused Arts Festival element bringing a variety of local art and culture specialists including drama, craft, dance, theatre and music. We have good connections with Boom Magazine Derbyshire, Captain Dan the Pirate, Belper Library, The Rotary Club, Derbyshire Toy Library, Twistin Tots, Pride in Belper, local dance, drama & karate schools, the deaf community, and Transition Belper

---

9. When will the project start: Jan 2023

---

10. When will the project finish: May 2023

---

11. Where will your project take place – address and postcode, if different from the contact address given:

It will take place outside the Belper Library, on the slabbed square.

---

12. How will you advertise the project and encourage involvement?

We have access and permission to use the active social media platforms ran by Boom Magazine on Facebook and Instagram. We will also be doing activities in the run up to the festival such as competitions in the local schools and workshops/story times in Belper library. We will advertise via the Boom Magazine. We will also print and display posters around town, as this was requested from our feedback from the last festival. We will employ a local social media expert to assist us with the planning and implementation of our digital marketing strategy.

---

13. Do you work with any other groups or agencies? If so, please outline how you work together:

Through our connection with Boom Magazine we have links with a large variety of groups and agencies including: The Belper Arts Trail, Belper Library, Transition Belper, Pride in Belper, local businesses, families, baby and toddler groups and classes, The Belper Rotary Club, and also the local primary schools.

With the success of the first event in 2022 hosted by Boom Magazine, we expect that the Belper Children's Literary Festival will be an annual event that will bring people together and celebrate our local writers, illustrators, artists and their talent.

---

14. How do you know that the project is needed?

The arts in Belper is becoming a vibrant part of the community however it often does not take into account the needs of children and young people in the area. This is why we have

teamed up with The Belper Arts Trail to support the family aspect of the festival. If we want our arts scene to continue to thrive, we must engage the next generation. There has been a gap in arts and entertainment for many, due to COVID. We would love to support and provide opportunities for local artists, writers and illustrators to share their skills.

It is not easy breaking into the market as a children's writer, whether they are self-published or are seeking the backing of a publishing house. We have found that nurturing the talent and enthusiasm of others, brings rewards to all. We feel that the time is ripe to focus on our local talent and raise them up, in and around Belper.

Children's literature is an important aspect at introducing new concepts and people to children. Therefore, it is vital to encourage children's literature authors that come from diverse backgrounds and in Belper we have authors of colour, authors with disabilities, authors from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, who struggle to be heard in traditional children's publishing, which is currently becoming more and more dominated by celebrities. To protect the diversity of children's publishing it is essential for local people and organisations to support and promote our local talent.

Last year's festival proved that local families loved the opportunity to connect with one another and with the arts scene. We expect that children and families will enjoy this spring-time event again and we hope to attract families from the wider area.

---

15. How many people will benefit from the project/grant?

Please see our 2022 BCBF Report, submitted to BTC in June by Boom magazine and also attached, for an extensive list of potential collaborators.

We expect that there will be at least 20 local artists, authors illustrators and workshop leaders present at the festival. We look forward to working with and promoting our new library, throughout the planning and implementation of this event.

Last year we had a constant flow of visitors from 10am to 4pm. We expect that the number of attendees will increase this year between 3 & 500 people.

The Ada Belfield Care Home may also wish to be involved, which would benefit their residents by promoting intergenerational connections and also the café business on site.

This grant will enable us to hire a local person as a digital marketing professional to assist with the promotions.

The young visitors to the book festival will benefit from this project, by being able to discover new, inclusive books that expand their experiences along with activities that will promote reading and books, igniting a passion that will remain for their entire lives.

Those that attend will benefit from exposure to a variety of arts and culture to stimulate their creativity.

16. Who will benefit from the project/grant in Belper Parish?

Any local family in the Belper Parish & beyond will benefit, as the event will be free for all to attend.

This is a completely inclusive event.

17. How will they benefit from the project/grant?

Attending the Belper Children's Book and Art Festival will engage children and families with local authors, illustrators, artists, businesses and services, and with other children and families. Arts and literature have a well-known positive effect on children's cognitive and social-emotional development, especially when those books and arts are known for their focus on inclusion and positive living.

18. Describe how the project/grant will benefit people with a Disabling Condition?

The event will be completely accessible to all, both physically due to the open space we are using, and financially as there will be no cost to attend. We will have story times in sign language by a member of the deaf community, a Ukrainian story to make the story tent accessible to Ukrainian families that have settled in Belper and other languages too. We hope to use the quiet space near the library to create a quiet area for children who will find the festival vibe to noise and overwhelming. Fliss Goldsmith will be promoting her book "The Diffability Bunch" which showcases the ways in which our "diffabilities" are part of us and connect us together. This will be particularly important for children who have disabilities, giving them representation and making them feel included in society. We expect that other like-minded authors and illustrators will want to be a part of this event, thus further promoting acceptance and inclusion for all.

19. A) Please confirm that you have carried out the Accessibility Training referred to in Section 9 of the notes below

I confirm that I, Jo Leigh, have completed the Accessibility Training on 5 July 2022.

---

B) Please confirm you have completed the Questionnaire referred to in Section 9 of the notes below

I confirm that I, Jo Leigh, completed the Questionnaire on 5 July 2022.

20. How will you show that your project/grant has made a difference?

Our visitor survey this year showed overwhelming support and enthusiasm for the project and increased awareness of local authors and illustrators. Also in feedback from our authors, they reported they were able to connect with local people in ways that had not previously been possible. All participants reported that they had sold many more books than they had expected to sell.

It will be a pleasure to again collect and report back on the sales and visitor engagement of the stallholders. We would also like to survey attendees as to their knowledge of local authors and suggestions for future Books and Arts Festivals. We will compile this data again and include it in another post-event report to the Belper Town Council.

21. How much will your project cost in total? : £ 1350

22. How much do you require from Belper Town Council? : £ 1,000

23. Where will the rest of your funding come from – if applicable?

A £250 donation has already been received from Belper Open Gardens. The remaining £100 will be funded from Boom Magazine, food and drink & stall holders.

Please provide breakdown of items required:

Item Description (inclusive of VAT)	Quote Y/N	Cost £
Digital Marketing	Y	£200
Marquee Hire – Story Tent	Y	£400
Print advertising, magazine, posters	Y	£200
Rotary Club Donation for support on the day	N	£100
Decorations, table/equipment rentals/Sound system rental	N	£200
Hire of the library meeting room	Y	£150
First Aid support	N	£100
	Total	£1350

24. How is your project responding to climate change and the global climate emergency?

We are a passionate supporter of the Green Movement. We are seeking advice from Transition Belper for the festival.

Promoting arts and books to children is a more ecological alternative to screens (TV and video games) and allows children and families to lower their carbon footprint by engaging in artistic pursuits and reading, activities that uses less electricity than screens.

Transition Belper will run a stall at the event to help educate families on ways to help the environment.

25. How long has the organisation existed and how many Belper residents does it serve:

After seeking advice from Belper Town Council, it was apparent that the festival would be best led by a constitution rather than a business as it was last year. Therefore as of March 7<sup>th</sup> 2023 the The Belper Children’s Book & Arts Festival Association was born.

26. Explain why this project cannot be funded from your own funds:

The Constitution is a non-profit committee of volunteers. No money for membership is expected and our limited funds are not enough to run such an event. In order to properly promote this event and ensure that it is well-set up and managed, additional funds are required. We have the connections and enthusiasm to make this project happen, but we lack the excess funds to create this event all on our own, and therefore we are seeking financial assistance from the Belper Town

Council. We do not incur a profit from this event, but we would like to run it again due to the overwhelming positive feedback and support from local families.

27. Please state your group/organisation finances for the last financial year:

Accounts date	N/A
Total (gross) income	£
Total expenditure	£
Surplus/deficit at year end	£
Unrestricted Savings/Reserves	£
Restricted Savings/Reserves?	£

If you have restricted reserves – please explain what they are restricted for:

Declaration:

I declare that I have the authority of the organisation to apply for the grant and that the information contained herein is accurate.

Enclosed:

Copy of the latest published ACCOUNTS: No as we have only just established

Copy of the organisations CONSTITUTION: YES

The organisation will, if requested by Belper Town Council, produce evidence to show that the grant has been spent on the declared project.

Signed Jo Leigh

Dated 7/3/23

---

- 1 Belper Town Council budgets a set amount each financial year to give as grant aid in support of local initiatives. To enable the Council to maintain proper management of its budget no application will receive more than is requested in each application.
- 2 The application form must be completed **IN FULL** giving as much detail about the proposal as possible. A separate sheet may be attached.
- 3 Organisations applying should attach to the application form a copy of their latest balance sheet and profit and loss together with a copy of their constitution.
- 4 **Completed application forms should be returned to the Town Clerk, Belper Town Council, The Butts, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 1HX and emailed to [clerk@belpertowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@belpertowncouncil.gov.uk).**
- 5 The Council's Clerk has delegated power to review applications, request further information, give advice and refuse applications that do not meet the Grant Aid criteria. The Clerk will refer applications to the Council's Full Council meetings on a monthly basis for decision. Applicants will be notified of the date and time of the meeting and be given an opportunity to address the meeting on the application. The decision will normally be made known to the Applicant in writing within seven days.
- 6 Grants will only be considered for projects and proposals which will enhance the quality of life of the people served by the Town Council. Applications from bodies outside the town boundaries may be granted where the proposals show a distinct benefit to the residents of the town.
- 7 Grants will normally only be considered for new / start up organisations and/or projects and/or one off events that meet one or more of the following criteria: The organisation/project or event
  - goes some way to filling in gaps in existing provision
  - is innovative and exciting
  - considers the needs of disadvantaged individuals and groups
  - takes positive steps to promote a healthy environment
  - promotes equality of opportunity and access for all
- 8 Grants will be considered for organisations/projects and events that can either show match funding is available, either through own resources or other grants and that the organisation/project/event is viable without further recourse to Council funding.
- 9 Belper Town Council has produced an Accessibility Strategy and agreed to apply it to every area of its works and the services it provides. Working in partnership with Accessible Belper we want to encourage all organisations in the Town to appraise what they do and consider how accessibility can be improved in relation to people who have disabling conditions. To help you in this process we would ask that you:  
Carry out the training – <http://www.accessiblebelper.org/video.html>  
Complete the business questionnaire – <http://www.accessiblebelper.org/questions.html>
- 10 Please complete the SLA grant form if your application is for one of the below:
  - fund general running costs of organisations
  - support applications from organisations which then go on to make donations to other charities and groups
  - give more than one grant in any one year to the same organisation
  - give a grant to an organisation that receives an annual grant (SLA) from the Council
- 11 **All successful projects MUST recognise Belper Town Council's funding in their literature and publicity and should also keep the Council informed of the development of the**

**project funded by the Council. A timescale for reporting back will be given in the funding agreement.**