



Hadleigh Town Council

The Guildhall
Market Place
Hadleigh
Suffolk
IP7 5DN
(01473) 823884

COMMUNITY GRANTS FUNDING APPLICATION FORM 2026/2027

All applications must be submitted using this form

How to use this form: this form can be printed and completed by hand or can be filled in electronically. Please try to keep your answers to the point to fit into the boxes.

Prior to submitting this form if you wish to speak to a member of staff please contact:
assistant@hadleightowncouncil.gov.uk

Name and address of the person making the application on behalf of the organization: Stephanie Longmore [REDACTED]
Position held in organization: Club Administrator
Telephone number: [REDACTED]
Email address: arenakarate1@gmail.com
Name of the organisation you are requesting funding for: Arena Karate
What type of organisation are you requesting funding for (e.g., charity/voluntary organisation)? (No grant will be awarded to or for any commercial venture for private gain) Voluntary Community Sports Club Please provide any relevant registration number: N/A
What does this organisation do? Arena Karate is a voluntary community sports club that has been serving Hadleigh and the surrounding areas since 1975. We provide karate training for children and adults of all ages and abilities in a safe, inclusive and supportive environment. Beyond teaching martial arts, we promote physical activity, confidence, discipline, respect, resilience and personal development. We encourage participation in sport at all levels, from beginners through to international competitors, while fostering friendships, community spirit and positive role models for young people.
What are the aims of this organisation? The aims of Arena Karate are to provide accessible, high-quality martial arts training for people of all ages and abilities, while promoting physical fitness, confidence, discipline, respect and resilience. We aim to create an inclusive and supportive environment where members can develop both personally and athletically, encourage lifelong participation in sport, and provide opportunities for individuals to achieve their full potential, whether that is improving their wellbeing, gaining confidence, or competing at regional, national and international level. We also strive to be a positive force within the local community by inspiring young people, developing role models and representing Hadleigh with pride.



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Has this organisation received a grant from Hadleigh Town Council in the last 3 years? If so, when was it received, what was the value of the grant awarded, and what was it for?

No

What is the name of the project/activity you are applying for?

Arena Karate Team GB Athlete Support Project

How many people in Hadleigh will benefit from this project?

Seven athletes from Arena Karate, aged between 10 and 37, who have been selected to represent Team GB at the WTKA European and World Karate Championships. Funding will help reduce the financial barriers associated with competing internationally, ensuring these local athletes can take up the opportunity they have earned through their dedication and achievement.

When will the project be started/finished?

Start: July 2026

Finish: October 2026

Constitution

Does this organisation have a constitution? Yes / **No** (If Yes please attach a copy)

Financial information

Total income of the organisation in the last financial year including date of year end:

£5000 -

Total amount spent in the last financial year:

£4500

Where does the organisation get its funding from?

Class fees and gradings/examinations

What is the **total** cost for the project/activity which this funding application relates to?
(Please provide a breakdown of the key costs involved):

The total estimated cost of the project is £10,500, based on seven athletes at £1,500 per competitor. Each competitor package includes competition entry, return flights from England to Italy, a 10kg cabin bag and 20kg checked suitcase, airport parking, hotel accommodation in Italy, airport and hotel transfers, breakfast and an

What is the amount of grant requested from Hadleigh Town Council?

£3000

How much has already been raised? £235



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Is the grant for match funding? (i.e. are funds from elsewhere dependent on our funding?)

No – not as it currently stands

Have you applied elsewhere for a grant, if so, which organisation(s), how much for, and when will you know if the application has been successful?

Alongside this application, Arena Karate is actively fundraising through community donations, local business sponsorship, media engagement and public fundraising initiatives to help reduce the financial burden on the athletes and their families.

How will you continue to fund the project once Hadleigh Town Council's funding runs out? (If you are seeking funding for a one-off event then you do not need to answer this question).

It is a one off event

Please provide your bank / building society details so a BACS payment can be made if your grant application is successful

Alternatively, if funding is granted and if easier, it can be sent straight to our gofundme:
<https://gofund.me/37d75da15>

About your project

Please tell us about your project in up to 500 words. We would like to know the following:

- Why do you want to do this project?
- How do you know that it is needed?
- How many Hadleigh residents will benefit from it?
- How does the project meet one or more of our funding priorities (below)?
 1. Support projects and initiatives which will directly benefit the residents of Hadleigh
 2. Enable local people to participate in voluntary groups, organisations, and activities
 3. Help the towns voluntary groups and organisations improve effectiveness or offer additional services or activities.
 4. To support organisations which meet the need of the people experiencing social and economic difficulties
 5. To ensure that there is equality of access for Hadleigh residents to the services it provides and funds
 6. Projects and initiatives that contribute to Hadleigh Town Council's priorities or strategies



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About your project :

Arena Karate has proudly served the Hadleigh community since 1975, providing affordable, inclusive martial arts training for children and adults of all ages. Our club is committed to developing confidence, discipline, resilience, respect and physical wellbeing, while creating opportunities for local people to participate in sport regardless of their background or experience.

This project will support seven local athletes, aged between 10 and 37, who have been selected to represent Team GB at the WTKA World Karate Championships in Italy. Selection for Team GB is a significant achievement, earned through years of commitment, perseverance and success in competition. Unfortunately, unlike many other sports, karate receives no government funding, meaning every athlete must personally fund the costs of representing their country. Without financial support, some athletes may be unable to take up this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity despite earning their place through merit.

Funding from Hadleigh Town Council would directly benefit seven local residents by helping to reduce the financial barriers associated with competing internationally. It would ensure that talented athletes are not prevented from representing Great Britain and proudly showcasing Hadleigh on the international stage because of financial barriers rather than ability.

The project strongly aligns with the Council's funding priorities. It directly benefits Hadleigh residents, supports a long-established voluntary community sports club, enables local people to participate and progress in organised sporting activities, and helps remove financial barriers that could otherwise prevent participation. By supporting these athletes, the Council would also be investing in positive role models who inspire younger members of the club and demonstrate what can be achieved through dedication, hard work and community support.

The impact of this project extends far beyond the championships themselves. Our Team GB athletes regularly train alongside younger members of the club, encouraging them to become more active, build confidence and set ambitious goals.

Their success demonstrates that a community club in Hadleigh can develop athletes capable of representing Great Britain at the highest level. By supporting this project, the Town Council would be recognising and celebrating local sporting excellence while inspiring the next generation of young people to believe that they too can achieve extraordinary things through dedication and hard work.



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Declaration:

We confirm that all the information contained within this application is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge and belief, and that we are authorised to submit this application on behalf of the group.

By signing this form you have read and agree to abide by the terms and conditions

Signature 1
(person submitting form)

Stephanie Longmore

Signature 2
(Chair or senior representative of the organisation)
(Must be a different person and unrelated to signature 1)

Stefanie Barnes (Head Instructor of Arena Karate)

Date: 10/07/2026

Please return your completed application form to:

Hadleigh Town Council, Guildhall, Market Place, Hadleigh, Suffolk, IP7 5DN or email to
assistant@hadleightowncouncil.gov.uk