

	<b>Andover Town Council</b> To <b>receive</b> and <b>approve</b> a grant from <b>Andover A-Fest 2026</b> for £2,500 towards the cost of a one-off event.	Item No. <b>8 (a)</b>
	<b>Produced for:</b> Community & Events Committee	<b>By:</b> Community and Events Officer

<b>Name of applicant Organisation:</b>	<b>A-Fest Andover CIC</b>
<b>Amount requested:</b>	<b>£2,500</b>
<b>Subject of application:</b>	<b>A-Fest 2026</b>

### Summary

<b>Location of Project / Event:</b>	Andover High Street
<b>Date of project / event / purchase of asset:</b>	Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
<b>Project description:</b>	<p>A-Fest is a free, inclusive community event with a strong focus on young people, designed to bring families together while showcasing the wide range of local organisations, charities, clubs, and businesses that support residents across Andover. The festival will feature live performances from young and local talent, interactive workshops, creative activities, wellbeing initiatives, fairground attractions, and information stalls, all aimed at encouraging participation and community connection.</p>

### Information supplied on the application form

<b>Which groups of people will benefit &amp; how many people will benefit?</b>	<p>We estimate that several thousand Andover residents benefit from A-Fest each year, with a significantly higher number of families attending the most recent festival compared to previous years. This estimate is informed by visual footfall observations, feedback from stallholders and businesses, with several businesses selling out of products on the day. We have previously held discussions with Andover BID and Test Valley Borough Council regarding town centre footfall trackers, which we believe to be ongoing. We intend to strengthen our data collection by introducing hourly manual footfall counts using volunteer clicker tests across key access points. This will hopefully allow us to provide more accurate evidence of resident engagement while</p>
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	<p>continuing to deliver an event that benefits a large proportion of Andover's population each year.</p>
<p><b>Does the Organisation work solely for the Benefit of Andover?</b></p>	<p>Yes. The CIC works primarily for the benefit of Andover and its residents.</p> <p>The organisation was established specifically to deliver A-Fest as a community event in town, with the sole purpose of supporting local young people, families and community organisations. All activities, partnerships, and funding are focused on creating positive outcomes within the town, particularly through increased youth engagement, family wellbeing, and community cohesion.</p> <p>While some attendees and participating organisations may come from surrounding areas, the planning, delivery, and impact of A-Fest are firmly centred on Andover, and the event exists to benefit the town and its community.</p>

<p><b>What evidence of need for the project, activity, event, equipment or service have been provided within the application?</b></p>	<p>A-Fest has become a well-established and much-anticipated event in Andover's annual calendar, now entering its 12th year in 2026.</p> <p>It has consistently demonstrated strong community demand, growing attendance, and clear social value, particularly for young people and families during a time of ongoing cost-of-living pressures.</p> <p>The festival is delivered by a small team that works closely with local partners, charities, schools and businesses to ensure the event reflects the needs of the town and provides meaningful opportunities for engagement, volunteering, and community connection.</p> <p>A-Fest also provides clear wider benefits to Andover, including increased High Street footfall, positive publicity for the town, and a platform for local organisations to reach residents they may otherwise struggle to engage. Feedback from previous years has highlighted the value of A-Fest as a welcoming, well-organised event that showcases the best of Andover and strengthens community pride.</p>
<p><b>Total project amount</b></p>	<p><b>£6,425.00</b></p>
<p><b>Financial breakdown of costs</b></p>	<p>Please find the details regarding budget in appendix 1: <a href="#">Appendix 1</a></p>
<p><b>Have previous grants been awarded by ATC</b></p>	<p>Yes, Andover Town Council have supported A-Fest previously.</p>
<p><b>Have all previous grant reports been received?</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Other Funding applied for:</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Have all required documents been received?</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Has this project met all funding criteria set out within the Grants Policy?</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Any other useful information?</b></p>	<p>The grant if awarded would be used to support the delivery of A-Fest 2026, Andover's annual</p>

	<p>family festival, taking place on Sunday 26th April 2026 from 10am–3pm on Andover High Street, the 12th year of the festival.</p> <p>The grant funding from Andover Town Council would be used to cover essential core costs required to deliver the event safely and successfully. This includes the hire of the main stage and sound equipment for performances, insurance, licences and legal requirements, event infrastructure such as stall setup and materials, and promotion of the event to ensure it reaches families across the town.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p>	<p>To <b>receive</b> the application report and all supporting documentation  To <b>discuss</b> the application  To <b>approve</b> the application</p>