

**APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) GRANT
FOR A PROJECT IN THE WOLVERCOTE NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AREA
Spring Round 2026**

1. Please read the “Guidance Notes for WNF CIL Funding Applications”
2. The sections of this application form may be used flexibly to provide additional information where necessary. Not all sections will be relevant to all projects, and you may leave these blank.
3. Applications will be assessed by the WNF Steering Committee, taking account of the following criteria; applicants may wish to include supporting information regarding their project’s fit to the criteria.
 - Location within or serving the WNF Community
 - The recipient operates as a recognised body with a nominated bank account
 - The project has agreement in principle from the property or asset owner
 - Value for money
 - Consideration has been given to health and safety requirements
 - Environmental sustainability
 - Innovation
4. If your application is successful, please
 - Confirm to the Forum receipt of funding from the City Council
 - Send us photographs of your finished project.

APPLICATION DATE	13/03/2026
REVISION DATE if applicable	
TITLE Short title by which the project will be known	WolverComets
PROJECT APPLICANT(S) Name of person (not organisation) who has initiated the project. Do not include contact details here: see page 3.	Dr Baptiste Klein Dr Maryanne Saunders
APPLICANT ORGANISATION Name and type of organisation, if applicable, charity number.	We would register a charity of the same name if the funding were approved.
OUTLINE PROJECT DESCRIPTION Short description so others not associated with the project can understand its purpose and scope. Include aims & objectives, and expected beneficiaries (max 150 words)	WolverComets will be a community focused star gazing and astrophysics engagement initiative. Primarily aimed at families and children. WolverComets will offer a monthly star gazing session including practical use of a telescope, instructions and activities. We would also offer special occasion sessions for more unusual phenomena such as meteor showers or blood moons. The aim of the project is to engage children and families with astrophysics, provide an outdoor, free (and screen-free) activity connecting likeminded people in the local area. Both applicants are University educators with Dr Klein being an astrophysicist and Dr Saunders being an art historian who specialises in public engagement and widening participation. We are both DBS checked and have years of teaching experience.

<p>MAIN TASKS</p> <p>A list of the main tasks and if appropriate an initial project plan with timescales.</p>	<p>Purchase the telescope and tracker</p> <p>Design and print posters</p> <p>Create WhatsApp/social media group to post updates</p> <p>Maintain an accurate schedule of weather conditions and potential phenomena.</p>
<p>STAKEHOLDERS & DETAILS OF CONSULTATION</p> <p>(e.g. Council, Highways, site owners or asset holders, community organisations, businesses, neighbours)</p>	<p>The observations would be in Port Meadow and other large green spaces, so we do not anticipate them being particularly disruptive to the local neighbours or businesses.</p>
<p>RELEVANCE TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</p> <p>How does the project enhance or develop our neighbourhood?</p>	<p>We believe the project could benefit the area enormously as it will build community and friendships as well as enhancing learning and knowledge.</p>
<p>CONSENTS REQUIRED</p> <p>Are any legal consents required before the project can go ahead (e.g. from a Council department such as Highways, Planning, Building Control, or other statutory organisation)?</p>	<p>We do not believe so as star gazing is a free and public activity.</p>
<p>FINANCE</p> <p>How much will this project cost in total? What proportion is being sought from CIL funding? What other sources of finance are being pursued? Are you seeking matched funding? What will the CIL grant be spent on?</p> <p>PLEASE INCLUDE COPIES OF FIRM QUOTATIONS</p>	<p>We are seeking full funding for the following:</p> <p>An 8inch telescope and mount. This is a model used by other stargazing groups. It is ideal to observe solar system planets as well as more distant nebula. £1,475</p> <p>https://www.rothervalleyoptics.co.uk/celestron-nexstar-8-se-telescope.html</p> <p>A tracker accessory to make the telescope as easy to use as possible. £329.00</p> <p>https://www.rothervalleyoptics.co.uk/celestron-starsense-autoalign-accessory.html</p> <p>Total: £1804.00</p>
<p>MAINTENANCE</p> <p>How will the outputs of the project be maintained and by whom? Please note that CIL grants cannot be used to cover ongoing costs.</p>	<p>The telescope will be looked after and maintained by us. We can also offer to loan the telescope out to community members if that would be of interest.</p>
<p>RISK ASSESSMENT</p> <p>Are there any financial or other risks to the completion of this project?</p> <p>Are there any safety issues associated with the project?</p>	<p>The main financial risk is lack of attendance, which we sincerely believe would not be the case.</p> <p>The safety issues associated would be standard ones involved in going outside in the dark. Parents will be responsible for the safety of their own children.</p>
<p>MONITORING AND REPORTING</p>	<p>We will keep a note of verbal feedback from every</p>

<p>How will the success of the project be monitored? Over what timescale?</p>	<p>session in order to improve. At the end of a year we will send out a feedback questionnaire to be voluntarily filled in by participants. We could continue to do this annually.</p>
<p>OTHER COMMENTS OR INFORMATION Please list anything else of relevance you wish the Committee to be aware of.</p>	
<p>Completed applications, WITH COPIES OF FIRM QUOTATIONS WHERE APPLICABLE should be sent with a covering email to wolvercotenf@gmail.com</p>	