

APPLICATION FORM FOR GRANT 24/25

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

1. Name/Address of Organisation:

Saint Nic's CIC, 11 St Nicholas Street, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 8AA

Name of person making the application: ...Jon Valender

Position in organisation: ...Director

Contact phone number: Provided

Email address: Provided

2. About Your Organisation

Does your organisation:	Yes/No
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Saint Nic's CIC is a community-driven organisation dedicated to fostering creativity, culture, and social engagement in Weymouth. Our mission is to provide a welcoming space for residents of all ages to participate in arts, culture, and community activities. Through a variety of events, workshops, and initiatives, we aim to build a vibrant, inclusive community where everyone feels empowered to contribute, learn, and grow.

Our key objectives include:

1. **Promoting Access to the Arts and Culture** – We aim to make arts and cultural events accessible to everyone in Weymouth, regardless of age, background, or financial situation.
2. **Supporting Local Groups and Artists** – We work to support local artists, performers, and community groups by providing a platform for them to showcase their work. Through partnerships, we offer resources, equipment, and opportunities to help these groups thrive.
3. **Encouraging Social Interaction and Community Building** – By hosting regular events and activities, we create spaces where people from all walks of life can come together, connect, and build lasting relationships. These activities include everything from creative workshops to cultural celebrations.
4. **Enhancing Weymouth's Cultural Offerings** – Our efforts contribute to the cultural fabric of Weymouth, adding to the town's diverse range of events and activities. We help bring new creative energy to the area, enriching the town's cultural scene and making Weymouth a more dynamic place to live.

How We Benefit the Residents of Weymouth:

Saint Nic's CIC directly benefits the residents of Weymouth by providing a hub for creative expression and community engagement. Through our programmes, we foster a sense of belonging, encourage lifelong learning, and create opportunities for people to connect with one another. Our events, which range from art exhibitions to live performances, enrich the town's cultural life and provide a space where local residents can celebrate their creativity and diversity.

Additionally, we help bridge gaps for local groups by offering access to resources, such as equipment and space, that they might otherwise not be able to afford. By offering a collaborative environment, we ensure that Weymouth residents have the tools and opportunities to express themselves, share their talents, and contribute to the town's cultural and social landscape.

Through these efforts, Saint Nic's CIC plays a vital role in building a more connected, inclusive, and creative community in Weymouth.

Have its own bank account, with two unrelated people to authorise cheques and make withdrawals	y
Have at least three members on its management committee	y
Have a constitution, terms of reference or set of rules (<i>please contact for help with this if needed</i>)	y
Is your organisation:	Yes/No
a voluntary organisation without any paid members	N
a registered charity? (include charity number)	N
part of, or affiliated to, a larger organisation? (name)	N

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

Additional Information:	
How many members does your organisation have?	0
How many people will benefit from this funding?	100-1000
How many of these are Weymouth Town Council area residents?	100-1000
How much funding are you applying for?	£1,768.97
What is the total cost of your project?	£1,768.97
Has the project that you want the funding for already happened?	No
Will you be passing the funding on to any other groups (except to pay for goods and services)?	No

4. Briefly describe the project or purchase you would like the funding for. Please include how will the funding benefit the community or residents of Weymouth? How do you know that the groups you work with, or the local community, want this project to take place? How will this funding lead to greater self-sufficiency and lessen the need for future applications?

We are requesting a grant from Weymouth Town Council to purchase a lighting rig for use at Saint Nic’s CIC. This equipment will primarily support Town of Culture-related events and other community activities hosted by Saint Nic’s. Additionally, the lighting rig will be available for local groups to borrow, enhancing a variety of events and performances throughout Weymouth.

This project directly supports Weymouth Town Council's goals of fostering sustainability and self-sufficiency within the community. By providing shared access to professional-grade lighting equipment, we will reduce the reliance on external funding and allow local groups to manage their own events with minimal financial burden. This initiative helps create a more resilient cultural infrastructure, ensuring long-term access to quality resources for creative and community-driven projects.

The demand for this resource has been clearly identified through feedback from local groups, who have expressed the need for affordable, high-quality equipment for their events. Similar successful initiatives in neighbouring towns, like Dorchester Arts’ equipment lending scheme, provide a proven model for the potential success of this project. A recent SurveyMonkey poll, with 79 respondents, showed strong support from the local community, reinforcing the desire for such a shared resource.

By offering this lighting rig for public use, we are promoting greater self-sufficiency, reducing the need for future event-specific grant applications, and providing local organisations with the tools they need to host impactful events. This aligns with the Town Council’s aim to reduce reliance on constant external funding while creating lasting, sustainable resources that benefit the entire Weymouth community.

- **Direct Beneficiaries:** This includes event organisers, local arts and community groups, and performers who will have access to the equipment. If Saint Nic’s hosts multiple events throughout the year and local groups borrow the lighting rig regularly, potentially hundreds of people will directly benefit from the improved production quality and affordability of events.
- **Indirect Beneficiaries:** Attendees of these events will also benefit from a higher-quality experience. If the rig is used for community events, performances, and Town of Culture activities, thousands of residents and visitors could indirectly benefit over time.

Given that Saint Nic’s CIC is based in Weymouth and the lighting rig will primarily support local community activities, it is reasonable to estimate that a significant majority of beneficiaries will be Weymouth residents.

5. How will you spend the money you are applying for?

Item	Amount
Full Portable Lighting Rig inc VAT	£1,768.97
	£

	£
Total	£1,768.97

6. How else are you funding your project? Have you applied for any other funds/grants towards the cost of this project or purchase? Please include details below and include grants from other organisations, fund raising and existing reserves:

Source	£	Confirmed?
Total		

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

Cllr Alex Fuhrmann

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

Saint Nic's CIC is funded through a combination of community fundraising, event revenue, grant applications, and local sponsorships.

9. 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:

Our intention is for the lighting rig to remain accessible to the community without imposing charges for its use. The primary aim is to support free or low-cost community events, performances, and cultural activities that are open to all. We will ensure that local groups and organisations can borrow the equipment without a rental fee, making it available for a variety of events that do not require participants to pay to attend.

In cases where a fee may be charged for certain events (for example, ticketed performances or fundraising events), we will ensure that the lighting rig is still accessible to as many community members as possible. We plan to implement a sliding scale for fees, with priority given to non-profit or community-driven events, and we will work with local organisations to make sure that events remain affordable and inclusive. Our goal is to never allow access to the equipment to be a barrier for anyone wishing to participate in or attend an event.

Should there be any surplus funds generated from event fees, we intend to reinvest them into further improving access to resources for local groups. These funds will be used to support the maintenance and upkeeping of the lighting rig, as well as to fund other community initiatives that aim to benefit the residents of Weymouth. Any surplus will be directed back into enhancing local cultural programs, ensuring continued support for the community's creative and social endeavours.

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

We are increasing our offering and number of bookings/events as we begin to be known as a venue within the town's infrastructure. This includes art workshops, band rehearsals and drama production. Anticipated income - £12K

11. Details of any grants (including from non-local authority) or financial support received from local authorities including Weymouth Town Council in the past three years with dates:

N/A

12. If the funding is for security measures do you have the support of the local police and/or crime reduction officer? Yes / No

Crime Reduction Officers

Name:.....N/A.....

13. 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? Yes / No

Dorset Council Employee

Name:.....N/A.....

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?

- Your most recent bank account statement that relates to the bank account into which the grant will be paid;
- A copy of your constitution / terms of reference / set of rules;
- A copy of the minutes 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.
- 3 quotes for building works

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: Provided

Date: Provided

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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?
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?
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?
Unknown		Will a representative be attending Finance & Governance Committee?
Unknown		Scoring matrix approved by the Grant Subgroup?

Assessing officer: Helen Legg

Date of assessment: 06/03/25

Decision (delete as applicable): proceed to committee

Approved as agenda item for the Finance and Governance meeting on: 26/03/25