

Appendix 3: Balstock CIC

=Document Control:

Version	Issue Date	Changes
1.0	NA	First Draft (BE)

Reference	6043			
Name of Organisation	Balstock CIC			
Organisation Type	Community Interest Company			
Ward	Covers the whole of Baldock & surrounding villages			
Project Type	Community festival			
Green option considered?	/			
NHC Councillor involvement that may constitute a conflict of interest	None that we are aware of.			
Previous financial support within six years	None			
Documentation reviewed and approved*	Safeguarding	Yes	Accounts	Yes
	Demonstrates clear governance	Yes		
Total applied for	£2,000	Total project cost	£25,003.26	
Officer Summary				
<p>Balstock CIC would like to request support for the rising costs of putting the Balstock festival on, to meet the suggested requirements by the North Herts SAG, including the Police and Environmental Health Departments. Further rises have been seen in the cost for security, toilet hire, insurance, and other general running costs. Balstock CIC is a completely volunteer committee and they have worked in collaboration with local businesses to keep venue costs free to the public. They have kept their expenses at a minimum, working with other local groups to share community resources and keep costs down. They approach local companies for sponsorship to further minimise costs.</p> <p>The dedication of the small volunteer committee members and on-the-day volunteers further ensures that the festival runs on a limited budget. Year on year their donations to local charities have increased, despite rising costs. To date, Balstock has raised over £80,000 for local and national causes. The event benefits the public, local community, local businesses and nominated local charities. They are aware that due to cost-of-living difficulties and socio-economic factors, many individuals and children who benefit from exposure to music can access a festival that they may not otherwise be able to afford. Research suggests that events such as this are beneficial to people’s wellbeing. They estimate that over the weekend that over 5000+ residents will engage and benefit from the festival.</p> <p>Word of the festival is spread using their Facebook page and posters are placed in town pubs and shops. Word of mouth, radio articles, newspaper articles, local community magazines, such as, On Our Doorstep are all also used. Balstock is an event run primarily by Baldock residents. They pride themselves in promoting local talent and local businesses. Where possible, all contractors and services used are local. Balstock benefits local artists, both established and upcoming. All artists donate their time free of charge, raising their local profile. Where possible, Balstock supports environmental and sustainable policies. Costs have significantly increased since the police requirement to fence in the High Street performance area. Balstock gives the local community a chance to come together and support the event. For almost 20 years, Balstock has been at the heart of autumn activities within the town. Businesses work with the volunteer committee to ensure that the festival continues to thrive year on year and maintain Community Cohesion.</p>				

*Funding will only be released on receipt and approval of all supporting documentation