

# Whitemoss Community Fund Newsletter 2016

## £62,500 Shared by 6 Lucky Local Projects

Six extremely lucky local groups are celebrating following receiving confirmation that their bids to the Whitemoss Community Fund have been successful.

Competition for funding this year was extremely high with the largest amount of funding requested since the Fund launched all the way back in 2010.

The largest grant was scooped by **Groundwork Cheshire, Lancashire and Merseyside** for a project to improve access and the river habitat at Tawd Valley Park. Peter Heberlet from Groundwork said:

“We are thrilled to be awarded this grant so that this much needed work can take place along the River Tawd in Skelmersdale. It will give more people the chance to access this wonderful and valuable natural resource and help protect it. As part of River Douglas Catchment Partnership we developed the plans with partners including West Lancashire Borough Council and the Environment Agency and the work will greatly complement the other great work that the local ‘Love My River’ volunteers and partners are doing on the Tawd”.

Continuing on an environmental theme **Lancashire Wildlife Trust** also received £15,000 to create a haven for bees within Beacon Country Park through their ‘Places for People and Pollinators’ project.

Food growing and food miles are a hot topic at the moment.

**Burscough Community Farm**, a local social enterprise is growing organic produce right in people’s doorsteps which can be purchased directly from the farm. This relatively new Community Farm has been awarded £5,000 to improve the infrastructure for visitors to their site.

Neil Hickson from Burscough Community Farm said: “This money will be put to good use finishing of our barn, building a disabled access toilet plus several other essential infrastructure improvements. We want to reach out and bring in more people from the local community and this will help us along the way.”

**Ormskirk Civic Hall** will also be improved by the installation of new toilet facilities thanks to £14,597 from the Fund.

**Trinity Methodist / United Reformed Church** in Old Skelmersdale has recently been suffering from water ingress. Roof repairs and a damp-proof course are required to remove the problem and then internal damage caused by the water needs to be dealt with. A grant of £10,000 will allow the Church to complete all the works.

Last but by no means least, the toilets, kitchen and main room in **‘The Hut on the Hill’ in Parbold** will get a £2,000 mini make-over to create a nicer environment for all community users.



Burscough Community Farm



Ashurst Beacon

This latest crop of successful schemes has taken the total awarded by the Whitemoss Community Fund to an impressive £335,000 which has been shared between 29 local projects.

Liz Payne, Manager of the Whitemoss Community Fund said: “Competition for funds was higher than ever this year and we had some incredibly difficult decisions to make.

This year’s pot of cash has been split between really diverse projects, from nature conservation schemes to toilets. All of the successful project do have one thing in common, that they will directly benefit the community, albeit in completely different ways!”

# Don't miss out on grants for community and environmental projects



## Where does the money come from?

The money for the Fund is provided by Whitemoss Landfill Limited who operate the Whitemoss landfill site in Skelmersdale.

All waste that goes to landfill is subject to Landfill Tax. A percentage of this levy can be used to fund environmental and community projects through the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF). The Whitemoss Community Fund was, therefore, established in 2010, enabling Whitemoss Landfill Limited to work in partnership with GrantScape who manage and administer the grant programme on their behalf.



## Who can apply for a grant?

To be eligible for a grant, you need to be a properly constituted not-for-profit, or non profit-distributing community / voluntary group or charity. This includes local authorities and town and parish councils.

Your project must be located within 5 miles of the Whitemoss landfill site in Skelmersdale (WN8 9TH) AND be located within the West Lancashire Borough Council area.



## What types of projects can the Fund support?

Grants are available for community and environmental projects delivering improvements to public amenities, including projects that support nature conservation objectives. Examples include village greens, public playgrounds, sports fields and facilities, nature reserves, community centres, cycle paths and country parks.

Full eligibility criteria are available on GrantScape's website [www.grantscape.org.uk](http://www.grantscape.org.uk) from the 'Looking for a grant' section.



## How much can we apply for?

Grants of between **£5,000** and **£20,000** are available.



## How do we apply for a grant?

Applications should be made using GrantScape's online, paper-free application process. The process is simple to use and applicants are not required to provide any supplementary documents at the time of application.



## What is the deadline for applications?

There is a single funding round each year and the next deadline for submission of completed applications is **Wednesday 22nd March 2017**.



## How will grant decisions be reached?

Priority will be given to those applications that demonstrate the greatest level of community support for and involvement in the projects, plus the local community benefit (social, economic and environmental) that will result from the projects. Other key criteria include the projects' value for money, legacy and sustainability.



## Who should I contact to find out more?

If you have a project that you would like to discuss, or need further information, please contact **Liz Payne**:

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