

**Cabinet**  
**17 April 2018**

**Councillor Martin Tennant**  
**Environment and Service Delivery**  
**Portfolio Holder**  
**Report No. COMM1804**

**Key Decision – No**

## **Farnborough Airport Community Environmental Fund**

### **Summary and Recommendation**

The Environment and Service Delivery Portfolio holder has considered four applications and has awarded £20,682, which Cabinet is recommended to approve.

### **1. Introduction**

1.1 This paper seeks approval to award grants from the Farnborough Airport Community Environmental Fund to assist four local projects.

### **2. Background**

2.1 The Community Environmental Fund commenced in 2001. It is levied by Farnborough Airport on business aviation movements at a rate of £2 per aircraft movement and £5 per aircraft movement where the aircraft is a Boeing Business Jet or an Airbus Corporate Jet.

2.2 The fund is available to groups and organisations under the following criteria:

- Located within 5 kilometres (3 miles) from the centre of Farnborough Airport (taken to be halfway down the main runway) and is demonstrably and regularly affected by aircrafts travelling to and from Farnborough Airport
- Will result in the improvement or provision of an outdoor facility or area that is accessible to the public and able to be enjoyed by the community as a whole
- Is a community or environment based bid, projects may include: -
  - Green or open spaces
  - Natural habitats
  - Environmental improvements or outdoor play
  - Community projects with an emphasis on improving the local environment or outdoor education

### **3. Details of Bids**

3.1 The Cabinet Member for Environment has considered four applications (Appendix A) and has made four award recommendations:

- **The Species Recovery Trust** £4,000
- **The Land Restoration Trust** £4,182
- **Rushmoor Voluntary Services** £5,000
- **The Farnborough Society** £7,500

**Total**                    **£20,682**

#### **4. Financial Implications**

4.1 The Community Environmental Fund is currently £59,149. Taking the four applications recommended in this paper totalling £20,682 would leave £38,467 available for allocation.

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#### **Background Documents:**

Completed application form - Appendix A

<b>Environment Fund applicant bid</b>	
<b>Name &amp; address of Applicant</b>	The Species Recovery Trust Site address: Eelmoor, Pyestock and Hawley Commons (centred on GU51 3HJ)
<b>Grant requested (Total cost of project)</b>	£4,000 (£6,600)
<b>Purpose of grant</b>	To conserve some of the rarest plant species and assemblages of the heathlands, through continued monitoring and management of key biodiversity hotspots
<b>Previous grants from this fund</b>	2012 - £1,000 “Celebrating the Farnborough heathlands” 2013 - £5,190 Guided walks, 3 school events and short film 2015 - £2,500 Conserving the biodiversity hotspots of the Rushmoor heathland
<b>Distance from centre of runway</b> (within 5 kilometres (3 miles))	Within distance
<b>Other sources of funding for this project</b>	£800 – Halpin Charitable Trust £800 – Freshwater Habitats Trust Ponds for People project £1,000 – own funds
<b>Accounts</b>	Income                           £67,509 Expenditure:                   £55,315 Balances:                       £72,735
<b>Additional Info</b>	Following on from previous projects this will support an up to date survey of 22 of the biodiversity hotspots on the heathlands around Farnborough and Fleet – typically areas of damp heathland and bog that support a wide range of species. The population census of the rare plants will also allow for an evaluation of the success of previous work and general populations trends on the sites.  The project will also include – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hand clearance of vegetation at up to five sites to remove choking vegetation and improve conditions</li> <li>• a free open day giving local residents the chance to come and learn about the wildlife of the heathlands to enhance their enjoyment of the heaths</li> <li>• production of a short film highlighting the biodiversity</li> </ul>
<b>Aim of organisation/group</b>	The Species Recovery Trust was founded in 2011 in response to the catastrophic rate of species extinction occurring both globally and in the UK. They target some of the rarest and most endangered species in the UK, working to bring them back from the brink of extinction, using a range of conservation techniques, both working on sites themselves and supporting partners who are involved in this type of work. Their mission is to remove at least fifty species from the brink of extinction by the year 2050.
<b>Application recommendation</b>	£4,000

## Environment Fund applicant bid

<b>Name &amp; address of Applicant</b>	The Land Restoration Trust Site address: Duke's Wood Wharf Plantation, Laffan's Road, Aldershot GU11 2RE
<b>Grant requested (Total cost of project)</b>	£4,182 (£8,364)
<b>Purpose of grant</b>	Brass-rubbing trail in Wellesley Woodlands
<b>Previous grants from this fund</b>	None
<b>Distance from centre of runway</b> (within 5 kilometres (3 miles))	Within distance
<b>Other sources of funding for this project</b>	£2,091 – Cllr Choudhary – HCC Councillor grant (unsecured) £2,091 – Cllr Withers – HCC Councillor grant (unsecured)  Underwritten by The Land Trust if applications not successful
<b>Accounts</b>	Income                   £15,240k Expenditure:           £6,456k Balances:               £145,801k
<b>Additional Info</b>	<p>The Land Trust will work with local schools to deliver a new brass-rubbing trail within Wellesley Woodlands, supporting the school based Aldershot Active Award (AAA) set up last year.</p> <p>The project will create a new marked trail consisting of 18 brass-rubbing designs mounted on oak posts featuring images depicting local wildlife, nature and local history and will form one of the key activities that fall within the AAA scheme. It will be located in Duke's Wood, running along two established walking trails and open to all.</p> <p>The funding will be used to design, develop and install the brass rubbings and posts; develop and print trail leaflets; and deliver a launch event in Wellesley Woodlands. It will help to bring people together from across the wider community and engage visitors with the wildlife and history of the area while encouraging active use of the site and provide the physical and mental health benefits of spending time outside in natural green spaces.</p> <p>The Land Trust will work with Talavera Infant and Junior Schools to involve local primary school children with the development of the brass rubbing themes. The brass-rubbing trail will be managed and maintained on a daily basis by Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership. This activity will be free and fully inclusive.</p>
<b>Aim of organisation/group</b>	<p>The Land Trust's vision is to improve the quality of people's lives by creating sustainable, high quality green spaces that deliver environmental, social and economic benefits.</p> <p>They work with landowners who want to pass on responsibility for the management of an area of land. This includes fundraising to enhance the site, and to offer activities and experiences to all. Their land has a free, open access policy and where possible they aim to provide access for all.</p>
<b>Application recommendation</b>	£4,182

### Environment Fund applicant bid

<b>Name &amp; address of Applicant</b>	Rushmoor Voluntary Services (RVS) Community Centre, Meudon Avenue, Farnborough
<b>Grant requested (Total cost of project)</b>	£5,000 (£27,937)
<b>Purpose of grant</b>	Towards the cost of the Blooming Marvellous project working with 28 residents in Rushmoor with/recovering from mental illness and those with learning disabilities. The grant will provide opportunities for the volunteers to work on an allotment in Aldershot, maintain gardens of elderly and disabled residents and improve community open areas.
<b>Previous grants from this fund</b>	2013 - £6,000 (Blooming Marvellous project) 2016 - £5,000 (Blooming Marvellous project)
<b>Distance from centre of runway</b> (within 5 kilometres (3 miles))	Yes
<b>Other sources of funding for this project</b>	£20,000 – Broadhurst Welcome Home Ltd £2,937 – RVS: from reserves, donations and sales
<b>Accounts</b>	Income - £620k Expenditure - £584k Balances - £467k
<b>Additional Info</b>	<p>The overall aim of the project is to positively engage with people with mental illness and involve them in environmental and horticultural activities.</p> <p>Blooming Marvellous is committed to making a difference to the environment and to encourage people to be involved in working in the community and taking pride in the local area. Members of the public and community groups are involved in the work, including litter picks, bulb planting and other community events.</p> <p>The volunteers also attend training to improve skills and confidence. Last year four of the volunteers who were long-term unemployed returned to paid work.</p> <p>Blooming Marvellous regularly wins awards including Rushmoor in Bloom, South and South East in Bloom and Rushmoor Allotment awards. In 2016, they achieved a silver guilt medal at the Hampton Court Flower Show. They have also worked with a local playgroup to improve the garden for youngsters to enjoy outdoor play; and developed a sensory garden so that disabled people can be involved and enjoy gardening.</p> <p>The project is being evaluated in 2018 with the aim of demonstrating the value of the project to assist in securing ongoing funding.</p>
<b>Aim of organisation/group</b>	<p>RVS supports voluntary organisations and local people, and champions volunteering in the borough.</p> <p>RVS manages Rushmoor Volunteer Centre, Rushmoor Dial a Ride, RVS Home Help, Rushmoor and Hart Community Transport and Blooming Marvellous supported gardening.</p>
<b>Application recommendation</b>	£5,000

## Environment Fund applicant bid

<b>Name &amp; address of Applicant</b>	The Farnborough Society Site address: Alexandra Road, Farnborough
<b>Grant requested (Total cost of project)</b>	£7,500 (£7,500)
<b>Purpose of grant</b>	Environmental tree pits on Alexandra Road running from Lynchford Road roundabout to Masonic Hall
<b>Previous grants from this fund</b>	£5,000 (2015) Victoria Road Cemetery Chapel columbarium
<b>Distance from centre of runway</b> (within 5 kilometres (3 miles))	Within distance
<b>Other sources of funding for this project</b>	None
<b>Accounts</b>	Income                      £3,880 Expenditure:                £3,680 Balances:                    £8,031
<b>Additional Info</b>	<p>To excavate 15 tree pits along Alexandra Road, between the Lynchford Road roundabout and the Masonic Hall. The pits will be reinstated with porous resin bound material.</p> <p>The appearance and safety of the street scene will be vastly improved by this work. The majority of tree bases are left open to the environment and often present a trip hazard to local residents, particularly at night. They encourage the unsightly growth of weeds on soil surrounds and collection of detritus. It will reduce the need for chemical weedkilling.</p> <p>This project will add to the number of tree pits in the area that are already protected in this way.</p> <p>The cost of the project includes traffic management and, disposal of arising's.</p> <p>The project will benefit all the local community, in particular young children the elderly who are more susceptible to falls, plus visitors to the area. It also supports one of the society's key aims: to raise civic pride.</p>
<b>Aim of organisation/group</b>	<p>As a civic society their aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to promote high standards in the natural, built social and economic environment of Farnborough</li> <li>• to raise awareness of local issues, the geography, history, natural history and architecture of Farnborough</li> <li>• to encourage the conservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in Farnborough</li> </ul>
<b>Application recommendation</b>	£7,500