****

**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 (FoCM) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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 of volunteers working to conserve and enhance the 22 hectare green space in Abergavenny, known as Castle Meadows. We recently received our eighth, consecutive Green Flag award.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 organize walks and talks for individuals and groups on a range of environmental topics. Abergavenny Town Council supports the volunteers in creating new habitats to increase biodiversity; take part in Abergavenny in Bloom and ‘Save the River Usk’ water sampling. We are also restoring a derelict woodland copse – recently awarded National Forest of Wales status.  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| b. Charity Details (if applicable) | Charity NumberN/A |
| 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.

Information presented 27th November 2024

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Total Project Cost
 | £4,000:00 |
| 1. How much are you applying for from Abergavenny Town Council?
 | £2,500:00 |
| 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?

Big Pond is identified as a Priority Pond - with high conservation status, protected habitat under UK Biodiversity Action Plan & protected by law. has recently been granted Protected Conservation status. Big Pond is in need of maintenance: dredging; clearing the water inlet pipe; removing fallen willow tree branches and clearing excess vegetation from the closest reen, as discussed in the presentation 27th November 2024. This is phase 1 of an extended project over 2-5 years to restore the reens and small pond on Castle Meadows.

The money will be used to hire a contractor to carry out the sympathetic dredging of Big Pond and unblocking of the feeder pipe from the Cibi.

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

|  |
| --- |
| Prevent the loss of Big Pond and the aquatic life it supports. Increase in diversity of aquatic insect and invertebrate life and healthier marginal plants. The area beside the pond provides tranquil seating and is well used by residents and visitors to Castle Meadows. The pond is a popular place for Primary schools to visit & take part in pond dipping. Voluntary groups, interested locals and families take part in events organized by FoCM to see dragonflies & damselflies as the pond is noted, within the UK, as a site of significance for the British Dragonfly Society.  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 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  | January 2025 |
| 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 further permissions required. Monmouthshire County Council’s Countryside Officer has approved the project. |

**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  | 05.12. 2024 |

E115/24: 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.