

# Kingston Parish Council Financial Grant Application Form 2021-2022

- PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY IN DARK INK OR TYPE
- ONLY SEND REQUESTED INFORMATION OR DOCUMENTS

## A. Contact details

### 1. Name & address of your group:

Kingston Action Group, 3 Bramleys, BN7 3LF

### 2. MAIN contact for this application:

Full name: Steve Berry

Position held in the group: Secretary & Treasurer

Contact address including postcode: as above

Email address: stefalik@aol.com

Telephone: 01273 487743 07576 223357

## B. About your group

### 3. What type of organisation are you?

Community group

If a registered charity please supply your registration number: Not a registered charity.

4. When did your group start? When did it first start meeting or running activities?

Month...May ..... Year 2008 (or earlier)

5. Briefly describe the purpose of your group. Describe the usual activities/services you provide. If you are a new group describe what you plan to provide. *If you have a written constitution you must enclose a copy with this application.*

The Group's purpose is as set out in the attached constitution, revised (very slightly) in April 2019. This was, deliberately, very broadly drawn. It could be re-stated as undertaking actions for the benefit of the local community, in conjunction with the Parish Council. In practice, most of our activities over the last decade and more have been connected with improving the village environment in one respect or another, whether campaigning for safer roads, removing litter, making a case for more bins, clearing leaves, planting trees, wildflowers and bulbs etc.

6. How many people are involved in your group?

Volunteers c 25...(so far)..... Management committee members...Seven .....

Ordinary members As for committee members..... Paid staff None

Others.....(please describe)

7. Please tick if the group has any of the following:

Public liability insurance?

Maximum cover?

Other insurance (please specify)?

Maximum cover?

We will get public liability insurance when the site is open to the public.

### C. About your project/service

8. Describe the project or service for which you are seeking funds. Does it have a title? What does it aim to achieve? How will it work? *Please enclose any supporting documents, plans.*

**We are seeking funds to further develop what we are calling the Kingston Community Wildlife Garden.**

**The Garden is being created on the site of the former allotment at Gow's Croft, The Street.**

**It will be a new public space in the village, open to all.**

**It will have several main aims.**

- **Providing a garden which is both attractive to look at and attractive to wildlife**
- **Demonstrating that gardening with wildlife in mind does not mean leaving nature to develop into a wilderness!**
- **Providing a site where children can learn about gardens and wildlife in a safe environment which is close to their school (and to some of their homes)**
- **Developing a new social area in the village for all generations to enjoy, each in their own way**

**9. How have you identified a need for this?**

**Articles in the Kingston News over the last eight months have aroused interest in, and support for, the project which immediately attracted volunteers to help with the massive task of clearing at least a decade's vegetative growth from the site. People have also offered help in kind and given some cash donations.**

**We expect interest to grow steadily as the garden gradually takes shape.**

**It might seem a grandiose claim but the project does nevertheless provide an opportunity for people to learn more together about the climate crisis and how we can address this locally, albeit in a minor way.**

**10. When do you intend the project or service to start?**

**Month...The project began in earnest in September 2020 when we started to clear the site ..... Year.....**

**11. How many people in Kingston do you expect to benefit directly from your project? And what age group?**

**Potentially, the project could benefit hundreds of people, of all ages, over the course of many years. We hope in particular that it will benefit children from the primary school by providing them with opportunities to grow plants and learn about wildlife. It should also benefit older people who will, ultimately, have a new place of interest in the village where they can help with the garden, socialise with others or just sit and enjoy the surroundings.**

**12. How will you measure the success of your project?**

By the support it is given by funders; the positive attention it draws from villagers; the interest it generates from the primary school; the wildlife which is attracted to the site (and which will be recorded) and by the satisfaction and enjoyment it gives everyone involved in helping to create a new and enduring asset for the village.

**13. What experience does your group or individual members have of running this type of project?**

Most of us have horticultural experience. Several also have practical skills – as has already been demonstrated by the construction of a base for the greenhouse.

One of us has extensive experience of gardening with wildlife in mind and was the lead officer in that field for English Nature until 2006, having previously been responsible for a grant scheme which assisted primary schools to develop wildlife areas within their grounds.

**14. What is the cost of your project? Please give a summary breakdown of what the money is for. *If you have a project budget please enclose it with your application.***

We are unable now to forecast accurately the eventual total cost of the project but expect that it will run into several thousand pounds over the next few years.

If we are given the full amount requested, we will spend it on the items below. If we get less than this, we will adjust the spending accordingly.

Item or activity:	Estimated cost: (£)
Staging for greenhouse (2)	100 x 2 (actual cost)
Wheelbarrow	50
Tools (rake, hoe, fork, spade)	150
Hedgerow trees (native species)	200
Seed trays and propagator covers	100
Watering cans	30
Plug plants (primroses)	100
Shrubs and perennials	170

**15. Have you sought funding from others? If yes please give details of which organisation/s, the amount requested and whether you were successful.**

Yes. In February, we applied, unsuccessfully, to the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust for c £1400.

**We will be applying to other grant-aiding bodies at a later stage.**

**16. How much of your own money will be used for this project?**

**We have spent £128.21 to date but expect to spend far more over the course of the next few years as the project develops.**

**17. How much money are you asking Kingston Parish Council to grant? In our first application we asked only for £200, bearing in mind the small total sum available, the likely number of other applicants and the advice that most grants given would be “for a maximum of a few hundred pounds only”. However, given the subsequent lack of applications from others, we have increased our request to the maximum allowed.**

**18. Details of group or group treasurer bank account.**

**Account name Kingston Action Steering Group**  
.....

**Account number 20351868**

**Sort code 30 65 37.....**

**Names of all account signatories... Vicki Scott; Tim Ambrose; Steve Berry.....**  
.....  
.....

**19. Please give any additional information that you think may be helpful.**

**The project is dependent on volunteers. So far, they have clocked up more than 160 hours of work. (We have a schedule detailing this work which can be supplied on request). It has also attracted support in kind from villagers. Donations to date include a greenhouse, a shed, paving stones, two large compost bins, a water butt and wooden posts.**

**Lewes District Council, from whom we are leasing the site, have been very supportive. Besides removing the two tons of vegetation we cleared from the site last autumn, they have also freely provided one fence (of post and rail), the making of another (chestnut palings and wire) and a gate.**

**We have had discussions with the Head Teacher of Iford and Kingston School, who is keen for the children there to play an active role in the development of the site and to make use of it later for their own projects.**

**However, the project is still in its initial stage as we are only now beginning to complete the infrastructure - fencing, hedgerows, greenhouse, shed, paths etc. Progress has been held back severely owing to Covid but will now start to accelerate with the first plants in the greenhouse.**

We have secured a modest annual income through the purchase of tickets from the Lewes Lottery by supporters naming us as their nominated good cause. Currently, this is running at an annual rate of just over £300 although we hope to increase this.

While this sum will cover the annual costs of rent (£73 currently) and public liability insurance (c £150) the surplus will clearly not stretch all that far and we will need outside assistance to fulfil our wider ambitions. When funds allow, we will also make arrangements to have constructed for us a sheltered area with seating and benches elsewhere in the garden.

We will learn from experience, be receptive to new ideas from children (and from their teachers, parents and grandparents) and from each other.

## DECLARATION

This must be signed by the person who completed this application, the person named as contact in section A.

- I confirm that to the best of my knowledge, all the information in this application form is true and correct.
- I understand that you may ask for additional information.
- I am authorised to act for the organisation in making this application for financial assistance

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_ 22 June  
2021 \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Stephen  
Berry \_\_\_\_\_