

BURSTING WITH IDEAS?

SMALL GRANTS HELPING YOU KICKSTART YOUR PROJECT

We love the Blackwater Valley.

It's our mission to protect our wildlife habitat, enhance our environment and provide a great place for the public to enjoy.

Many groups and organisations along our 22-mile valley share our dreams and goal. Full of great ideas on how to improve their local area, often they just need a little help to get started.

To help kickstart your project, we have introduced a small grants scheme to fund projects for like-minded organisations or groups in the Blackwater Valley.

Examples of projects we may fund:

- *to provide equipment for groups to use for working on local nature areas*
- *to improve access to recreational facilities and the countryside;*
- *to create new wildlife habitats and species recording;*
- *to provide signage/information about our natural environment; and*
- *offering educational opportunities to the public*

Together we can achieve more, faster.



SMALL GRANTS HELPING YOU KICKSTART YOUR PROJECT

If you have a project which will help make the Blackwater Valley a special place, full of life, where the countryside is valued and the people and wildlife thrive together, but have not enough money, we may be able to help with a Small Grant.

How does the scheme work?

- The scheme is open to organisations, for projects that will benefit a local area.
- Grants are available from £100 to £3000.
- Funding is available for cost of materials, not running costs.
- Grants will only be awarded where they further our aims. Broadly, these cover enhancement of wildlife, access and education in the Blackwater Valley.
- It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain any statutory and legal approvals, or licences required for the work covered by the project. For example, planning permission for signage or cutting of protected trees. When applications are submitted, you will be asked to confirm that you have obtained these, and carried out a suitable risk assessment.

How to apply?

- Download, complete and submit an application form.
- Please get in touch, if you have any questions.

Examples of projects we may fund:

- to provide equipment for groups to use for working on local nature areas
- to improve access to recreational facilities and the countryside;
- to create new wildlife habitats and species recording;
- to provide signage/information about our natural environment; and
- offering educational opportunities to the public



Swift Tower Installation



Frimley Green Youth Club



Holy Trinity Aldershot
Eco-Church Project



APPLICATION FOR A SMALL GRANT

Project name	
Date of application	

About the Applicant

Contact person	
Organisation and if a charity, your charity registration number	
What are the aims of your organisation?	
Email address	
Contact phone number	
Postal address	
Bank account number	
Bank account name	
Bank sort code	
Is this bank account (into which the grant will be paid) that of the organisation or an individual?	

The Project

Please briefly outline the project	
Where will it take place?	
Who will benefit?	
When do you expect the project to start and finish?	
How many volunteer days do you expect your group will put into the project, including planning, ordering, practical work etc? e.g. 3 people over 4 <i>full</i> days = 12 volunteer days.	



Funds

Please outline what the money will be spent on, e.g. birdboxes, tools, wildflower seed, benches or signage.	
(a) What is the total project cost?	
(b) If you are getting money from other funders (e.g. a parish council), please state: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the name of the other organisation• how much they are giving you	
(c) Is your organisation funded from membership subscriptions or other sources, and if so, how?	
(d) If you have asked for a grant of more than 80% of the total project cost, please provide reasons	
(e) How much would you like from us? (£100 - £3000)	

IMPORTANT

- Please tick this box to confirm that you, the applicants, have read the [Terms and Conditions](#) of the Small Grant Scheme and agree to be bound by them, have obtained all necessary external approvals (e.g. planning permission, permission to cut protected trees), and have carried out a risk assessment.

How to submit your application:

- By email to: chair@bvct.org.uk (*preferred*)
- By post to:
Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust
Ash Lock Cottage, Government Road, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 2PS
During the current Covid-19 pandemic postal applications may be delayed.



SMALL GRANTS SCHEME TERMS & CONDITIONS

We wish to make grants to non-profit making organisations, groups or individuals for projects or purposes meeting our stated objectives and within our geographical area, both outlined on the Application Form.

The process for managing applications and granting funds will be as follows:

- In each of our financial years (starting in October), after setting aside sums required or which may be required for our own projects and administration expenses, we will set aside a fund to be made available for grants, based on the advice of our Treasurer.
- This fund will then be ring-fenced for the period of one year, and may, at our discretion, be rolled over into a second year. It may be spent in one quarter or spread between quarters as our Trustees may decide.
- We will invite applications for grants from the fund. We will require a copy of the most recent set of accounts of any organisation, charity or group to accompany an application.
- Within three months of receipt of an application, a sub-committee of our Trustees will assess, review, gather further information about and handle the administration of the application.
- If the applicant appears to have sufficient funds available for the project or the expenditure required, we will investigate further.
- The sub-committee will recommend whether to make a grant and this will be discussed at the Trustees' meeting following the quarter end date.
- If approved by all Trustees, our Treasurer will be instructed to make the payment of the grant to the applicant.

The following rules will apply:

- The grant must be used to meet our objectives.
- A minimum grant limit of £100 shall apply.
- The maximum grant payable to an applicant will be the full amount of the fund set aside for the year of the application but if they feel the application merits it, our Trustees may rollover the application and funds into a second year to meet the full amount requested.
- No single grant may exceed two years available funds.



- Whether the application meets the terms of the grant scheme and the percentage of the value of the project or expenditure for which we shall make a grant shall be at our sole discretion and our decision will be final.
- Grants will be exclusively for capital expenditure and not for administration expenses.
- The level of public support for the applicant will be considered when an application is reviewed, e.g., a membership organisation will need to have members, a charity will need to be able to demonstrate it has supporters.
- Receipts for expenditure will be required but will not be a prerequisite for payment.
- The applicant will be responsible for obtaining any necessary statutory and legal approvals, insurance, licences and skills required for the project.
- We will reserve the right to publicise the grant and the projects or expenditure involved and will expect the grant recipient to mention us as a source of the funds. A collaborative approach to public relations will allow both us and recipient to raise public awareness of their organisations.
- The grant recipient will allow our representatives reasonable access to take images and speak to people involved at various stages of the project.

Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust

Registered office address - Ash Lock Cottage, Government Road, Aldershot, Hampshire GU11 2PS

Company registered in England and Wales No. 04898996. Registered Charity No. 1109424

