



HOW DO WE PAY FOR OUR FUN PALACE?

The first thing to say is that Joan and Cedric didn't have much luck getting funding for their Fun Palace back in the 1960s. It was hard for funders to understand ...

"You want to bring arts and sciences together? And you believe ANYONE can have a go? And that who comes through the door is as important as the quality of your work? Are you kidding?" They weren't. But they didn't get the money either.

The second thing to say is that in the 2014 Fun Palaces pilot loads of Fun Palaces found funding locally. Fun Palaces are LOCAL. Ask around.

What Some Fun Palaces Did In 2014 :

Brockwell Lido Fun Palace asked local businesses for sponsorship, raising £1400, and loads of help in kind as well.

Whitstable Museum of Fun went to a local council meeting and made a speech asking for money to cover workshop costs – and they got it.

Some Fun Palaces received small local and ACE grants, others had help from local venues or were housed in venues that covered the costs themselves.

Farnham Fun Palace cost less than £20. A venue that gave itself free, recycled materials, and local people working together to create for their own community. Twenty quid. Priceless.

Your Local Council

Yes, local councils are hard-pushed, but Fun Palaces ticks loads of boxes for them: local people, local engagement, local learning. Talk to your councillors. Invite them to your meetings. There are always funds they know about that we don't – there might be a few hoops to jump through (funding is very hoopy) but those hoops might be worth it. And getting to know local politicians is always valuable, they wouldn't do the job if they didn't care. Show them that you care too.

Heritage Lottery Fund

Great news! They don't only restore old theatres, prop up Roman walls, and fund that huge museum in your city centre. They love local stuff, thrive on engagement, embrace digital AND they're lovely to talk to. If what you're doing has a heritage angle – that's local history, as-yet-untold life stories, the background to the building or park where your Fun Palace will be, then they're definitely worth talking to. If you're working on a digital stuff to do with heritage they like that too. We've found the HLF to be really friendly and very supportive. They get what we're doing AND they're prepared to have a conversation.

This is them : [Heritage Lottery Fund](#)

Their smaller grants also have a nice, fast turnaround.

