

LGA webinar - Pass the Planet: Showcasing local climate action

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GREEN SHOOTS

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Warwickshire's focus on Climate Change

- Council plan public consultation in 2018 – plan agreed early 2019
- Climate emergency declared in July 2019
- Work on climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Early 2020 £4m allocated specifically for climate change
- Mid 2020 £1m allocated for a community investment grant fund – later called 'Green Shoots'
- UK100 – Commitment to Net zero by 2050
- Renewed commitment in this year's council plan update



The challenge

- Whole of Warwickshire
- Reduce carbon emission – climate change mitigation
- Climate change adaptation
- Build on good examples of community action
- Overcome barriers to action – priority, ideas and money
- Help local people to deliver their own local solutions
- Build lasting partnerships and networks



The fund

- £1m in total
- Maximum Green Shoots investment of £25,000. No minimum value
- Additional funding can be used to top up the grant provided by this scheme, such as by matched funding or from other sources
- Constituted 'not-for-profit' community organisations in Warwickshire
- Warwickshire Town and Parish Councils
- Schools, if applying as a PTA or 'Friends of' group excluding independently funded schools



Green Shoots: Community investment grant

Desired Outcomes

- Impact on carbon reduction
- Climate resilience or adaptation
- Beneficial environmental impact
- Community benefits / involvement

Elements not funded

- Internal staff costs
- Feasibility studies
- Where they won't get permissions

Key Criteria

- Compliant
- Benefits (targeted outcomes)
- Deliverable
- Value for money

Projects

- Ecology / Trees
- Renewables
- Property / retrofit
- Training and awareness
- Waste and resources
- Transport / EV
- Streetlights & lighting
- Active travel

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/news/article/2324/green-shoots-will-soon-be-springing-up-across-warwickshire-as-projects-set-to-receive-a-share-of-wcc-s-1-million-community-climate-change-fund-are-announced>

Green Shoots: Community investment grant



Aims

- Accelerate climate change action
- Secure community involvement
- Upskilling, capacity building, connect local networks
- Trial and showcase innovative and efficient action

May

110

Applications
received

£1.3m
Applied for

July

69

Applications
funded

£625k
Funded

Green Shoots: Community investment grant

Kenilworth Repair Café

United Reformed Church in Kenilworth

'Reuse it, don't lose it!'

£800: Waste

Monthly drop-in repair facility and community meet point



Benefits:

- Reducing landfill waste in particular electrical items
- Foster an awareness of environmental issues by creating a repair culture rather than that of discard and replace
- Community building
- Volunteering opportunities and skills

The Children's Forest at Leasowe Farm

Radford Semele

Children's Forest 

£25,000: Ecology, Awareness

- Planting of 2,600 trees on 4 acres of land
- Local children plant and maintain
- Engaging 350 people (70% children)
- Maintenance for a minimum of 30 years

Benefits:

- Engaging the community and young
- Natural environment
- Physical and mental health and wellbeing

Managed by Achieving Results in Communities (ARC), 10 years experience in enhancing access and management of the natural environment.

Green Shoots: Community investment grant



NAPTON
ENVIRONMENTAL
ACTION
TEAM

NEAT News

£1,650; Awareness

- To inform residents about key issues relating to climate change, biodiversity and habitat loss;
- To showcase examples of good practice both locally and further afield around the issues; and

Benefits:

- To inspire behavioural change towards more sustainable living and help people to adapt constructively to a changing world.



Warwickshire Living Walls

Forest of Hearts

£25,000; Biodiversity

1. 100 linear metres of green walls at hospital and public access sites in Warwick, Leamington and Stratford upon Avon.
2. Demonstrate a proof-of-concept for sustainable drought resistant vertical gardens
3. Deliver green therapy sessions to the local community.

Benefits:

- Enhance biodiversity
- Absorb low air quality emissions

Green Shoots: Community investment grant

Wixford Village Hall Wixford, Stratford

£24,066:
Efficient buildings



1. High-grade insulation
2. Airtightness measures to minimize heat losses and infiltration
3. Low carbon air-source heat pumps as the primary heating and cooling system
4. A mechanical ventilation system that will include heat recovery

Benefits:

Forecast to deliver an 83% reduction in CO₂ emissions for each hour the hall is used when compared to that of the old building



£4,700: EV Charging and LED Lighting

1. Install 2 twin-head electric vehicle (EV) car charging points at the Myton Hospice site in Warwick; and
2. An upgrade to energy efficient, LED lighting at the Hospices' Wood Street charity shop in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Benefits:

- Provide charging for their 3 EV's
- Enable charging for visitors / community
- Increase lighting levels and efficiency
- Physical and mental health and wellbeing

Lessons Learnt

- Commitment from the public, members and officers has been vital
- Resources will follow the priority
- Resources needed to set up and run the scheme – evaluation is important
- Great projects being funded and objectives being met - Success!



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