

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION GRANT 2011-2012

The Norfolk County Council Community Conservation Grant is aimed at building communities, by creating and enhancing features which contribute to the landscape and biodiversity of Norfolk. The grant rate is 75%

What is eligible?

Woodlands and Hedges: For the planting of small community woods, the planting of new hedgerows, gapping up and the restoration of existing hedges.

Orchards: For the planting of new community orchards.

Communities and parish Councils: Local community groups and Parish Councils are eligible for help towards the installation of infrastructure, including interpretation boards, signs, gates, stiles and boardwalks.

Ponds: Restoration of existing village ponds. In appropriate circumstances grant may be offered for the creation of new ponds.

Other Biodiversity work: For work on County Wildlife Sites, commons, meadows and Local nature Reserves.

The maximum grant available is £3750 (i.e. gross cost £5000) No grant will be paid on VAT.

GENERAL CRITERIA

The scheme should significantly benefit the local community in terms of providing or improving access, landscape, recreation, biodiversity or food production.

Schemes will be assessed three times per year, by a panel of specialist staff to ensure that there is no negative effect on existing landscape, habitat or archaeological features and that the most beneficial schemes are funded.

No retrospective payments can be made: **applicants must be in receipt of a written grant offer before starting work.** All claims must be completed and claimed by the 16th March 2012. Applications will be accepted any time but the deadlines to meet the three panel assessment meetings are, 31st July 2011, 30th November 2011 and 13th January 2012.

Normally we would expect project costs to be paid in advance and claimed back from Norfolk County Council once the work is completed. If this is a problem for your group, then please contact us and we will do our best to help. We can usually reimburse you're your claim within 30 days of completion of the project.

Grants will not be offered on work that is either a requirement or potential requirement of planning permission.

Grant is not normally offered on 'commercial' sites such as caravan parks or golf courses.

Fencing is not normally eligible for funding unless for County Wildlife Sites.

Planning permission may be required for new ponds. Enquiries on this matter should be directed to the local District Council.

Recipients of grant are required to acknowledge Norfolk County Councils assistance in any publicity, concerning the project

For further details please call Environment on 01603 222770
www.norfolk.gov.uk