



Katrina Kelly Community Board Funding Report - 2020/21

Date of Decision 03/03/2021

Organisation Name	Whitchurch Wildlife Community Group
Project Name	Community and Wildlife Improvements
Funding Stream	Community Area Priorities - Environment
Total Cost of project	£500
Amount being applied for	£250
Amount suggested	£250

Project Summary

Whitchurch Wildlife Community Group would like to encourage and involve the wider community to help improve the surrounding environment for both the residents and wildlife. Not only will this produce, improve and maintain habitats, the project will likely improve the mental health of local residents. Areas of the village are in need of improvement to create a better environment for wildlife and insects. The participation of volunteers will support their health and wellbeing and build on community spirit witnessed during the lockdowns. Encouraging people to talk and work with each other on joint efforts. To be able to make a start, it is important that the wildlife group have access to/ownership of the correct equipment/tools such as gloves, shears and bags. BBOWT are also involved to offer guidance and support on what can be developed so that the tools are used appropriately and safely whilst delivering tangible outcomes. The tools can then be used for a variety of jobs and should last well to support other initiatives and the maintenance of green spaces and habitats.

How does the project address local priorities?

The project does link with our health and wellbeing priority, providing a space for people to come together over a shared interest. This will enable residents to learn new skills as they participate which may lead on to new opportunities in the area or for them personally. It will help to create spaces for families and individuals to be proud of and enjoy. The project also links with environment which will be enhanced. Wildlife and pollination etc. will increase in the area which is very much within scope of the green initiatives locally. It also supports Covid-19 recovery as people begin to socialise again whilst providing an outdoor setting for interactions as the public begin to reintergrate.

How does the project align with the values, objectives and corporate priorities of Buckinghamshire Council?

The project sits well with the priorities of Buckinghamshire. Particularly the following;

- Strengthening our communities - Encouraging Community Spirit by getting volunteers involved. Creating pride, positivity and encouraging team spirit with an interest in nature.
- Improving our environment - Creating nicer areas to look at and for wildlife. By creation, planting and maintenance.
- Protecting the Vulnerable - Getting people to come out and take part as volunteers. Giving them

purpose and positivity.

- Increasing prosperity - Making a better place to live in, more attractive and organised.

How does the project achieve value for money?

The proposed option is a low cost and will provide a group of residents within the community with necessary tools needed to be able to create spaces that can be enjoyed, maintained and preserved in line with council and community board priorities relating to health, environment and covid-19 recovery.

The board will be receiving 50% match funding from the wildlife group.

Community Board Coordinator comments

It is recommended that members consider this project for funding noting the above comments.

The applicant will be required to agree to terms and conditions, which include a monitoring agreement, as discussed with the Community Board Coordinator before the fund will be formally awarded.