



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Small Grant / Green Grant Application Form¹

CONTACT DETAILS

Name of Organisation	F ⁶ IT Charitable Incorporated Organisation
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PROJECT DETAILS

Name of Project	F ⁶ IT - Boccia Club
What aspect of the project will grant money be used for. Please be as specific as possible. ²	<p>We would like to apply for a grant for £1000 to fund 50% of the specialist equipment required for our new Boccia club, planned to run at The Edge Leisure Centre, Haslemere from Autumn 2024</p> <p>Boccia England recommended start-up equipment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• £384 – 2 x sets of Youth Sport new age sensory sound boccia sets• £244 – 4 x lite ramps• £42 – referee kit• £15 – 4 x rolls of court tape• £1060 – 4 x head pointers• £160 – visually impaired grid for Boccia• £95 – Boccia scoreboard <p>Total: £2000</p> <p>Other funding is being sought for the remaining £1000 of the equipment: Fundraising Thames Walk on 4th August 2024 organised by Rathbones/Investec, aiming to raise approximately £1000</p> <p>TOTAL PROJECT COST - £2000 TOTAL request from Haslemere Town Council: £1000</p>

¹ Delete as appropriate

² Use a separate sheet if required

<p>What benefits for the Haslemere community do you expect will result from the project?³</p>	<p>F6IT currently engages and supports over 180 young people with disabilities and additional needs in Waverley and Guildford, with at least 20% of those living directly in the Beacon-Hill-Hindhead-Haslemere-Grayswood areas, with the remainder in other parts of Waverley and Guildford boroughs. Our aim is to reach more families in and around Haslemere, and the wider Waverley and Guildford boroughs who would benefit from the sport and recreational activities we provide.</p> <p>We provide fully inclusive sports and leisure opportunities for children and young people with disabilities and additional needs and their families, many of whom struggle to access the basic sports and recreational opportunities that their non-disabled peers take for granted. We are already successfully providing Frame Football (in partnership with Beacon-Hill Football Club) and Wheelchair Multi-Sport at The Edge Leisure Centre in Haslemere. Boccia, along with an Inclusive Art Club, Dance Club and Board Games Club are due to commence at The Edge Leisure Centre within the next 6 months as funding allows and further activities are to be rolled out over the next 2 years.</p> <p>The benefits of these activities to families in Haslemere are manifold. According to the 2021 census there are approximately 36409 children and young people, aged 0-25, living in Waverley borough council. 4.7%, or 1711, of these children and young people are identified as disabled and 'limited a lot'; 9.1%, or 3313, of these children and young people are identified as disabled and 'limited a little'. Many are unable to access the sports and recreational opportunities available to their peers due to a paucity of truly accessible and inclusive opportunities in their locality. Not only is their physical health affected by this, but also their mental well-being with many at risk of social isolation together with the rest of their family.</p> <p>Regional and national evidence backs this up: Research into inclusive activities for children and young people undertaken by Active Surrey in Jan 2022 identified, among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>children and young people with additional needs and disabilities have strong motivation to be more physically active.</i> • <i>there were few appropriate local facilities that could meet their needs.</i>
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³ Use a separate sheet if required

- the issues faced by children and young people with additional needs and disabilities, their families and schools are complex. In order to reduce **inequalities**, organisations and funders need to work together alongside parents/carers to provide suitable solutions that meet the needs of their children and young people.

Sport England's Active Lives Children and Young People Survey data (2020/21):

- "27% of disabled school children in Surrey are less active, doing less than 30 minutes a day of physical activity" (The Chief Medical Officer's guidelines are that children and young people should do an average of 60 minutes of moderate physical activity per day)
- "Provision of sports and physical activities should focus on the needs of children and young people with ASD, Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP), ADHD and those with speech, language and communication difficulties. This is not to say that children and young people with other needs/disabilities should be overlooked, but the above conditions are most prevalent in the survey sample."
- "Parents and staff identified that **the workforce needs improvements** in their knowledge of children and young people's needs and the skills to provide for them appropriately. There is a clear need for the workforce to be supported more and receive effective training to deliver activities that are enriching as well as those that children and young people really want to do. If the existing workforce cannot or does not have the required skills, outsourcing to specialists should be explored."
- "**Facilities and activities are not providing adequately for children and young people.** There are plenty of facilities throughout the county, but parents and staff often say there are none local to them that provide suitable activities. Those facilities that do, frequently have activities at inappropriate times of the week/day, such as daytimes or Sunday evenings. To truly be inclusive, facilities and events need to do more to meet the needs of children and young people with additional needs and disabilities."

Sport England's Research in July 2016 'Mapping Disability' states:

- "Disabled people are much less likely to regularly take part in sport than non-disabled people. Disability is a complex market, with huge variations in people's needs and preferences. We realise that a

‘one-size fits all’ strategy won’t work if we’re to get more disabled people active.”

F⁶IT’s Boccia club, like our other clubs, will fill a gap in provision by providing an activity that can be undertaken by all children and young people regardless of their disability *at an appropriate time and day for children and young people to engage*. We also actively encourage siblings and friends of the young people to join in too.

The Boccia equipment has the potential, in the longer-term, to be of benefit to many more children and young people than those who attend F⁶IT’s Boccia club. As part of our fitness objectives we plan, in the mid-term, to engage with local schools to expose and introduce non-disabled and disabled children to disability/accessible sport. This means that the Boccia kit has the potential to reach a far greater number of young people being educated in and around Haslemere.

Why Boccia?

Boccia (pronounced bot-cha) is one of the most inclusive sports that can be found.

Boccia is a Paralympic sport with no Olympic equivalent. It’s a target ball sport which tests both muscle control and accuracy. From a seated position (and therefore ideal for wheelchair users) players propel balls to land close to a white marker ball – the jack. If they are unable to grasp and propel a ball, a ramp and head pointer can be used; and there is a tactile court map for people with visual impairment.

Boccia England states that Boccia is uniquely placed to make a massive difference to the lives of so many people who otherwise would not have access to the benefits sport can bring. Boccia is a totally inclusive sport and can be played by **anyone regardless of age, gender, ability or disability. Boccia is the only sporting option for many severely disabled and older people with limited motor skills. Boccia can be played by anyone, but it is uniquely accessible for people with the most severe disabilities.**

We believe the above information demonstrates that the purchase of Boccia kit aligns with at least two of the objectives outlined in Haslemere Town Council’s Strategic Plan: **equality, diversity and inclusivity** and **youth**. F⁶IT is uniquely placed to support Haslemere Town Council, not only with the new Boccia club, but with our long term strategic plan, in fostering equality,

	<p>diversity and inclusion for all youth and ensuring that there are adequate and equal sport, leisure and recreational opportunities for children in young people with disabilities and additional needs in and around Haslemere. Although Haslemere currently has some facilities for young people such as playgrounds, youth clubs, sport clubs etc, there is much more that must be done in terms of accessibility and inclusion in our local community. F⁶IT is excited to work with Haslemere Town Council to become leaders in South West Surrey in delivering facilities and activities for the several thousands of families with children and young people with disabilities and additional needs who face poor physical and mental health and isolation as a result of inequality of sport and recreational facilities and activities.</p>
Scheduled project start and finish date	<p>Start: September/October 2024, subject to funding. No specific end date. Once we have the equipment. we can continue to run this project. As mentioned above there may be scope for schools to use the equipment as part of our outreach plans.</p>

FUNDING DETAILS

Total estimated cost of the project	£2,000
Amount of grant requested from the Town Council	£1,000
Have you or will you be applying to other bodies for financial assistance? ⁴	No – but see above regarding the fundraising initiative for this project
If yes please state: To whom applied	
Amount(s) applied for	
Amount(s) received	
Have you received a grant from the Town Council before? If so for how much and for what purpose? ⁵	No
What fundraising activities will your organisation be doing to fund this project?	Our corporate partner: Rathbones/Investec have planned the Thames Walk on 4 th August 2024 as a fundraising activity and aim to raise £1000 towards this project.

ORGANISATION DETAILS

Is your organisation a Registered charity or trust? (If yes please provide Registration Number)	Yes Registration Number: 1208281
Is it affiliated to a National Body? If yes please specify.	No

⁴ HTC will not accept applications for 100% of project funding

⁵ HTC will not accept applications from organisations which have been awarded a grant in the last two years.