

Section 3 About Your Organisation

Name of Organisation: Spittal Improvement Trust

What type of organisation are you (please tick)

Registered Charity

Unregistered Community Group/Club/Society

Other (please state):

Do you have a set of rules or a constitution (please tick)?
(please supply a copy if this is your first application to BTC)

Yes

No

Where does your organisation work (please tick)?

Just in the Berwick, Tweedmouth and/or
Spittal area

Regionally in the Northeast and/or
Southern Scotland

Throughout Northumberland

Nationally

For the most recent financial year please state: F/Y 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020

Income: £2,979

Expenditure: £6,349

Yearend balance: £17, 542

What does your organisation do?

Spittal Improvement Trust (SIT) was formed in 1998 and is a wholly voluntary community group in Spittal, Berwick-upon-Tweed. Our objectives are to carry out project related works and hold community events; we do this in an effort to try and halt the loss of our local facilities and amenities and to raise the spirit within our community.

Projects that we have undertaken range from preserving our existing facilities, for example play areas and parks and gardens, to the restoration of local landmarks and historical buildings. In addition, we hold a series of events throughout the year. These include seasonal fairs, entertainment evenings and our annual Seaside Festival in August.

How many people take part in your activities each year? Pre- Covid 8,000+

How many people are involved in your organisation? 41

Committee & Volunteers: Committee of 11
and 30 volunteers

Paid Staff (FTE): NIL

Section 4 Your Project

Outline of Event:

Spittal Improvement Trust (SIT) usually hold two major events during the summer months, 'Afternoon Tea in the Park' in July and the 'Spittal Seaside Festival' in August. With the uncertainty of what Covid restrictions would still be in place, SIT decided at the time that we usually plan for these events, not to hold these events again this year. As the restrictions have now been relaxed SIT decided to bring elements of the bigger events together and hold a smaller event that will be more manageable.

The first of these is to hold '**An Afternoon in the Park**' on Sunday 15th August 2021. This will take place in Seafield Park, a walled park which is maintained by Spittal Improvement Trust's volunteer Gardening Group. We have teamed up with the November Club from Morpeth, who are an award-winning performing arts charity, engaging local communities and creating original performances that tell unexpected stories about people and places.

This summer the November Club are hitting the road on their latest adventure, '**Walk in Your Shoes**'. They are making a journey starting from Hexham and ending up in Spittal, walking over 126 miles of St Oswald's Way across Northumberland. They are stopping at eight communities along the walk at which they will be delivering a unique piece of '**Doorstep Theatre**'. This story is a fresh, fun contemporary retelling of the myths that make up the bones of Northumberland. November Club have engaged other performing groups in Spittal and Berwick who will also be taking part.

SIT's Gardening Group will be taking the opportunity to use the event to raise funds for their planting and projects for 2022. This will include having stalls for tombolas, raffle, bric-a-brac, plant sales etc. November Club are contacting local suppliers of refreshments, tea, coffee, food etc. There will be no alcohol on sale.

The second event is '**Bear-Fest Condensed**'. After the 2019 'Spittal Seaside Festival' SIT decided that the event needed to be revitalised and changing its name was to be the first thing. If the 2020 event had been able to take place, it was to be called 'Bear-Fest'. As the final lifting of Covid restrictions was too late to organise the full event SIT are now putting the music element of the event indoors, instead of a marquee. The music will start on Friday 12th August, with a disco evening, and continue on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th August, over these two days it will be live bands some local and others from further afield. It was due to take place in the old Berwick Untied Reformed Church and be the first major event taking place there under its new guise as the 'Spittal Community Centre'. However, this is now not possible due to a delay in SIT taking over the building. It is now to take place in the Northern View in Highcliffe.

The **Funfair** is the only outdoor part of the Spittal Seaside Festival that SIT can be organised at short notice. The Funfair has been coming to the Seaside Festival since it first started in 2008. Although in previous years it has covered a bigger area than that shown on the attached plan, SIT decided that it would keep the Funfair to a smaller area to prevent bigger crowds congregating. The Funfair will be operating from Friday 12th to Sunday 14th August.

Why is it needed? (include details of any research you have carried out to identify the need and describe any specific benefits for the people of Berwick, Tweedmouth and Spittal)

Due to its isolated location, the people of North Northumberland have to travel long distances to enjoy family days out. SIT are mindful of the prevailing feeling that people need something to enjoy post Covid so our vision for these events over one weekend is to provide a varied event that can be enjoyed by the local community within Spittal and Berwick, and as well visitors to the area.

Holding these events also fulfils another aim in that it also attracts more visitors to North Northumberland thereby aiding the local economy.

How will you measure the success of your project?

SIT will gauge the success of the events listed above firstly by the numbers of visitors it attracts.

Its success can also be judged by the coverage gained in the local and regional papers and over social media.

What is the total cost of your project?

Please provide a project budget

Have you asked any other organisation for help to fund the project?

If yes, please give details below

Yes

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No

Organisation	Amount requested	Outcome
NCC Councillor Georgina Hill	£1000	Awarded
NCC Community Chest Scheme	£3000	Pending

Section 4 Your Project (continued)

What will the Town Council grant be used for?

Here you should list either individual items you want the Town Council to help pay for e.g. Toilets or insurance or areas of expenditure you want help with e.g. printing or publicity.

Do Not provide a list of unrelated items and a single cost for them all.

Item	Cost	Purchased or hired?	Town Council Contribution
PA hire	£1500	Hired	£1500
Lighting	£80	Hired	£70
Live stream video	£500		
Labour, delivery, and collection of the above items	£420		
Payments to musicians, including travelling expenses	£2000		
Payment to November Club theatre group	£500		
Payment to venue – Northern View	£300	Hired	£300
Portable toilets	£630	Hired	£630
Security and first aid	£550		
Volunteer time (approx. 220hrs over the three days @ £15/hr)	£3300		
Total cost of the weekend's events (excluding volunteer time)	£6480		
Total requested from Town Council This box must be filled in and not exceed £2500			£2500

How will you publicise the Town Council's assistance (for example at the event and/or in publicity or other material)?

The Town Council's assistance with funding of this event will be shown on our website and Facebook pages, through the local paper, both before and after the event, and in any programmes produced for the event.

What will happen if you are not given funding at this time?

SIT will endeavour to find other sources of funding or donations.