



Small Grant Application Form

Please note the following:

1. Maximum grant to any one organisation will be £500.
2. Grants will be awarded for:
 - a. Activities,
 - b. Equipment,
 - c. Running costs.

Please read the Council's grant awarding policy before completing this form. You may continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Name of organisation:	Coln River Guardians – Group D Winson to Lechlade.
Contact name:	Paul Taylor
Position in organisation:	Group Leader
Address for correspondence:	8 Churchill Place, Fairford GL7 4JT
Telephone number:	07793 038586
Email address:	paul.taylor887@gmail.com
Charity number – if registered	N/A

Brief description of the aims of the organisation	<p>The aim of the organisation is to monitor the River Coln for pollution, focussing on that from sewage and agricultural run-off. This is achieved by involving volunteer “citizen scientists” who receive training in the use of monitoring equipment. The group covers the whole river, from source to its confluence with the Thames at Lechlade but we are divided into groups covering different local stretches. Fairford is covered by Group D which monitors from Winson, near Coln Rogers, to Lechlade. All groups aim to sample as near as possible simultaneously, on the first weekend of every month, so as to get a snapshot of the condition of the whole river.</p> <p>As well as sampling, volunteers regularly walk their stretch of river and note its general condition on a day to day basis, looking out for evidence of pollution and health or otherwise of the wildlife environment.</p>
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Brief summary of the organisation's activities over the last year, or if a new organisation, the activities you hope to undertake.	Fairford benefits by having the whole length of the Coln monitored for key pollutants and in particular the length within our community. Sewage pollution is our main focus and by testing above and below the local outfall we can examine what effect it is having on water quality. By comparing our results with those of our wider group of Coln River Guardians we can highlight any particular issues in our area.
How does the local community benefit from the activities of this organisation?	The results of testing are collated and used to highlight concerns with Key stakeholders. For example, the Environment Agency and Thames Water. The intention is to drive improvements where testing results identify concerns.
	While results are reported centrally, we can share the results specific to Fairford with the Town Council. This information may be of use when responding to planning applications, lobbying for infrastructure improvements and for other funding that may be available for environmental projects

What is the grant for and who will benefit?	The grant is for additional equipment and ongoing supplies.
	We have increasing numbers of people monitoring river quality in our area and it is becoming difficult to move equipment to the places it is needed at the times it is wanted. We would like to invest in another set of testers and additional supplies of reagent for use in and around Fairford. This will save repeated car journeys around the district at key monitoring times as well as ensuring that everyone has what they need, when they need it.
	All volunteers involved in monitoring will benefit, as will everyone who has an interest in the results of monitoring.
What is the total project cost?	The total current requirement covers: One testing set for Ammonia One testing set for Phosphates. Spare reagents for each of the above. Cleaning cloths for test tubes (This is a colourimeter test so it is essential that glass tubes are clean and lint-free in order to obtain accurate readings) Spare glass test tubes (cuvettes) and lids (much of the testing is done in the field and these items are occasionally broken or lost). One box of 100 nitrate testing strips.
	With equipment already in hand this will give us two full sets of equipment for the Fairford area and consumables sufficient to last around two years. Total estimated cost: £425
Amount of grant requested	£425

Have you applied to any other body for funding for this project? Please give details.	We have not, because this purchase is aimed at benefitting Fairford specifically.
Do you receive funding from other sources, and if so, who? Give details of subscriptions, fundraising etc.	No
What age group do you cater for?	Volunteers need to be over the age of 18. Those potentially benefitting from the information gathered include the whole community encompassing all ages.
If you have previously received a grant from Fairford Town Council please give details.	We have not.
Bank account details: (for if application is successful)	Account name: Marian J Whittaker
	Bank Name: First Direct
	Sort Code: 40-47-86
	Account Number: 90813761
Signature and position in Organisation:	Paul Taylor – Group D Leader Marian Whittaker - Volunteer

Please attach your latest set of accounts and a copy of your constitution.

As we do not yet have either of these we have given a personal bank account to hold the money and would be happy to provide invoices/receipts to demonstrate that the money has been spent as agreed, should our application be successful.

*** Breaking news!***

I have, this very morning (27.2.26) learned that the umbrella group of Coln river guardians is just now newly registered with the Charities Commission as the Coln Restoration Group, Charity number 1216974.

The colleague who shared this stated that there is “still a lot of admin to go”, which includes setting up bank account(s) so that we would still ask for any grant you may agree to be paid into my personal account as above. Happy to provide proofs of purchase.

However, I hope this news will give you additional confidence as to our being a bona fide group with charitable objectives.

Marian Whittaker