



**ABERGAVENTNY TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SMALL GRANT SCHEME
APPLICATION FORM 2020/21**

This application form is to be used to submit an application to Abergavenny Town Council Community Small Grant Scheme. Please read the guidance notes carefully before completing the form.

Completed forms to be returned to Clerk@abergavennytowncouncil.gov.uk or by post to Town Clerk, Town Hall, Cross Street, Abergavenny, NP7 5HD.

Section 1 – Contact information

a. Group Name	Black Mountain Jazz
b. Contact Name	Mike Skilton
c. Contact Address	Rockfield, Church Road, Gilwern, Monmouthshire
	Postcode NP7 0EL
d. Contact email	mike.skilton2@gmail.com
e. Position in Group	Committee Chair
f. Contact tel no	01873 832043
g. Bank Account Details	Lloyds Abergavenny

Section 2 – Tell Us About Your Group

a. Briefly tells us about the activities that your organisation/group undertakes

Black Mountain Jazz is a not-for-profit community group, based at Abergavenny's Melville Centre. It has organised regular live jazz in the town since 2006 – featuring local, national and international acclaimed artists.

It has also promoted the annual wall2wall Jazz Festival since 2013.

b. Charity Details (if applicable)	Charity Number N/A
i.VAT Registered?	Yes/No No

Section 3. Tell Us About The Community Project/Activity You Want To Undertake

- a. Which objective does this project mainly contribute towards (please tick one):
- Giving Children and Young People the best possible start in life
 - Support for community wellbeing inc. volunteering and active citizenship
 - Supporting an economically thriving community
 - Protecting and enhancing our natural environment

b. Please give more detail on how your project will meet the objective you selected above.

Both Black Mountain regular jazz events and its annual wall2wall Jazz Festival are run by a small community group for the benefit of the wider community and as such, are very much part of Abergavenny 'life'.

The 2020 'virtual' festival added extra scope to promoting the host town, which was featured at the start of the 13 videos produced – and widely seen in the UK and further afield.

c. Total Project Cost	£1,380
d. How much are you applying for from Abergavenny Town Council?	£700.00
e. Have you raised the balance of funds? (25% of the total project costs should come from other sources)	Yes
f. Please specify how you will use the Town Council grant?	

The 2020 wall2wall Jazz Festival received a grant of £1,000 towards its costs. This a second grant application to support additional activities associated with last year's festival.

The pandemic presented problems for anyone staging live entertainment in 2020 and that was certainly the case for the wall2wall Jazz Festival organisers. The decision was taken to stage a virtual festival, with filming in the summer and streaming from October to November 2020.

Other key decisions included paying all artists the fee they would expect for a live performance and employing the best technical, film and editing crews around – we engaged one of the best in the Abergavenny-based 47 Studios & Productions. BMJ's wall2wall Jazz Festival was one of the first virtual events to both pay artists and engage professional technical teams.

Thirteen videos were produced and each opened with a few minutes of images and music promoting the many attractions of Abergavenny and its surrounding area.

It was appreciated that the decisions taken regarding paying artists and engaging the technical crew substantially increased cost and that support from local businesses could not be expected during such difficult times.

Our one main sponsor remained loyal, which helped a lot but there was still the issue of raising the income usually provided by ticket sales for live shows and bar sales. The decision was taken to ticket the virtual videos – another first for such events and a 'toe into unknown waters'.

Despite the doubters, we sold about 320 tickets in total and covered a large part of our target income – but fell short by £1,800, which has depreciated our reserves and that will effect the 2021 festival if not corrected.

A bonus of virtual festivals is that they do not end when the event itself does and there are ongoing income opportunities – it is these we are now looking to progress.

We have the signed permission of all of the artists to use two of each of their performance numbers to produce – a) a festival CD and b) a number of mini videos.

We aim to produce the CD first and have established the total cost of producing 250 CDs at £700 – that covers technical, production and artwork issues. The 250 CDs will sell at £10 each, giving a potential income of £2,500 – which if realized, will recoup our current deficit.

The mini videos will be 10 to 15 mins long and each feature some of the best from wall2wall Jazz Festival 2020. They will be freely accessed and promoted widely via Facebook paid boosts. They will also provide further opportunities to incorporate features of our host town Abergavenny. The cost of that project is £680.

g. How will your project benefit the community of Abergavenny?

A virtual festival and its associated activities provide a natural presence for the wider community.

A healthy financial situation is essential for the effective running of the Black Mountain Jazz programme.

Thoughts are already turning to the wall2wall Jazz Festival 2021 and the financial reserves will dictate to some degree the programme of that event.

Many local people enjoyed wall2wall Jazz Festival 2020 and both the CD and mini videos will be widely enjoyed and appreciated.

The Black Mountain Jazz and its wall2wall Jazz Festival are spreading their wings and youth activities are being enhanced – there is now an active youth committee which has recruited two of the nationally known younger musicians that performed at last year's festival.

h. If your project involves working with young people does your organisation have a safeguarding policy?

Yes	No
N/A	

i. When will your project start and finish?

Start date

May to August 2021

Completion date


j. Are there any outstanding permissions i.e. planning permission required before this project can start? If so, please list together with expected dates when permission will be granted

N/A

Section 4

This application is to be signed by a person holding a position in the organisation applying for the grant. Before submitting the application please ensure that you have all the additional information as set out in the guidance.

Signed



On behalf of
(name of group)

Black Mountain Jazz

Date

12 th April 2021
