

CELCA Grant Application Form

Application Reference: GM 06/06/23.2

Applicant/Organisation:

Whiteadder Watersports Trust manages the Watersports centre at Whiteadder reservoir. We provide watersport activities including sailing, open-water swimming and paddlesports to everyone in the Borders and East Lothian at reasonable prices in an area where opportunities to participate in these sports are limited.

We operate as a charitable trust using volunteers and professional instructors to ensure we provide a safe, quality service. We also manage the reservoir fishery.

Reason for Application:

The Centre has begun its second full season and is looking forward to offering a wider set of activities. We have been widely supported with funding from many sources to help us improve the standard of our service and develop new activities. We have been funded by CELCA for two additional CCTV cameras and a weather station which are now up and running. We have also upgraded much of our wetsuit stock from the same grant.

When we took on the lease of the Centre in August 2021, we agreed to buy the Centre's equipment from SBC for a total of £30,000 to be repaid at a rate of £6,000 per year. The first two payments were funded by CELCA and these have been critical to our success to date.

We are asking CELCA to support us with this yearly equipment loan payment.

As of May 2023, there is £18,000 remaining to be paid and the next instalment is due in July 2023. Although we feel we had a fair deal, this is still a burden on our cashflow that may prevent us from taking on our first employee.

Benefit to the Community:

The local community and the wider population of the Scottish Borders and East Lothian uses the centre as an amenity for swimming, sailing and paddlesports. The Trust encourages and facilitates community group activities, especially from community associations, schools and Scout groups. Duns Community Nursery recently used the Centre as a venue for their "Duns dook!"

We employ local people where practical and we are starting to train young and pre-university people from the area to be assistant instructors and safety boat drivers as this helps us run more flexible sessions with more students. We always look for suppliers from the locality and recently had our car park improved by a local contractor.

We provide a destination for visitors from a wide area and attract tourists which contributes to the local economy. We manage the visitors to our site and parking around the Centre reducing parking nuisance.

Disability Provisions:

Our inner car park has a disabled person's drop off on to tarmac and all the changing rooms are on the same level. The pontoon is accessible and we can transfer people from chairs to boats with assistance.

We have recently made a path from the car park which itself has been resurfaced with hardcore to improve access for people in general. When funding allows we will make that path wheelchair accessible.

Details of Funding Requested:

ITEM	QTY	COST
Payment of SBC Loan	1	£6,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST		£6,000.00

Amount requested from CELCA: £6,000.00

Details of other sources of funding:

We have applied to PACT for assistance with this item. We have spent some of our surpluses on equipment this year in pursuit of similar objectives.

Contributions from Applicant/Organisation:

We will be contributing some of our reserves to cover the payment if we do not reach the £6,000 target but expect to generate additional revenue.

Dates of Project:

July 2023