



SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL 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 <small>(In no more than 25 words)</small>	The Shrewsbury Giant – a cross discipline street theatre piece featuring a giant puppet, original music, processional flags and specially created dance.	GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED	£5,000
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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: Leader

Contact Address, including full postcode:

Postcode:

Contact Telephone Number:

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.

Shrewsbury Morris Dancers (SM) have been dancing and entertaining people in and around Shropshire for 43 years. Currently there are 35 members who regularly take part in the team's events. All members (membership is open to anyone) pay an annual subscription fee, which is used to pay for basic running costs such as weekly rehearsal rooms. Shrewsbury Morris learn and practice their dance repertoire throughout the year and along with performing out and about at a wide range of events eg. local fetes, fairs, charity events, festivals and many other events in and around Shrewsbury. They also regularly stage and promote their own events such as their Beat & Bells events in The Square. Along with their outside performances they perform their Shrewsbury Morris Show to other local organisations and community groups, which along with dancing imparts information about the traditions of Morris dance and it's music.

Aside from their dancing Shrewsbury Morris take a keen interest in their local community by teaching morris dancing to others and in local schools, and also by their active social media work. The Shrewsbury Morris Dancers Twitter account has a following, which now exceeds 83,000. This is used to promote local events, tourism and local charities etc. In recognition of the role that Shrewsbury Morris have in Shrewsbury, they have received two Shrewsbury Town Mayor Awards. This is an unusual occurrence for a team of Morris

Dancers elsewhere in the country. The Shrewsbury Morris Dancers claim to 'wear their bells with pride and represent the town of Shrewsbury with pride'.

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

n/a

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

Please state which and attach a copy: Shrewsbury Morris have a Constitution which is attached with this application

Q7 What is your primary source of funding?

Shrewsbury Morris' primary source of funding is from Membership Subscriptions.

Additional income is derived from our own fund raising events, fees for performance and sponsorship.

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 have been invited by Thingumajig Theatre – professional puppeteers – to work with them to create "The Shrewsbury Giant", a cross-discipline street theatre piece featuring a giant puppet, original music, processional flags and specially created dance.

The puppet is to be based loosely around the local legend of The Shropshire Giant, but instead of the giant himself, it will be The Shrewsbury Cobbler, the character who, in the legend, cannily saved the town of Shrewsbury from destruction.

In order to create the giant puppet, Shrewsbury Morris will work alongside Thingumajig Theatre, who will be artists in residence in the Shrewsbury area for two weeks. The project will design and construct the giant cobbler puppet from start to finish, along with creating bespoke music and dance.

This will all be worked up into a unique presentation, including a procession with dynamic choreography of handmade flags and a static dance and puppet performance. The inaugural performance will be in The Square, Shrewsbury and will then be followed by other future performances at events in and around Shrewsbury. On other occasions The Shrewsbury Cobbler will travel to other events across the country – but always helping to promoting the Shrewsbury story.

Shrewsbury Morris hope this project which celebrates a local legendary hero, which with clogs, bells, music, and a flurry of colourful costumes, will become a new annual tradition in the town.

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.

Shrewsbury Morris have been involved in performances in Shropshire for over forty years and as part of these performances are often invited to join in processions. Processions by their nature depend on spectacle to attract the attention of the public. Shrewsbury Morris have been looking for something new and exciting to make our contribution to such processions more vibrant and attractive.

In 2018 Shrewsbury Morris invited Thingumajig Theatre, professional puppeteers and builders, to perform at their Beat & Bells event in The Square. This resulted in discussion around puppet building and giant processional characters leading to a proposal of collaborating with Thingumajig Theatre to create of a giant character to process with the Shrewsbury Morris team and form part of special performances.

Following the design and build part of the project we are planning an inaugural event which will take place in Shrewsbury Town Square and will be preceded by a procession on Pride Hill. Future potential performances include the Shrewsbury Folk Festival's processions and other Shrewsbury Morris events in Shrewsbury Square. These events will enhance Shrewsbury's visitor attraction potential and engage with a wider audience.

The design and build part of the project will involve two weeks in September with the inaugural performance scheduled for the end of September. The design and build will involve members of Shrewsbury Morris, community members in the area of the build venue and an invitation will be posted via the team's Twitter account to others who might like to participate. We are exploring opportunities to exhibit the Shrewsbury Cobbler with professionally produced museum style backdrop and information boards. Providing we find suitable accommodation for this exhibit there will be opportunity to publicise this as a visitor attraction encouraging people to visit Shrewsbury to see the giant display. As a result of this project Shrewsbury will have its very own giant that will be available for a number of years for future audiences to enjoy

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

10,000+ over many years

Q9 What criteria will be used to measure the success of the project and how many people from the Parish of Shrewsbury do you expect to benefit from it?

- The most obvious success criteria will be the completion of the giant puppet which represents the canny cobbler who saved Shrewsbury from the evil giant. Following the creation of the giant Shrewsbury Morris expect to draw a large crowd (weather permitting) to the free inaugural performance by the giant in the Square. We would estimate an expected audience of several hundred at the event.
- During the design and build part of the project all 35 Shrewsbury Morris team members plus friends, families and close connections will be invited to participate over the two weeks of this part of the project. Additionally invitations will be extended to the community surrounding the build venue and also via Shrewsbury Morris' Twitter and social media networks. It is envisaged that many people will drop in to participate during the two weeks.

- Social media will be used extensively to publicise, report and 'tell the story' about the project progress. Engagement and feedback will be an additional measure of success.
- Further measures of success will include: requests for giant performances from external parties, numbers attending events, audience comments, press and media interest, attendance of the giant at high profile local events e.g. Shrewsbury Folk Festival and its processions.
- The Shrewsbury giant is expected to become a special and unique visitor attraction for the town of Shrewsbury for a number of years.

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?

Public Liability Insurance for performance by Shrewsbury Morris to the sum of

£10,000,000

- Public Liability Insurance for the construction from Thingumajig Theatre to the sum of

£5,000,000

- Risk Assessments for outside performances in public spaces
- Risk assessments will be written for the build project
- All participants involved in the puppet building and construction will be briefed on safety measures regarding the use of tools and implements.
- Detailed safety guidelines will be developed for performances by the giant, as part of the Shrewsbury Morris Technical Specifications. This will be shared with any external organisations that book the giant as part of the Shrewsbury Morris performance.
- Shrewsbury Morris place a high regard on safety issues both for their team members and their audiences

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

- Ray & Bev Langton, who are the leaders of Shrewsbury Morris, work professionally as Event Producers for festivals and the entertainment industry. They assess other artists and workshop leaders safety policies and procedures. They are founder members of Shrewsbury Morris and have led the team since it's inception
- Ray & Bev Langton are DBS checked and so too are over 1/3rd of team members
- Thingumajig Theatre have been making giant puppets for their own performance work and for commissions for over 12 years in the UK, the rest of Europe, USA and Asia
- Andrew & Kathy Kim from Thingumajig Theatre are DBS checked.

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 outside & Inside performances
- Safe Child (child protection) & Vulnerable Adults policy (safe guarding)
- Technical Specifications which includes safety of surfaces, weather conditions etc.

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 £
2015	School performance and workshops by Zulu Tradition	£250.00

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 £5,000 and provide a detailed breakdown as to how you have reached this figure

Project Expenditure for which we are seeking Shrewsbury Town Council Community Grant Please list all items of expenditure for your project	Amount of Project
Two week's professional fees for project leadership, puppet building, materials & expertise from Thingumajig Theatre	£5000
Project Expenditure for which we are seeking Arts Council Funding	
Production of processional flags: Materials (flame retardant) & construction	£500
One week for employment of a professional musician to compose new music to accompany the giant performance	£1000
Dance choreography	£500
Professionally produced exhibition style display boards and information	£2000
Venue hire for build part of project (Leighton Village Hall) and for inaugural performance (The Square)	£2000
Production of a professional video recounting the story of the project from start to finish.	£3000
Accommodation costs for Thingumajig	£500
Travel and transport relating to the giant project including transporting the giant to performance	£500
Total	£15000
Project Income Please list how the project shall be funded	

Arts Council National Lottery Project Grant / Local Sponsorship/Team Funds	£10000
	£
	£
	£
	£
What is the difference? This should be the same as the amount of Grant you are applying for	£5000

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?

We will seek additional local sponsorship and further contributions from Shrewsbury

Morris funds

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 are generally self sufficient in what they do.

- Membership fees have recently been increased to reflect an increase in our expenditure on essential items eg. rehearsal venues
- An annual fund raising event eg. Christmas Ceilidh is held to supplement other needs
Shrewsbury Morris believes that no one should be denied the opportunity to belong to the team due to personal financial status
- Additional paid performances will be sought
- We can seek to increase funds received through sponsorship – however we are aware that many businesses are currently feeling financially vulnerable

This is a request for a one off project to provide additionality to Shrewsbury visitor attractions and hence encourage more people to visit Shrewsbury. It is not envisaged that Shrewsbury Morris will be approaching the Council again in the near future for a similar project.

Your Accounts

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

Total Income	£7,108.13
Less Total Expenditure	£5,926.49
Surplus / Loss	£1,181.64 (surplus)
Savings (Reserves, Cash, Investments)	£3,303.86

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 give us 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:

Bank/building society name:

Bank/building society address:

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

- | | | | |
|---|-------|--|---------------------|
| 1 | Name: | | Position: Treasurer |
| 2 | Name: | | Position: Leader |

Any Other Information

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

Shrewsbury Morris are submitting this application to Shrewsbury Town Council along with an additional application to the Arts Council, National Lottery Projects Grants. The Arts Council requires evidence of a proportion of funding from additional sources. The Arts Council application result will be known by April and if unsuccessful we will be able to re-submit with results known in July. We are hoping to run this project in September 2019. We do hope that Shrewsbury Town Council will look favourably upon our application.

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 (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: Mrs

First Name: Margaret

Surname: Burge

Organisation address:

Postcode:

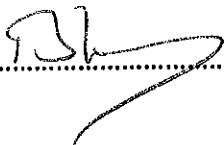
Telephone:

Signed: Date: 17/01/19

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: 17/01/19

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
Riggs Hall
The Library
Castle Gates
Shrewsbury
SY1 2AS**

Telephone: 01743 281010

Fax: 01743 281051

Email: Helen.ball@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk