



BINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

APPLICATION FORM FOR COMMUNITY GRANT AID

Please read the Community Grant Aid Policy attached before completion of this form

Name of group	Bingham Community Big Band ("BCBB")
Name, address and contact information of person submitting the application	Redacted
Membership of the Group	<p>Under 18's.....8..... Residents of Bingham.....8..... Over 18's.....13..... Residents outside of Bingham 13.....</p> <p>The 13 include 2 from Newton, 1 from East Bridgford. However the majority of those living beyond the Bingham Parish are connected through being previous members of the Toot Hill Dance Band.</p>
Information/history about your group	<p>There has been Big Band music in Bingham for around five decades provided by the Toot Hill Dance Band. The essence of the band was to provide opportunities for young musicians within the School to perform on a regular basis but gaps in the band were filled with more experienced adult musicians to ensure that a high level of performance was achieved. These were mostly former pupils filling these positions.</p> <p>The Charitable Incorporated Organisation, BCBB, was only formed at the end of August 2024 when it became clear that the Toot Hill Academy could no longer act as the sponsoring organisation for Big Band music in the area and unless we, the Trustees, acted quickly to form a governing organisation there would be considerable difficulties in maintaining the standards that were being achieved by the last school sponsored band. Indeed a significant part of the local cultural scene would disappear.</p> <p>Our first step to maintain standards was to appoint Tony Farrell as musical director (an unpaid position). Tony was a peripatetic teacher at Toot Hill Academy and ran the Toot Hill Big Band (the successor to the Toot Hill Dance Band on Colin Smith's retirement). Tony is intimate with the capacity of the members of the Band and their collective ability to perform Big Band music. He has the skills to present Big Band Music in a way which educates and engages audiences. He started formal rehearsals in the WI Hut in October 2024. The band first performed at the Remembrance Parade this November.</p>

	<p>We are content that, with our support and the support of the Management Committee he has instigated a regime which combines rigorous preparation, expert oversight, and public engagement, the trustees ensure that the organisation will achieve both artistic excellence and educational value in their performances.</p> <p>The Trustees want to encourage the people within the Bingham Area to appreciate our particular genre of music for all the qualities it has. The best way of doing this is by organisation a range of performances and the Management Committee is already working on a programme of events for 2025 which include performing at local festivals, schools and community centres, which will at the same time promote the opportunity for members to showcase their talents. The Trustees also sees the band playing a significant role in strengthening the bridges between Bingham and its twin town Wallenfels in Bavaria. Toothill Dance Band for many years fulfilled this role and it is expected that the musical exchanges between the towns will continue. Indeed Wallenfels brought its own Brass Band to Bingham to celebrate 50 years of twinning and many members of the Bingham Community Big Band performed at this occasion. We believe that the Band will be important in the future as part of the twinning efforts.</p>
<p>State the purpose for which financial assistance is sought and confirm how much is being requested in grant funding. (costing's/quotes to be included)</p>	<p>We have significant start-up costs in order to replace the infrastructure previously provided by Toot Hill Academy. It will be a continuous process of fund raising to re-equip the band. However we have two immediate priorities.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We need to simplify our administration procedures through the use of IT. As part of setting up the BCBB we became members of Making Music, an umbrella organisation supporting bands and choirs. It has developed an IT platform specific to the needs groups such as BCBB. In order to set this up and get it running we require £259 as set out in the enclosed pdf produced by Making Music. If you require further information please let me know. 2. We require bespoke music folders for the sheet music, currently held in a variety of envelopes, loose files etc. We have obtained two quotes for these from Gresham Books (£627.03) and Discassette Music Folders (£491) and would expect to use the lowest quote. <p>Therefore our application for funding is for £750 which will enable BCBB to move forwards towards making Big Band music in the Bingham Area</p>
<p>Is the group making a financial contribution or providing evidence of any fundraising</p>	<p>The BCBB playing members are seeking to cover all their non capital costs (such as room hire, insurances, memberships etc). We are trying to keep members contributions as low as possible to enable as many young people to join the band.</p>

	We have promises of two donations which should contribute towards the next stage of expenditure on music stands. These are expensive, likely to cost around £2k but it is probable that the donations would cover this. We need to sort out gift aid before we accept these funds which is why we cannot apply them to the IT and music folder costs.
Provide information on the benefit to Bingham residents if an award was made and an approx. number benefitting	We expect the Bingham Community as a whole to benefit from the Band. The participation within the Remembrance Parade this November was an instance when the community as a whole benefited and we expect the BCBB to perform at many community events in the future.
Details of other grants applied for or awarded to the group over the last twelve months	We are at a very early stage of starting up and apart from the potential donations mentioned we have not yet fully engaged in other fundraising.
Please add any further information in support of the application	

SignedRedacted

Date.....18th September 2024.....

If not signed electronically, please print your Name.....

PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF THE LAST YEARS ACCOUNTS FOR REVIEW

Please note that we do not have any formal accounts yet. We have initial budgets for the first and second years but these remain quite fluid as they will depend upon what funds can be raised through performances.