

Funding for Community Events

This document is a collection of potential funding opportunities for those organisations involved in the planning and running of Community Events.

The text on each potential funding body is compiled from extracts from their respective websites at the date stated in the document's filename.

Some of the funding opportunities listed below were closed at the date of the searches. If they are closed permanently then they have been omitted, but those that are likely to re-open later in the year have been included.

This document is not meant to be exhaustive, nor complete. It is a snapshot of the most relevant funding opportunities at that particular time.

Awards for All, England

<http://www.awardsforall.org.uk/england/index.html>

Awards for All, England offers grants of between £300 and £10,000 for projects that improve communities, and the lives of people within them. It is for voluntary and community groups, schools and health organisations, parish and town councils.

It is their most popular grants programme so they will prioritise groups with smaller incomes. Due to high demand on the programme, organisations that have a large annual income may not be able to get funding through Awards for All.

They want to fund projects which address the issues, needs and aspirations of local communities and people. They will fund a wide range of community projects aimed at developing skills, improving health, revitalising the local environment and enabling people to become more active citizens.

They will pay for activities that will benefit the community, including:

- putting on an event, activity or performance
- buying new equipment or materials
- running training courses
- setting up a pilot project or starting up a new group
- carrying out special repairs or conservation work
- paying expenses for volunteers, costs for sessional workers or professional fees
- transport costs.

Ford Britain Trust

<http://www.ford.co.uk/fbtrust>

They are committed to supporting the communities they work and live in.

They pay special attention to projects focusing on education, environment, children, the disabled, youth activities and projects that provide clear benefits to the local communities close to their UK locations.

The Ford Britain Trust particularly encourages applications from Ford employees, but is open to all, provided that the qualifying organisations meet their selection criteria.

There are two types of grants to apply for:

- Small grants for amounts up to £250, available four times each year.
- Large grants for amounts over £250 and usually up to a maximum of £3,000. Large grants are considered by the Trustees twice a year.

Greggs Foundation Local Community Projects Fund

<https://www.greggsfoundation.org.uk/grants/local-community-projects-fund>

The Local Community Projects Fund helps organisations based in local communities to deliver projects or provide equipment to people in need at the heart of our local communities.

Local Community Projects Funding is offered to organisations supporting people in need. Any not for profit organisation can apply, however, larger organisations with a turnover in excess of £300,000 are unlikely to be successful.

They are interested in projects that improve resilience within your community of interest. This can include sessional activities/respite support, equipment for sessional activities, trips and residential breaks. They are also interested in new approaches and innovative ideas as well as sustainable approaches to supporting your community of interest. They do not fund running costs or continuation of existing and ongoing work.

All projects must support a community of interest, ie people who are:

- Disabled or suffering chronic illness
- Living in poverty
- Voluntary carers
- Homeless
- Isolated older people
- Other demonstrable significant need

They are particularly seeking applications from groups which meet the above criteria, but provide activities that can also benefit the environment. They call this social environmentalism. Examples of projects that include environmental elements have included:

- A group of young carers who completed litter picking sessions in areas of natural beauty in Wales
- An allotment project for people suffering early stages of dementia
- Clearing an area of wasteland to grow vegetables as part of a healthy growing and eating project for young homeless people

Alec Dickson Trust

<http://tinyurl.com/jrq8wkv>

The Alec Dickson Trusts supports young people who, through volunteering or community service, aim to enhance the lives of others, particularly those most marginalised by society. They support projects that support and encourage youth volunteering. They particularly like to fund projects that involve lots of volunteers, and/or encourage these young people to stay engaged as volunteers in the long term.

Applications for grants, not normally in excess of £500, are invited from individuals aged 30 and under or from small groups of young people who believe their actions to be in pursuit of the aims of the Trust.

WHSmith Trust

<http://tinyurl.com/zqug88p>

WHSmith Trust is proud to provide grants to support the excellent voluntary efforts of WHSmith staff in the communities in which they operate. A great many members of staff are involved in their community on a personal basis and a large number of stores are involved collectively as a team while others may see this as an opportunity to really get behind a local cause.

- Grants will only be made to registered charities with which a WHSmith employee has direct involvement.
- The trustees will only consider one grant request per employee per year.
- The Trust will match employee fundraising up to £1000.
- Grants for larger sums will be subject to the trustees' discretion.

Tudor Trust

<http://tudortrust.org.uk/what-we-do/>

Tudor makes grants, and provides other types of support, to voluntary and community groups working in any part of the UK. They particularly want to help smaller, community-led organisations which work directly with people who are at the margins of society: organisations which support positive changes in people's lives and in their communities.

Tudor doesn't have specific funding programmes. Their focus is on smaller forward-looking groups, led by capable and committed people. Some of the other characteristics we are looking for include:

- Organisations working directly with people who are at the margins of society
- A focus on building stronger communities by overcoming isolation and fragmentation and encouraging inclusion, connection and integration
- Organisations which are embedded in their community and which can identify and channel the potential within that community – whether the local area or a 'community of interest'
- Organisations which can demonstrate that they listen to and are responsive to their users
- Organisations which are thoughtful in their use of resources and which foster community resilience in the face of environmental, economic or social change

There is no maximum or minimum grant, though in practice it is unusual for them to make a grant of less than £10,000.

O2 Think Big

<http://www.o2thinkbig.co.uk/>

Are you 13-25? Need money, support or training to help improve your community? They help young people launch ideas and programmes that benefit the places where they live. You provide the big idea, they provide £300 and the support to make it happen.

Wakeham Trust

<http://www.wakehamtrust.org/index.php>

The Wakeham Trust are always looking to support new community action projects. They are very flexible and sometimes they break their own rules, but most of the projects they support share some or all of these characteristics:

- It is something new for this particular area.
- It is small. They normally give grants to projects where an initial £75 to £750 can make a real difference to getting the project up and running.
- It does not employ staff.
- It is not well established.
- It has the potential to become self-supporting.
- It is outward looking and helps a lot of people.

Their list of recent grants seems to indicate that grants range from a few hundred pounds up to £750.