****

**ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITY SMALL GRANT SCHEME**

**APPLICATION FORM 2023/24**

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 | FRIENDS OF CASTLE MEADOWS ABERGAVENNY |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| b. Contact Name | ANTHEA FAIREY |
| c. Contact Address |  |
|  | PROVIDED |
|  | NP7  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| d. Contact email | PROVIDED |
| e. Position in Group | Chairperson |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| f. Contact tel no | PROVIDED |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| g. Bank Account Details | Friends of Castle MeadowsLloyds Bank |

**Section 2 – Tell Us About Your Group**

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

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| We are an active group which works with Monmouthshire County Council to conserve and enhance the 22 hectare green space known as Castle Meadows. We are also restoring a derelict woodland copse and creating new habitats to increase biodiversity.We work with local groups in the Scout and Guide movement who assist us by taking part in environmental activities. We also work with local primary schools in the same way. We organise walks and talks for individuals and groups on a range of environmental topics. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| b. Charity Details (if applicable) | Charity Number |
| c.VAT Registered?  | No |

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

1. 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 | X |

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

In 2021 the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales stated that much of the wildlife within the river Usk was degraded and deteriorating. One of the main factors in its decline is sewage effluent. The river Usk has the highest level of excess phosphate in Wales(it causes increased growth of algae and this results in decreased levels of oxygen, which kills fish and other aquatic life).

High levels of E.coli from the Brecon sewage out flow has been recorded as x268 higher than the acceptable level for river bathing.

Our aim is to join the group “Save the river Usk” who are campaigning to improve the water quality of the Usk by collecting water samples form a specific site in Castle Meadows testing it, submitting the results along with 80+ other recordings from along the river. The analysed data with Cardiff University will then be used to pressurise relevant organisations to clean up their act and allow our river to restore itself for future generations.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Total Project Cost
 | £315.82 |
| 1. How much are you applying for from Abergavenny Town Council?
 | 167.82 |
| 1. Have you raised the balance of funds?
 | Yes |

(25% of the total project costs should come from other sources)

1. Please specify how you will use the Town Council grant?

We will use the money to buy equipment that will enable us to take water samples more safely. We have already purchased the digital probe and chemicals necessary to test the water.

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

|  |
| --- |
| There should be a increase in aquatic plants sensitive to phosphate such as Water Buttercup . There will be an increase in salmon and trout numbers, which in turn will mean more otters. 90% of water voles have been lost in the UK as they are vulnerable to pollution. Less pollution could mean the return of Water Voles to our river banks. Less E.coli would make our river a place where dogs and humans could enjoy without the likelihood of gastrointestinal discomfort skin rashes, eye and ear infections |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. If your project involves working with young people does your organisation have a safeguarding policy?
 | Yes | No |
| X |  |

1. When will your project start and finish?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Start date  | February 2024 |
| Completion date | Ongoing |

1. 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

|  |
| --- |
| No |

**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  | Anthea Fairey  |
| On behalf of (name of group) | Friends of Castle Meadows |
| Date  | 15.01.2024 |

E06/24: Grant Application from Friends of Castle Meadows

This grant application can be considered under Abergavenny Town Council’s obligations towards Biodiversity: Duty to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the proper exercise of the Council’s functions under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.