



West Swindon Parish Council
 West Swindon Library
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 Swindon
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Grant Application Form	
About You:	
Date:	28 November 2019
Name of Organisation	Digital Writes - Development & Publishing C.I.C.
Name of contact person	Keith Phillips
Contact Address and contact number	address provided Westlea Swindon SN5 7DE mobile provided
E-mail for organisation	keith@digitalwrites.org.uk
How long has your organisation has been active?	4 years Keith Phillips, company director of Digital Writes, was the filmmaking tutor on the Lydiard Park Academy's West Words poetry film.
Please tick the boxes to confirm you are submitting all of the following with your completed application:	Governing Document e.g. Constitution/Terms of Reference (attached)
	Management Group or Committee Membership details Paid Directors: Keith Phillips, tutor Voluntary Directors (acting in the capacity of trustees) Oliver Webb (performance, equalities) Allan Bott (gaming culture) We are in the process of confirming a new paid director and two new voluntary directors.
Annual Turnover of your organisation	£18,000

Your Grant Project:

Name of project or activity?	Westways A series of short animated mockumentary videos, by, about and for young people from Toothill and Freshbrook, published on a dedicated YouTube Channel.
The wider project	<p>We're applying for seed funding for a pilot project, with a view to developing it into a much larger, ongoing project to benefit young people living in Toothill and Freshbrook* and to boost the public perception of Toothill and Freshbrook.</p> <p>The aim of this pilot project is to inspire young people's interest in the larger project, to encourage them to be part of it, and to spark an interest from all West Swindon residents.</p> <p>To fund this larger project, we'll be going to the Toothill Big Local, the National Lottery Awards For All and the Wiltshire Community Foundation. Awards For All in particular are looking to fund more projects in Swindon. These regional and national funders need evidence that there is need for this work, a local desire for it, and strong local support. The Parish Council's support for this pilot project will be crucial in demonstrating these things.</p> <p>The larger project will centre around the Westways concept (as detailed below) of creating a long running series of satirical animations. But it will also allow for other forms of art and creative media to be included under that banner. For example, we could bring in a song writer and young people could record a song and make an animated music video. Or young people could take the character designs and environment drawings and turn them into a small video game. Or they could make and distribute a printed comic.</p> <p>* (Although we'd be delighted to expand it to the whole of West Swindon should the Parish Council express that preference.)</p>

Who is it for? and where is it happening? (500 words max.)

Westways Pilot Project

This project was entirely the idea of a group of young people who already go to youth clubs in the Toothill Community Centre and Toothill Farmhouse. They would love the opportunity to show their skills and talents, to say something about their lives and experiences as young people from Toothill and Freshbrook, to improve the general perception of young people from these areas and to improve the general perception of these areas themselves.

A key part of this project is to target less advantaged young people from Toothill and Freshbrook who are facing challenges at school or at home. To engage these young people, we're working with our youth partners at Lydiard Park Academy, the Villiers Park Educational Trust, the Platform Project youth development scheme, and SMASH youth mentoring scheme. These partners have agreed to help us identify young people who are facing these challenges and who might benefit from taking part in a creative project, and to help us encourage these young people to get involved.

The pilot project will happen in January and February 2020. Mondays will be at the Toothill Community Centre and Tuesdays will be at the Toothill Farmhouse. There will also be a 1-day workshop at the Toothill Farmhouse over the February half-term. This will also help create a bridge between the two youth clubs.

The project is to make a satirical animated TV series and publish it on YouTube. Episodes will be released monthly, and will be just a few minutes each. The aim will be to make them relevant, punchy and very funny.

The young people who came up with the idea are big fans of the hugely successful award-winning BBC3 mockumentary *This Country*, a satirical mock documentary set in the South Cerney area and made by local people.

The young people want to make something similar about West Swindon.

They're nervous about appearing on camera, so they want to make it animated. This is actually a really great idea. It makes handling privacy and safeguarding issues much easier. It also means participants can come and go from the project without jeopardising continuity. And it means we can set episodes anywhere in West Swindon and not have to worry about location filming with its attendant issues of filming permissions and the privacy of residents.

We have developed a set of teaching and production techniques using our advanced professional software that makes producing top quality animation accessible to young people.

We are confident everyone involved in the project will be very proud of what they are able to produce.

<p>How will residents in West Swindon benefit from this? (500 words max.)</p>	<p>We anticipate the young people taking part will benefit from the self-esteem boost we always see from these kinds of creative projects. We anticipate them seeing themselves as being more capable than they ever thought possible and having more options in life, whether specifically in creative media, or more generally. Participants in our projects regularly develop independence, organisational skills resilience and determination. They will benefit from gaining a public voice and raising the public perception of who they are and what they're like.</p> <p>We will be using targeted social media and the local press to promote the series, and our aim is that residents in West Swindon will enjoy seeing their local community portrayed publicly and benefit from seeing their young people's talents celebrated.</p>
<p>When you aim to start and finish?</p>	<p>Start 7/1/20 Finish 21/2/20</p>
<p>What funding are you requesting from the Parish Council?</p>	<p>Creative Media Tutor Community Centre Club: 6x 2-hour sessions @ £25/hr = £300 Farmhouse Club: 6 x 2-hour sessions @ £25/hr = £300 Farmhouse Club: 1 x 5-hour session @ £25/hr = £125 Non-contact time* planning and preparation, compiling and publishing work: 12 hours @ £25 = £300</p> <p>TOTAL: £1025</p> <p>*Substantial non-contact time is required to prepare the activities to make them accessible so participants can achieve what they want in the limited time, and to do the finer detailed editing and polishing to make the work how the participants envisioned it.</p>
<p>Please detail any match funding you will bring to the project <i>e.g. donations, in kind funding, volunteer hours.</i></p>	<p>Further non-contact time planning and preparation, compiling and publishing work volunteered by Keith Phillips: 20 hours @ £25 = £500 IT equipment loaned by Ideal Films: 6 weeks @ £135 = £810 Software licenses: Adobe: 2 months @ £25 = £50 Dropbox: 2 months @ £7 = £14 Insurance: 2 months @ £25 = £50</p> <p>TOTAL: £1424</p>

Thank you. Please return your form in person, post or email to: Grants, West Swindon Parish Council, to the contact details at the top of the form.