

A guide to Community Funding



Test Valley Borough Councillors **Community Grant Scheme**

The Test Valley Borough Councillors Community Grant Scheme aims to encourage community led initiatives, supported by local councillors who will play an active part in helping their communities deliver their ambitions.

What the funding can be used for

- To support community led initiatives for the benefit of the local area and community

Funding restrictions

- Up to two-thirds of the cost of the project or activity will be funded
- The maximum grant is normally £1,000

Who can apply?

- Voluntary groups
- Not for profit organisations
- Parish or Town Councils
- Schools, in relation to their wider community role
- Borough Councillors (where there is no external sponsoring organisation)

How to apply?

- Applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposal with their local Borough Councillor(s)
- Eligibility criteria and guidance notes are available on the website [here](#)
- Application forms are also available on the website [here](#)

Case Studies

Official Opening of Saxon Fields play area

The play area on Saxon Fields was identified as needing upgrading as part of the ongoing TVBC capital programme. To ensure that the views of the residents were taken into account, the Harroway Councillors carried out a consultation with the community to find out their views. The Councillors used £530.42 of their Councillors Community grant to fund the cost of the consultation event. This resulted in the play equipment being upgraded and the location was also moved slightly to make the area more family friendly. One feature that was identified was the provision of an inclusive roundabout specifically designed for both able bodied and disabled users, which is the first of its kind in the area. The upgraded play area was opened in July with an opening that included a family fun day and dog show as the area is popular with dog walkers so responsible dog ownership could be promoted.

Romsey Community Lantern (£450 awarded)



The Lantern Parade was extremely well attended. A range of groups and organisations were represented in the parade with lanterns of all shapes and sizes portraying the Christmas Carol theme.

Community Asset Fund

Organisations can apply to the Community Asset Fund for a project that provides or enhances important community infrastructure.

What the funding can be used for

- New builds and refurbishments to existing buildings
- Play and recreation equipment
- Public art

Funding restrictions

- Up to 50 percent of the cost of the project or activity
- Grants from £2,000 to £25,000

Who can apply?

- Voluntary groups
- Not for profit organisations
- Parish or Town Councils
- Management committees of community buildings
- Schools (for facilities with formal open community access)

How to apply

- Guidance notes are available on the website [here](#).
- Deadlines for submission can be seen [here](#).

Case Studies



Case study one

West Tytherley and Frenchmoor Parish Council were awarded £5,850 towards improving their play area following consultation with local children in the parish.



Case study two

Neither Wallop Parish Council were awarded £4,945 towards resurfacing the community tennis courts.

Other funding sources

There are a variety of other funding sources available for communities to apply to such as National Lottery, Landfill Communities Funding and many charitable trusts. There are two important services available to communities in Test Valley to help identify the most appropriate sources of funding, which are detailed below.

Test Valley 4 Community

Test Valley 4 Community is a funding portal which allows individuals and organisations to search both local and nationally across a range of funders including, lottery, charitable trusts, statutory, landfill trusts and many more.

The website is user friendly and allows you to quickly and easily filter through hundreds of grant schemes and find funding suitable for your project or organisation.

The portal is free to access but you will need to register to view detailed information. Visit the portal [here](#).



Test Valley Community Services (TVCS)

TVCS's role is to encourage, help and support voluntary and community groups in Test Valley. They provide a range of services including, offering funding, grant advice and support.

For more information please visit the TVCS website [here](#) or call **01794 519888 / 01264 362600**

For more information specifically on community funding please contact Marianne Piggin, Community Engagement Officer on 01264 368623 or email mpiggin@testvalley.gov.uk