

BID FOR FUNDING FROM AREA COMMITTEE LEGACY FUND

The Area Committee has allocated a pot of £10,000 from its Legacy Fund for requests of up to £1,000 (excl VAT if registered; incl VAT if not) from organisations/individuals to do something special in Colne and the Villages which will be memorable and make a lasting difference. Ideally, there should be the ability to attach or note an acknowledgement of Colne Area's support.

1. **Project title:**
Street Piano - Colne Market Hall
2. **Bid submitted by:**
Russell Tebbutt . I am a local resident and I run the Street Piano outside the church at the Blues Festival.
3. **On behalf of (please include contact details):**

Colne Blues Society – Nina Bates

7 New Market S

BB8 9BJ

office@colnebluessociety.org.uk
XXXXXX

4. **If you are an organisation, please complete this question. If not, go to Q5**

a) Does your organisation have a constitution?

Colne Blues Society Ltd is a formally constituted limited company.

b) Does it have a board of governors/directors or a committee that oversees its work?

The single director is Nina Bates. An informal group of volunteers helps to run the Festival.

c) Does your organisation have its own bank account?

Yes.

XXXXXX

d) Is your organisation VAT-registered?

No.

5. **Amount requested: £1000**
up to £1,000 (excl VAT if registered; incl VAT if not)

6. **Total amount of project: £1000**

7. **Is there match funding for the project from elsewhere?**
If so, please give details: no.

8. **Brief details of project:**

The proposal is to install a Street Piano in Colne Market Hall.

A street piano is a piano that can be played by members of the public at any time. The panel may be aware of the Channel 4 series The Piano which gives the general idea.

The idea was originally conceived as a way to break down barriers between strangers in public places, hence their location in train stations. It is also an opportunity for new ish musicians – young and old – to develop confidence playing in public in a low pressure way.

It will be sponsored and managed by Colne Blues Society as a way of maintaining musical pleasure all year round.

Ged Lynch the General Manager at Colne Market Hall has agreed to the project.

Potential Problems:

1) Nuisance/ Disruptive Playing

Could be managed in the same way as any other nuisance behaviours. As a last resort a spare key could be held by a market business eg the bar.

There is a Street Piano in Blackburn Market Hall which has been managed successfully in this way for many years.

2) Ongoing Tuning Costs - £150 pa.

The grant would provide a reserve to cover the first year's tuning costs. It is hoped that both Colne Blues Soc and the Market Hall would share these modest costs in the longer term though this has not been formally agreed.

3) There will be a plaque saying

Street Piano- Play Me I'm Yours

Sponsored by

Colne Blues Festival & Colne Town Council.

9. Main outcomes to be achieved:

- Celebrating Colne's thriving live music scene, all year round.
- Encouraging the development of young local musicians especially.
- The beauty of piano music in unexpected places.

10. When will project be implemented?

If this can be expedited, we are hoping to have the piano installed before this year's Blues.

We hope to arrange a launch event, encouraging youngsters especially to participate.

Start Date: August 20th, 2026.

Expected Completion Date: ongoing.

11. Who will undertake the project works?

Myself in conjunction with Colne Blues Society and Colne Market Hall.

- 12. Are there long-term revenue consequences and how will these be funded?**
Ongoing tuning costs, but see above.