



COMMUNITY GRANTS FUND APPLICATION

Please answer all questions which are relevant to your organisation – failure to do so may result in a delay in the determination of your application

PROJECT (In no more than 25 words)	Beat & Bells 2026, bringing music, dance, colour, inclusivity and joy to Shrewsbury Square. Celebrating fifty years of Shrewsbury Morris' close association with the town.	GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED	£1446.00
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Contact Details

Q1 Name of organisation making application:

The Shrewsbury Morris Dancers

Name of contact for this application

Title: Mrs

First Name: Beverley

Surname: Langton

Position held in the organisation: Group Leader

Contact Address, including full postcode:

[Redacted Address]

Postcode:

[Redacted Postcode]

Contact Telephone Number:

[Redacted Telephone Number]

Email address:

[Redacted Email Address]

About your organisation

Q2 What type of organisation are you?

Tick (✓) relevant category:

Registered Charity: () Charity Registration Number
Voluntary Organisation: (X)
Company Limited by Guarantee: () Company Number
Other – Please specify:

Q3 When was your organisation established?

1976

Q4 Briefly describe your organisation.

Describe your organisation, including how many members/users you have, whether there is a subscription fee and the usual activities/services you provide.
If you are a new organisation, describe the services/activities you plan to provide.

The Shrewsbury Morris Dancers are a community dance group based in Shrewsbury.

They currently have thirty five members who meet weekly at Prestfelde School.

Members pay an annual subscription, which covers the team's basic running costs such as the hire of the school hall, public liability insurance etc.

The primary aim of the Shrewsbury Morris Dancers is to learn and practice Morris Dance, Clog Dance and play music for public performance and for members' enjoyment. The team hold a firm belief in preserving the tradition of Morris dancing and undertake many activities to promote interest in Morris dancing from both participants and their audiences.

The team have a strong sense of identity with Shrewsbury and are proud to 'represent' the town in and around the county and further afield. They are recipients of two Mayoral Awards: 2014 Silver for Contribution to the Community and 2017 Gold for Tourism.

The majority of Shrewsbury Morris performances are in and around Shrewsbury. These include such things as local festivals, village fetes, community events along with teaching Morris dancing in schools and other settings.

Shrewsbury Morris regularly host their own events eg. dancing in The Square on the first Saturday of July and their well known Christmas Ceilidh. In 2026 they are proud to be celebrating fifty years of dancing and are planning a programme of special events and activities to celebrate this milestone.

Q5 If you are a subsidiary of a larger organisation, please state which one.

Shrewsbury Morris belong to the national Morris Federation

Q6 Does your organisation have an agreed Constitution or Memorandum of Association?

Please state which and attach a copy:

Shrewsbury Morris have an agreed Constitution which is attached with this application.

Q7 What is your primary source of funding?

- Annual membership fees (covering basic running costs eg. hire of practice hall, PLI)
- Small fee for performances
- 'Passing the hat around' for unpaid performances
- Sponsorship through social media accounts

No one is precluded from being a member of Shrewsbury Morris due to personal financial circumstances.

Shrewsbury Morris often support local and charity events with free performances.

Details of the project or activity you are planning

Q8 Describe the projects/activity you plan to use this grant for.

- i. Try to be specific about what you will do and how you will do it.

Shrewsbury Morris are planning Beat & Bells 2026 which will bring music, dance, song and colour to The Square in Shrewsbury on Saturday 4th July 2026.

Beat & Bells will demonstrate inclusivity, joy and diversity along with celebrating tradition and culture. It is part of a programme of events by Shrewsbury Morris to celebrate their fifty years of dancing.

The event in The Square will include Zulu Tradition, Identity Dance, Septimus the Giant Shrewsbury Cobbler, Shrewsbury Morris and Clog Dancers and other guests still to be confirmed. The event will run throughout the day featuring six hours of continuous performances, so there will always be something to entertain the audience.

The Square offers a wonderful backdrop for Beat & Bells, which will be free to all. The event is planned to be attractive to local residents and families and also to appeal to visitors and tourists, who will hopefully spend the day in Shrewsbury and contribute to the local economy.

Shrewsbury Morris are well experienced in hosting their own events and Beat & Bells will be managed by their dedicated Events Group although all team members will contribute to the planning, organisation and logistics.

There is currently a focus on up-skilling younger team members in event management to ensure sustainability of the team into the future. The team recognise the importance of this as the team has had the same leaders since it's inception!

Beat & Bells will be promoted through the multiple publicity channels that Shrewsbury Morris regularly use:

- Social media (eg. Facebook, Instagram, X(Twitter) TikTok)
- Promotional fliers
- Press releases
- On-line event calendars & diaries
- E-mailing lists
- Team members contacts

➤ Team website

- ii. Please state how you have identified this need and how the project will benefit the people of Shrewsbury, together with the estimated time span. If you are seeking continuation funding for this project, please provide evidence for this continued need.

As this is a special year for Shrewsbury Morris they have decided to plan a programme of events throughout the year to raise the profile of the team and hopefully to secure their next fifty years of dancing! Some of the activity will be internal to the team but Beat & Bells is the main showcase event for the year.

The team love dancing in Shrewsbury and it was a unanimous decision to make their annual event in The Square something extra special for 2026.

Shrewsbury Morris enjoy welcoming other performing artists to their events especially if they can showcase something other than Morris dancing. The team have developed a good relationship with Identity Dance (a Shrewsbury Inclusive Dance School) whose performances bring sheer joy to everyone.

Zulu Tradition are old friends of Shrewsbury Morris and their spectacular performance of African music, dance and song will bring something a little different to The Square on Saturday 4th July.

Shrewsbury Morris will also be accompanied by Septimus, their Giant Shrewsbury Cobbler. Overall the day will offer a free, varied and engaging programme for the audience.

- iii. How many people from the Parish of Shrewsbury do you expect to benefit directly from your project or activity?

500+

- iv. Please indicate which of the key pillars of the Council's Vision are met and how:

Pillars	Met	How
Building Resilient Communities For Shrewsbury	Yes	The inclusion of Identity Dance & Zulu Tradition demonstrates a commitment to diversity and promoting social cohesion Shrewsbury Morris has a strong identity with the town of Shrewsbury Music, dance and song are well known to promote well-being to both participants and audiences

		The event will be managed safely and with a risk assessment
Supporting Shrewsbury Residents To Live Active And Healthy Lives Through The Provision Of Quality Services	Yes	The event is free to all and will be promoted and publicised on a wide scale to local residents Shrewsbury Morris dancers promote the values of exercise and a healthy lifestyle through their dancing and performances
Preserving Shrewsbury's Heritage	Yes	By 2026 Shrewsbury Morris have been dancing for 50 years so have been around for little while! Shrewsbury Morris have a unique style of dancing with many self penned dances and tunes – often with local names eg. Shrewsbury Flourish Septimus the giant Shrewsbury Cobbler has his roots in local folklore and tradition The Square provides a wonderful historical backdrop for the performances of Shrewsbury Morris and they can be seen there and in other parts of the town throughout the year.
Creating A Greener And Better-connected Shrewsbury	Yes	Beat & Bells will encourage residents to watch, join in and feel part of this event The impact of the performers will be seen by all
Maintaining A Sustainable, Resilient And Efficient Organisation	Yes	Shrewsbury Morris are a voluntary organisation demonstrating 50 years of existence They rarely seek financial support from others and are generally self reliant They are active users of social media where they support many local businesses, organisations and charities
Taking Positive Action To Tackle Climate Change	Yes	Where possible Shrewsbury Morris walk/cycle to their activities. They encourage lift sharing When dancing away from the area they generally travel by coach rather than individually by car

success of the project and how many people from the Parish of Shrewsbury do you expect to benefit from it?

- Regular approximate head counts of audience numbers to ascertain how many people have been present
- Quotes from the audience will give some immediate feedback
- Photographic and video evidence
- Social media feedback

Health & Safety

Q10 What, if any, special safety issues are related to your project/activity?

Please provide the following information:

- i. What kind of insurance does your organisation have?

Shrewsbury Morris have Public Liability Insurance to the value of £10,000,000

- ii. Do the leaders have the relevant qualifications and/or experience?

The leaders of Shrewsbury Morris have experience in hosting events for Shrewsbury Morris. They also have over thirty years of experience in festival production at numerous events across the country.

- iii. What policies does your organisation have in place (i.e. Health and Safety, Child Protection/Safeguarding, working with vulnerable adults, Equal Opportunities, CRB Checks etc.)? *You may be required to submit copies of your policies.*

- Risk Assessments for both indoor and outdoor events
- Safeguarding policy – reviewed on an annual basis
- Significant number of team members are DBS checked
- Constitution which includes a commitment to safety and EDI
- Shrewsbury Morris has six trained first aiders and carry a defibrillator when out dancing

Funding of your project

Q11 Previous Applications

If you have applied for and received funding from Shrewsbury Town Council in the past please provide details of the amount, the year and briefly what the funding was used for.

Year	Project Description	Award £
2019	Funding for exhibition materials for the Shrewsbury Morris Septimus the Giant Shrewsbury Cobbler project	£2,000

Q12 Project Funding

Please provide details of the amount of funding you need for your project and give us a breakdown of what the money is for (please enclose any relevant estimates or details).

Tell us the amount of grant requested £1446, and provide a detailed breakdown as to how you have reached this figure

Project Expenditure Please list all items of expenditure for your project	Amount of Project
Hire of The Square – including power (based on 2025 hire charges)	£265.00
Zulu Tradition (performance & travel)	£1500.00
Identity Dance (donation)	£50.00
Septimus transport (van hire)	£188.00
Publicity (printing costs)	£54.00
PA hire	£39.00
Total	£2,096
Project Income Please list how the project shall be funded	
Grant funding	£ 1446
Team funding	£250
Collections (during the event with a collections licence)	£350
In kind (project management)	£50
What is the difference?	£1446

This should be the same as the amount of Grant you are applying for	
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Q13 Covering a Shortfall

If the Town Council makes an offer less than the amount requested, how will that impact on the Project and how will you cover the shortfall?

- Increased contribution will come from Shrewsbury Morris team funds
- Additional income generating events will take place throughout the year
- Seeking additional sponsorship
- Reduction of other activities/events planned as part of Shrewsbury Morris 50th celebrations

Q14 Sustainability

What plans do you have in place to ensure that your organisation becomes more sustainable and less reliant on grant funding, particularly from the Town Council?

Shrewsbury Morris rarely seek external funding from Shrewsbury Town Council or other funders. 2026 is a special year and the team are hoping to raise the profile of Shrewsbury Morris and all that it is associated with in Shrewsbury.

Shrewsbury Morris outside events are weather dependent eg. collections from audiences and everyone is very aware of the implications of this.

The team are mindful of rising costs eg. venue hire and the impact of the tightening economic situation.

Shrewsbury Morris undertake a Financial Review every November which helps in the planning of the next years programme of events and activities. Cash reserves vary from year to year and the team can never guarantee their annual income. There is always a need to ensure that regular outgoings such as practice hall fees are covered. Shrewsbury Morris are mindful of the need to take care with 2026 special events expenditure to ensure the future financial viability of the team.

Ultimately if need be the team will need to reduce expenditure and 'cut our cloth so we live within our means'. Shrewsbury Morris will however continue to go out dancing and bring enjoyment to others!

Your Accounts

Q15 Please provide the following details from your most recent annual accounts

Total Income	£7754.72
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Less Total Expenditure	£9105.87
Surplus / Loss	-£1351.15
Savings (Reserves, Cash, Investments)	£8032.02

Please provide a copy of your most recent annual audited accounts or, in the case of newly established organisations, the projected income and expenditure for the next twelve months.

You need to include these documents with this application.

Account Details

Q16 Please provide your bank or building society account details

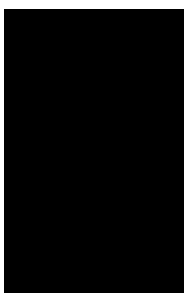
You can only apply for grant if you have a bank/building society account in the name of your organisation. We will only pay grants into an account which requires at least two people to sign each cheque or withdrawal. **These people should not be related.**

Account name: [REDACTED]

Sort Code: [REDACTED] Account Number: [REDACTED]

Bank/building society name: [REDACTED]

Bank/building society address :



Who are the signatories and what position do they hold in your organisation?

- | | | | | |
|---|------|------------|----------|-------------------|
| 1 | Name | [REDACTED] | Position | Treasurer |
| 2 | Name | [REDACTED] | Position | Joint Team Leader |
| 3 | Name | [REDACTED] | Position | Joint Team Leader |

Any Other Information

Q17 Any other information which you consider to be relevant to your application.

In 2026 Shrewsbury Morris are looking to positively promote local organisations who have actively supported them over the years. Shrewsbury Morris are looking to their 50th anniversary as a means to embed the team further into Shrewsbury and to secure the next fifty years of Shrewsbury Morris dancing in and around Shrewsbury.

Declarations

Q18 Declaration

Please give details of a senior member of your organisation.
For example, this may be your Chairperson, Treasurer or Secretary. They must read the application and sign below. **(This must not be the main contact name in Q1).**

I confirm, on behalf of Shrewsbury Morris Dancers (insert name of organisation):

That I am authorised to sign this declaration on its behalf, and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all replies are true and accurate.

I confirm that I have read the Terms and Conditions set out in the Notes which accompanied this application and further confirm that this application is made on the basis that if successful, the organisation will be bound to use the grant only for the purpose specified in this application, and will have to comply with those Terms and Conditions and any others which the Council might attach to the Grant.

Post held in organisation: Treasurer

Title: [REDACTED] First Name: [REDACTED] Surname: [REDACTED]

Organisation address:

[REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

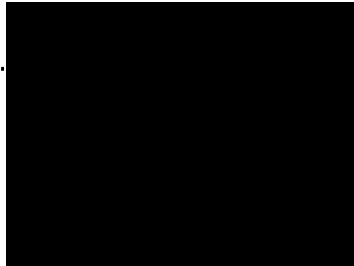
Signed: [REDACTED] Date: 4/11/25

Q19 Signature of Person Completing the Application

This must be the signature of the person named in Q1 as the main contact and **not be the same person who has signed in Q18**

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information in this application from is true and correct. I understand that you may ask for additional information at any stage of the application process.

Signed: Date: 1/11/25



Checklist

1. Have you answered every question? ☐
2. Have all signatures been completed? ☐
3. Have you included a copy of your constitution? ☐
4. Have you included a copy of your most recent audited accounts? ☐
5. Please state any supporting documents you are submitting: ☐

Please return your completed application form to:

Town Clerk
Shrewsbury Town Council
Livesey House
7 St John's Hill
Shrewsbury
SY1 1JD

Telephone: 01743 281010
Email: Helen.ball@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk