



**Small Grant Application**

<b>Name of Organisation</b> <b>AFC Newbiggin Juniors Football Club</b>	<b>Contact Name</b> [REDACTED]
<b>Address for correspondence:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>Position</b> [REDACTED]
<b>Tel:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>Preferred contact for Grant Aid correspondence</b> Letter ( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Telephone ( <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ) Email ( <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> )
<b>Email:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>Bank Details:</b> [REDACTED]
<b>Please tick to show you have read and understood the Data Protection Statement in the attached guidelines (Tick)</b>	
<b>What is the status of your organisation? (Please tick)</b> Registered Charity ( <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> )      Voluntary Organisation ( <input type="checkbox"/> )      Community Group ( <input type="checkbox"/> ) Tenants' Association ( <input type="checkbox"/> )      Other, please specify	
<b>If applying for the first time, please give a brief description of your group/organisation:</b>  This is the second time our organisation has applied for a grant. However to give a quick synopsis of our charity it is a local community junior football club. Providing footballing activities for the children of Ashington / Newbiggin and adjoining areas. We were established as a charity in March 2022 and have a charitable board with five members sitting on this. We currently have eight teams in various age categories from 4 years through to 15 years. Our home ground is situated at Newbiggin Sports and Community Hub but use various Ashington based facilities including Dukes Secondary School and Hirst Welfare as training facilities. We currently have around 100 children participants with a near 50-50 split between Ashington and Newbiggin.	



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**Please include the following with your application:**

- ✓ Your constitution or governing document, or written aims and objectives.
- ✓ Up-to-date financial information, including latest accounts and bank statement.
- ✓ A set a basic core policies or statements:
  - ✓ Health & Safety
  - ✓ Equality and Diversity
  - ✓ Safeguarding
  - ✓ Data Protection and GDPR

**Please contact us if you are unsure about any of the above. We will support any group to achieve the required policies, in accordance with our work to promote Equality and Diversity in Grant Aid Allocation, and our obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty 2022.**

**Does your organisation work in partnership with any other organisations?** (Yes) /No (please circle)  
If yes, please give details below:

We work in partnership with Northumberland County Council through our lease mechanism for our home ground.

We work with Northumberland Football Association currently as part of a club development scheme.

We work currently with Northumberland County Council Sports Development Department to be part of the Wild Cats programme. A programme to develop opportunities for girls in junior football.

We work with the English Football Association for our coach training programmes.

We are happy to work with any other organisations to the benefit of our club and our communities as and when opportunities arise.

**Please provide details of membership/users:**

Number of Members/Users? Approximately 100 children	Do members/users pay a subscription fee? (Yes) /No (please circle)	Subscription Fee? £25 per child a month with reductions for sblings.
Number of paid employees (if any)? None	Number of volunteers? Approximately 30	

What percentage of members/users live in Ashington?  
Approximately 50%.

Please use this space to tell us how your organisation serves the residents of Ashington or contributes towards the wellbeing of the town and residents.

The club provides opportunities for various ages within our communities to participate within football. The set up encourages many elements of well being for the children and for our communities. These benefits include physical activity, psychological stimulation, opportunities to gain vital life skills including team work, leadership, communication, problem solving and critical thinking etc.



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Furthermore our club tries to support children from families with social and economic problems and give them positive role models and great opportunities to develop themselves in an encouraging and broadening environment.

In addition with our various community links we endeavour to help our families by giving support mechanisms, providing help to minimise children from dropping out, giving advice on broader sporting and leisure pursuits, sign posting on health and welfare problems, and being a central entity for community good.

Another good benefit we bring is the benefit to our local economy through expenditure in local sports venues, expenditure in local sports clothing outlets, expenditure in sports equipment stores, expenditure at local pitch maintenance companies and trophy outlets etc.

Carrying on football can be such an engaging sport cutting across many barriers. At the club we actively encourage breaking down of hurdles which would otherwise compromise opportunities for the children. The barriers we continually face include financial hardship, trying to enhance female participation, trying to provide adapted opportunities for disabled participants, disinterest in sport from our potential participants and personal issues attributed to psychological problems. We try hard to help in these areas but there is only so much we can do and so any support to aid these areas would be very beneficial.

At the club we also see our club in an important social capacity. We feel our club can help our communities to come together and feel a community spirit. It also is a focus for our local people to have pride in and feel a collective good. This helps in securing special bonds in our communities and aids towards social cohesion. We especially feel this in the support and enthusiasm shared by the local shops and businesses who give us their support in various capacities and share in our collective successes.

Unfortunately crime in our local areas is another social problem which I feel our club has some elements of ability to help fight against its causes. From this I mean our kids are given an alternative pathway, they are constructively challenged, they benefit from the sporting environment and learn vital skills to be potentially well rounded and positive contributors to our society now and in the future.

Also our teams are represented in a lot of activities which are of good cause. These include community gatherings for charitable causes, armistice day commememorations, sports community programmes, community school activities and Sports Development opportunities etc. These are golden opportunities for children to learn social responsibility and the opportunities to sculpt a better society.

Following on at the club we are trying to ultimately establish an academy like approach whereby children from the development teams at four years old can go through all the various youth age groups and then focus on entering the reserve senior team and hopefully obtain first team status. From this our overall club should go from strength to strength. This future aspiration will see our club featuring in our local area as an entity contributing to the local economic prosperity.

The club also has its benefits for the local environments that it has helped to enhance. Various pitches in the Ashington and Newbiggin areas have had investment and positive development as a direct result of our club utilising the facilities. Areas like the North Seaton community fields, Hirst Welfare, Dukes Secondary School fields along with Newbiggin Welfare, The Collingwood pitch in Newbiggin and our home ground have all seen positive attributes from staging our junior teams.

Our club has a positive attitude towards learning and development for both the participants and volunteers and officials. We engage with local learning opportunities, we stage learning and training opportunities at our home ground and facilities, we encourage everyone to make the best of the chances given, and hope to evolve with learning partners to bring more enhanced packages of courses to our local pitches and facilities.



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Finally our club is there to harness and captivate the young raw talent we have in our local junior football community. We have the ability to make the talent of tomorrow. We love the idea of producing the next local footballing hero like Jackie Milburn or the Charlton brothers. It only takes a few lucky breaks, guidance and motivation by the right people in the right place at the right time. We realise the opportunity to make the dreams come true of our aspiring children but we can only do this with the help of our very appreciated supportive companies/ businesses and organisations.

**Amount of small grant requested (up to £500)**

**£500**

Small Grants can be awarded towards specific projects, 'start-up' costs or maintenance/running costs (see Small Grant Guidelines) and must be spent in the financial year awarded, for the purpose given. You can only receive one small grant in any financial year.

**Please give full details of the purpose of your Small Grant application:**

We as a local amateur club are always working against the pressures of increasing financial burdens. However we can not let this spoil the positive environment we hold so dear for our participants. As such our pitches cost considerably to run and maintain. From the volunteers to the equipment and all the other elements to make these areas places our club can be proud of.

Thus we make this grant application for volunteer training and line paint.

We need to further buy into the development of our home ground by investing in our volunteers and their knowledge of ground / pitch maintenance through the appropriate governing bodies training courses. This would involve undertaking level one and level two courses ran by the Grounds Management Association. Luckily our club is a member of this association and therefore would benefit from some discounts to the aforementioned courses.

The level one course involves undertaking online learning of three modules :

- **Requirements of the groundsperson and pitch**
  - Pitch and player requirements
  - Introduction to Performance Quality Standards
  - Maintenance activities
- **Maintenance activities (Equipment and Machinery)**
  - Types of equipment and machinery
  - Equipment and machinery settings
  - Safe use of equipment and machinery
- **Safe use and storage (Materials)**
  - Storage and safe disposal
  - Types of material
  - Application and effects of incorrect use



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These modules will take on average around three hours and the cost for each candidates would be at the reduced rate of £50.

Alternatively the level two course covers the below elements :

*The performance requirements of a playing surface;  
How to monitor the quality of a surface;  
How different maintenance activities might influence  
pitch playability;*

*The responsibilities of operatives and organisations;  
The purpose of risk assessments;  
Different soil types;  
Basic drainage design;  
How to identify turf grasses in general;  
General control methods for undesirable organisms;  
The use of annual work schedules; and  
How to create an annual work schedule*

These modules would take around six hours and the cost once again would be at a reduced rate of £100 per candidate.

Finally line paint for replenishing lines - red / blue / white all cost around £40 for 10 litre drums.

**Please attach a copy of your latest financial statement together with a copy of your most recent bank statement for each bank account your organisation maintains.**

**UNRESTRICTED BALANCES WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN AGREEING AWARDS**



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### DECLARATION

- ✓ I confirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information in this application is true and correct.
- ✓ I agree to any disclosure or exchange of information about this application which Ashington Town Council deem appropriate for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of Small Grants.
- ✓ I understand that acceptance of this application by Ashington Town Council does not in any way signify that the organisation is eligible to or will receive a Small Grant.
- ✓ I have included the documents and policies required.
- ✓ I have included an up-to-date Financial Statement and copies of bank statements.
- ✓ I understand that the Council will *freeze* or *withdraw* funding or *reject* future applications if certain conditions are not met and/or there is evidence of unlawful activity, malpractice, or other behaviour that the Council deems improper.
- ✓ I agree to verify that Grant Aid has been spent for the intended purpose.
- ✓ I agree to inform the council of any significant changes to the membership or running of the organisation.

Signed	Print name	Date
G.Freebody	Graeme.Freebody	27/1/25

### FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date application received	Application successful? Yes/No	Proposed Award £
Any additional information requested:		