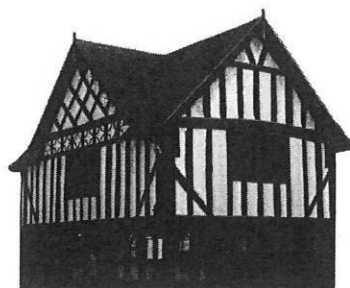


# NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

## AND BURIAL AUTHORITY



1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Newent Community Centre  
Ross Road  
Newent  
Glos, GL18 1BD

Tel: 01531 820638  
Email: [townclerk@newenttowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@newenttowncouncil.gov.uk)  
[www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.newenttowncouncil.org.uk)

### APPLICATION FORM FOR GRANT(S) AND/OR DONATION(S)

1.	Name of Organisation	Canopy
2.	Contact and Position held in the Organisation	[REDACTED] Chair
3.	Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Gloucestershire [REDACTED]
4.	Telephone Number of Contact (daytime)	[REDACTED]
5.	Aims and Purpose of the Organisation	To create networks and opportunities for artists and arts organisations in the FoD, building cultural links with local communities.
6.	Is the Organisation a Registered Charity?  If Yes, please supply Charity No.  Is the Organisation not for profit?	Yes/No. We are a CIC  N/A  Yes/NO.. Yes
7.	Amount of grant requested	£8,000
8.	For what purpose or project is the grant requested?	The grant would be matched funding for an Arts Festival on Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2024 in Newent. It will bring local communities in and around the town together via an inspiring event that lifts our spirits and brings joy. The programme is offered for free.

		<p>This will be part of our Forest of Dean biannual arts festival programme, delivering activities linked to events across the district.</p> <p>Canopy will also be working with the Newent Christmas Lights Committee to make a significant but distinctively different contribution to the parade in a separate weekend at the end of November.</p> <p>The Arts Festival will celebrate diversity and creative talent with local artists and arts organizations. There will be a range of opportunities that will encourage young and old, families, the vulnerable, elderly and socially isolated to participate.</p> <p>The project begins with a preparatory period Canopy will organise for an artist-in-residence writer/poet/storyteller to work in The Library, an artist-in-residence would work at a local school(s), the Secret Gallery, Chillout Zone and The Recycling Shop to engage with young people and local communities.</p> <p>The workshops will aim to make costumes, banners and bunting for the event at the same time provide a friendly inclusive atmosphere for people to meet.</p> <p>We will enable groups who find accessing these activities difficult, such as people with dementia, the hard to reach, neuro-diverse and people with special needs to take an active role in the workshops and the event. In order to do this, we will be working with Sheppard's House with whom we are already engaging. We are working with Sheppard's House to provide transport for these groups to the workshops and the event itself. Our events will be wheelchair accessible. Canopy will work with Create Glos Community worker to support those communities where English is not the first language.</p> <p>Creative Walks in Nature will be arranged in the preparatory period to engage with groups to enjoy the local countryside and provide information about the Arts Festival. One of the Creative Walks will be prepared for those who find walking difficult.</p> <p>Artist Talks in the Autumn will be funded at The Secret Gallery, again promoting the festival.</p> <p>On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November farOpen Arts and Crafts taster workshops will be offered in The Secret Gallery and the Memorial Hall. These will be for families to experience the joy of creating a print or making a clay pot. Engage Circus will offer a circus skills workshop. Stalls promoting arts organisations will be Wyldwood, Artspace, The Youth Music Works, HARE, to mention a few. The Market Cross would be a centre for Morris Dancing, community choirs and some bands to play. Peter Rochford from The Joe Meek Society has offered to lead a walk around the town. St</p>
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Marys Church will host performances by either the FoD orchestra or Newent orchestra, the Forest Youth Theatre and FoD Male Voice Choir. The aim is ambitious with multiple events happening simultaneously across the town with clear routes and signposting, possibly with street performers directing the community.

Canopy is partnered with Forestry England and The Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, we therefore will be placing Nature at the heart of all that we do. We are in a Climate Emergency and wish to make this event as Green and sustainable as possible. . Car sharing, walking and cycling will be promoted, and taking some opportunities beyond Newent should help reduce the carbon footprint.

From our evaluations we know that the arts have the potential to develop wellbeing and reduce isolation. For example, we know of people who have joined organisations and choirs as a direct response to encountering them at our events. The FoD Male Voice Choir have had and an increase in enquiries as has Kirsty Abraham's choir as a consequence of 'Let everybody sing' taster singing workshop at both events. farOpen artists offering taster workshops have mentioned an increase in adults signing up for classes. A school student who acted as a Volunteer also expressed that she had developed her social skills and gained confidence on the day, which had been at an all time low having missed so much school because of Covid. We are sure that similar legacies will happen in Newent and Canopy will be available after the event to help nurture and encourage any new connections that develop. Ideally, Canopy would like many towns and villages in the region to plan towards biannual arts festivals that build on previous successful events.

Without doubt the impact of Covid and now the cost of living crisis has on many people's mental health continues and is considerable. The opportunity for the arts to support and heal is significant. We believe there is a real hunger and passion for the arts in the FoD and Canopy are in the ideal place to develop this. For details of Canopy's events please visit our website: <https://canopynetwork.co.uk>

#### **Supporting the Christmas Lights Committee.**

A representative from Canopy will attend this committee.

In the preceding months, Sept/Oct/Nov Canopy will work with local schools, as it did in Bream and Cinderford, engaging young people and teachers, parents, grandparents and families. These schools, and/or local Village Halls in surrounding villages will host an Artist in Residence who will enable children and others to make lanterns which will be celebrated in the Parade for the Lights 'Switch On' on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Canopy also plans, with the support of the TC to identify local empty shop windows where Art work by Artists who have worked with

		<p>community groups can be displayed before the Arts Festival and after the 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov to make the High Street look inviting.</p> <p>It is possible, that Canopy may be able to support residents from outlying villages with transport to each event with the mini buses from Sheppard's House.</p> <p>A team of volunteers at both events and before both events will be critical to the success so building contacts through the TC will be essential.</p> <p>Canopy's long term aim is to develop the arts and culture in the area which can be recharged every two years beginning to put the FoD on the cultural 'map'.</p> <p>At grass roots we aim to have some fun and bring joy to local residents.</p>
9.	What will be the total cost of the above project?	£ 16,000
10.	If the total cost of the project is more than the grant, how will the residue be financed?	Yes, Canopy has applied for additional funding (see below). We also fundraise through a raffle, with cake/tea stalls.
11.	Have you applied for a grant for the same project to another organisation?  If so, which organisation and how much?	Canopy has received funding from the ACE for an Events Manager post who can take the lead on the Arts Festival.  £8,000
12.	Who will benefit from the project?	Residents, businesses and artists from across the town of Newent and nearby villages.
13.	Approximately how many people or proportion of the people who would benefit live in the Newent Parish?	Based on numbers who visited arts JAB Bream (550+) Cinderford (700+) and the population 15-20%, we expect over 1000 maybe more.
14.	Have you received a Newent Town Council grant within the previous two years? If so how much did you receive?	No
15.	Please confirm the number of cheque signatories required to authorise all payments/orders issued by your organisation	Two
16.	If successful, name to whom the cheque should be made payable	Canopy

All questions on this form must be completed, but you may also attach supporting information.

This application must be supported by a financial statement showing income and expenditure and balance sheet for the previous accounting year.

For new initiatives or activities, a copy of the budget forecast and business plan will be acceptable.

I hereby apply for a Newent Town Council grant for the above organisation and I confirm that the information given above is to the best of my belief correct:

A signature that has been completely redacted with black ink.

Signed.....Date.....14-02-2024.....

Name (in capitals)..........

The completed form and supporting papers should be sent to: The Town Clerk, Newent Town Council, Annexe Building, rear of Newent Community Centre, Ross Road, Newent, Glos, GL18 1BD.