

**Cabinet**

**Head of Community and Environmental Services**

**15 November 2016**

**Report No. COMM1625**

**Key Decision – No**

**Farnborough Airport Community Environmental Fund**

**Summary and Recommendations:**

The Cabinet Member for Environment has considered four applications totalling £20,854 and has made award recommendations for all, 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 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 A310 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)
- Within this 5 kilometre radius, 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 the Proposal

3.1 The Cabinet Member for Environment has considered four applications and has made award recommendations for all

▪ Rushmoor Urban Wildlife Group (Crematorium)	£5,154
▪ Rushmoor Urban Wildlife Group (Queens Rd Rec)	£1,050
▪ Blackwater Valley District Scouts	£7,000
▪ The Wavell School	£7,650

**Total**                      **£20,854**

3.2 Details are outlined for each applicant in Appendix A.

### 4. Financial and Resource Implications

4.1 The Community Environmental Fund is currently £33,492. Taking the four applications recommended in this paper totalling £20,854 would leave £12,638 available for allocation.

### 5 Recommendation

5.1 Cabinet is recommended to approve the awards totalling £20,854

### Background Documents

Fully completed application forms support appendix A

### Contact Details:

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Environment Fund applicant bid	
Name & address of Applicant	Rushmoor Urban Wildlife Group
Grant requested (Total cost of project)	£5,154 (£5,154)
Purpose of grant	To purchase, deliver and install 190m <sup>2</sup> of perennial wildflower meadow turf on an agreed site at Aldershot Crematorium
Previous grants from this fund	None
Distance from centre of runway (within 5 kilometres (3 miles))	Within range
Other sources of funding for this project	None
Accounts	Bank account has recently been set up. Previous funding through money set aside by RBC environment team.
Additional Info	<p>Both mourners and local residents enjoy the well-maintained and diverse grounds of Aldershot Crematorium.</p> <p>Habitat enhancements by the group over the years have seen a large increase in the numbers and types of wildlife species, which add enormously to the pleasure of strolling through the grounds.</p> <p>There is a large area of poor quality grassland near the eastern perimeter of the grounds where beehives have been recently installed. It was decided to try to seed the remainder of this area with annual wildflower seeds, a cheap option but was unsuccessful. Experiments with perennial wildflower turf, however, have produced a rich variety of colourful wildflowers over a long season every year that will be enjoyed by the public. These native perennial wildflowers provide a valuable nectar source for bees and other insects. The insects in turn provide food for birds and other species which greatly enhance the biodiversity of the grounds.</p> <p>The Crematorium grounds also help Rushmoor to score highly in the biodiversity section of 'In Bloom', which creates pride in the community.</p>
Aim of organisation/group	<p>Aims of the group are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve existing wildlife habitats in the borough</li> <li>• Create new wildlife habitats on public land in Rushmoor with prior permission of the appropriate borough / county councils</li> <li>• Do the above to improve biodiversity, to enhance interest in green spaces and for the pleasure of local residents</li> <li>• Advise residents on wildlife gardening</li> <li>• Raise awareness about wildlife in Rushmoor, especially the nationally rare species that exist here</li> </ul>
Application recommendation	£5,154

### Environment Fund applicant bid

<b>Name &amp; address of Applicant</b>	Rushmoor Urban Wildlife Group
<b>Grant requested (Total cost of project)</b>	£1,050 (£1,338)
<b>Purpose of grant</b>	To purchase, deliver and install 50m <sup>2</sup> of perennial wildflower meadow turf at <b>Queens Road Recreational Ground</b>
<b>Previous grants from this fund</b>	None
<b>Distance from centre of runway</b> (within 5 kilometres (3 miles))	Within range
<b>Other sources of funding for this project</b>	None
<b>Accounts</b>	Bank account has recently been set up. Previous funding through money set aside by RBC environment team.
<b>Additional Info</b>	<p>The demonstration wildlife garden project at Queens Road recreation ground is enjoyed by local residents and children of South Farnborough Infants School.</p> <p>Poor performance of the wildflower meadow areas has produced a number of complaints. Local experiments with perennial wildflower turf have produced a rich variety of colourful wildflowers over a long season every year, providing enjoyment to the public, a valuable nectar source for bees and other insects and greatly enhance the biodiversity of the recreation ground.</p> <p>The project will be run by volunteers, preparing the site and installing the turf. Once installed the perennial wildflower turf will require one cut per year in the autumn in order to produce around six months of diverse native wildflowers each year.</p> <p>The pupils of South Farnborough Infant School have helped maintain the demonstration garden and it acts as an important educational resource for the school and other groups.</p>
<b>Aim of organisation/group</b>	<p>Aims of the group are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve existing wildlife habitats in the borough</li> <li>• Create new wildlife habitats on public land in Rushmoor with prior permission of the appropriate borough / county councils</li> <li>• Do the above to improve biodiversity, to enhance interest in green spaces and for the pleasure of local residents</li> <li>• Advise residents on wildlife gardening</li> <li>• Raise awareness about wildlife in Rushmoor, especially the nationally rare species that exist here</li> </ul>
<b>Application recommendation</b>	£1,050

### Environment Fund applicant bid

<b>Name &amp; address of Applicant</b>	Blackwater Valley District Scouts
<b>Grant requested (Total cost of project)</b>	£7,000 (£14,000 +VAT)
<b>Purpose of grant</b>	Campfire Circle redevelopment – including replacing existing rotten timber seating
<b>Previous grants from this fund</b>	None
<b>Distance from centre of runway (within 5 kilometres (3 miles))</b>	Yes
<b>Other sources of funding for this project</b>	£7,000 – HCC £2,000 – own funds (to cover VAT and contingency)
<b>Accounts</b>	Income - £55,299 Expenditure - £55,375 Balances - £158,444 - includes asset reserve to support maintenance of scout properties within district & to provide funding for District HQ building
<b>Additional Info</b>	<p>The campfire circle was built over 15 years ago and is now in need of refurbishment &amp; redevelopment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improve safety levels</li> <li>• provide much better disabled access</li> <li>• replace existing rotten timber (railway sleeper) seating</li> <li>• enable the wider community/ local schools to use the amphitheatre as part of the Runway's End Activity Centre</li> </ul> <p>They will use the 'Skilled Up' team which is a project designed to give unemployed young people real work experience.</p>
<b>Aim of organisation/group</b>	<p>Blackwater Valley District Scout Group is the overall body looking after 16 individual Scout Groups, 4 Explorer Scout Units and 1 Network Groups. Over 900 members (6-25 yrs.) and 200 leaders come from in and around Rushmoor. Runways End Activity Centre is the district HQ.</p> <p>This project has the ability to bring a key part of the 'Scouting Experience' to a wider audience. The aim is to restore and improve the existing site to enable safe use by the wider community, including schools, youth groups and local community organisations as well as 900+ local Scouts and visiting groups. Provision of better access will help to attract youngsters with physical or mental disability and enable them to experience this kind of outdoor activity.</p>
<b>Application recommendation</b>	£7,000

## Environment Fund applicant bid

<b>Name &amp; address of Applicant</b>	Wavell School
<b>Grant requested (Total cost of project)</b>	£7,650 (£12,050)
<b>Purpose of grant</b>	<p>Sensory garden with gardening projects and table tennis tables to nurture students physical and mental well-being:</p> <p>£1,170 – tools and equipment          £1,130 – plants/soil etc          £3,750 – building items (patio/sheds etc)          £1,600 – outdoor chimes &amp; table tennis tables          £4,400 – access door &amp; design consultancy*</p>
<b>Previous grants from this fund</b>	2011 - £2,000 towards outdoor classroom
<b>Distance from centre of runway</b> (within 5 kilometres (3 miles))	Yes
<b>Other sources of funding for this project</b>	£4,400 from school funds (will fund * above)
<b>Accounts</b>	<p>Income -                   £5,143,765</p> <p>Expenditure -           £5,060,251</p> <p>Balances -                 £83,514</p>
<b>Additional Info</b>	<p>Every year the school see an increasing number of students with mental health issues. A Counsellor and Pastoral Mentor are funded at the purpose built Health and Military Drop-In Centre. Unfortunately, for some this still is not enough and for the past couple of years there have been an average of three students each year unable to sit exams due to their mental health issues.</p> <p>The Health Drop-In has wasteland that could be cultivated in order to enable students to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers. The over-arching aim of the project would be to offer an environment that would nurture students' mental health in a context where they have access to trained professionals.</p> <p>The facility would be on offer to all students and staff (over 1,000) plus the wider community through the Parent Support Adviser.</p> <p>Increased planting in a barren area of land will improve air quality and the natural habitat of insets and birds.</p>
<b>Aim of organisation/group</b>	The Wavell School is an 11-16 comprehensive secondary school
<b>Application recommendation</b>	£7,650