

Case study



Somersall Park play area

Budget: £56,000

Funding:

Chesterfield Borough Council Section 106

Tesco Bags of Help

Viridor Landfill Tax Credit

Local Sponsorship

The existing traditional junior play area was in poor condition being some 22 years old and offered limited play value for children. The existing play area was heavily shaded by trees and play surface was very slippery as a result. The Friends group work closely with the Council to access funding from a range of different sources

The new play area has been relocated to the south side of the stream. This project has significantly improved the play experiences and activities available to local children, their parents, carers and visitors to the park. The new play space is a one off design specifically designed for its location including pieces of dynamic play equipment.

It includes exciting and engaging play equipment for all ages and abilities and a range of different materials and provides varied play opportunities and creates a pleasant community space for all.

This project has created a focal point in the park where people can meet and for other activities to take place around it.

The equipment and layout were chosen through consultation with local residents, children and young people via online survey and The Friends groups taking it in to local schools and community groups such as the Brownies.

Case study



Holme Hall Unite Community Garden

Budget: £15,000

Funding:

CBC Estate Improvement Budget

Marks and Spencer

National Trust

Co-op

Derbyshire County Council

Local Sponsorship

This was a truly community partnership project. The council's housing tenant participation team, Marks and Spencer and local resident group, Holme Hall Unite, worked for a year with many organisations. During a week in June, they all came together to make the vision a reality. The council has donated the land and paid for the site to be cleared and paths to be laid. Marks and Spencer has co-ordinated and involved

other organisations and volunteers. As well as bringing all the partners together, Marks and Spencer provided a kitchen to feed everyone. Holme Hall Primary School painted 140 small pots (the pots having been donated by Hope Springs Community Garden, Sutton in Ashfield) for a pergola, and they also made bird and bat boxes to fix in the trees.

The National Trust managed the project during the week of activities, with a number of their gardeners who volunteered to help and they have also donated orchard trees and plants. The Co-op and Derbyshire County Council have given grants for a wild flower meadow and seating. Hope Springs Community Garden and The National Trust provided plants.

"Holme Hall Unite's Community Garden was originally intended as an outdoor meeting place – as there was no suitable venue on the estate. Its success was such that we needed a venue for months other than the summer, and so it led to the opening of our Community Hub. In this sense the garden really has helped to "bring the community together" and also helped to reduce loneliness and isolation".

Case study



Friends of Langer Field Park - Langer Lane Play Area

Budget: £70,000

Funding:

Derbyshire County Council

Viridor Landfill Tax Credit

The Friends of Langer Field Park have worked in partnership with the council to breathe new life and colour into a little used flat green space on Langer Field Park. A key aspect of the new play area was for it to be fully accessible to children with disabilities.

The new play space is a fully accessible and inclusive play area with opportunities for sliding, rocking, rotating, climbing and swinging with interpretative play panels.

Consultation took place in local schools, the local Sure Start and parents and carers. Letters of support were received from a wide range of agencies and local residents.

The new play space has encouraged local children and young people to play in the park longer and to use other informal areas of the park to play and has encouraged more parents and carers to sue the park with their children.

The Friends of Langer Field Park secured £42,000 of funding from the Viridor Landfill Tax Credit scheme, with the remainder of the funding coming from Derbyshire county Council.

Case study



Racecourse Rubbish Rangers

Residents in Newbold and Racecourse have teamed up with our neighbourhood rangers to clear the area of litter.

Residents and staff from the council meet up on the last Wednesday of every month for an hour or so to clear litter in their area. The council provides items such as litter picks, disposal bags, and high visibility vests for people to use. They finish the morning with a community lunch at Stand Road Park Pavilion. This has helped them to get to know their neighbours and a community feel is growing strong.

Lorna Catchpole, neighbourhood ranger has said how amazed she is that the community are showing how they care for their area. She has also noticed how local residents are taking much more care not to drop litter since raising the profile through local residents regularly litter picking.

Local tenant Pam Meyrick said, "The litter pick is a brilliant idea and I wish more people would get involved. It is good to keep the place tidy.

"I have a good time meeting everyone afterwards when we socialise together and I have got to know people who I saw around the neighbourhood but didn't really know before. Now I know them and we speak to each other when I see them out. It has been a chance to meet new people and make new friends."

Case study



Stand Road wetland area

Working closely with Chesterfield Borough Council the friends group used the results of a consultation exercise to develop an ambitious park regeneration scheme centred on a masterplan that meets the wishes of the community and satisfies the requirements of the Council's Parks and Open Spaces Strategy.

Between June and November 2016, the friends group completed their fifth successful park

improvement project. This involved transforming a badly drained and boggy area of the park, which had been the subject of complaints from park users, into a designed wetland feature. As part of the project a path was laid adjacent to the wetland feature, two additional park benches were installed, and an information/interpretation panel was erected adjacent to the wetland feature.

The overall cost of the project was £17,400. Of this £12,700 was raised through a successful funding application to Viridor Credits under the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF). The £1,020 cost of excavating the wetland feature and creating the bund was met by Chesterfield Borough Council. The friends group contributed £3,650 from their funds to cover the cost of project design and the artwork required for the interpretation panel.

The project design and specification and the graphic design for the interpretation panel was undertaken by James Jackson, a local landscape architect who has supported the friends' group since it was first established. Working in close consultation with the Council the friends group employed a small local contractor to lay the path, undertake the excavation work and create the bund.

This work was undertaken by volunteers from the friends group assisted by schoolchildren from Highfield Hall Primary School and members of the local Police Safer Neighbourhoods Team.

Case study



Eastwood Park skate park

Budget: £52,000

Funding:

Hasland and Grassmoor BIG Local

Viridor Landfill Tax Credit

The Friends group secured to build a skate park in Eastwood Park from Viridor Credits and BIG Local. Initially three companies were approached to provide designs for the project following consultation with children and young people at Hasland Hall Community School. A bid was prepared by the Friends of Eastwood Park to Viridor Credits and support from other agencies and local residents was also sought before the bid was submitted.

The contract works took place over three weeks, with the main concrete units being delivered to site by crane.

Barbara Arrandale a member of the Friends group said: "In 2006 the newly established Friends of Eastwood Park, Hasland undertook surveys with the young people of Hasland to garner a 'wish list of ideas to improve the park. One of the items on the list was a skate/wheels park.

"Eventually the pupils at Hasland Community School and Hasland Junior School designed and voted for their preferred option. The Friends were successful in being awarded funding, from Viridor Credits and Grassland Hasmoor - Big Local, and, with the support of the Council, the facility was finally built in 2017.

"It was a significant achievement and is much appreciated and well used by the youngsters. One Trader in Hasland commented 'it is wonderful to see the youngsters coming along on their boards and scooters heading to the park'".

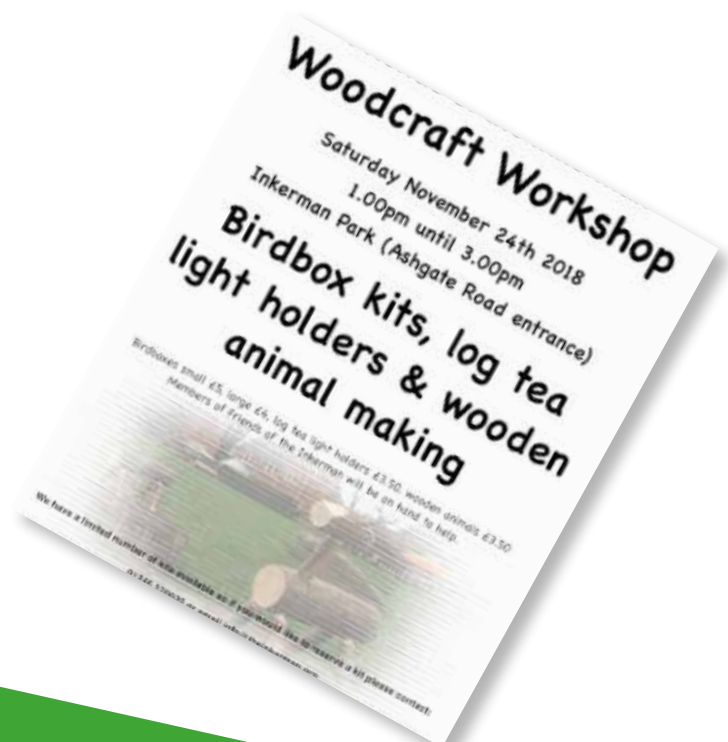
Case study



Friends of Inkerman Playing Field

The Friends of the Inkerman Playing Field have been running their woodcraft workshops for several years, initially just making bird box's but expanding to small reindeer which has now become the most popular. The Friends group also sell birdseed and other wooden crafts made locally to raise funds for the group to cover annual insurance to enable them to run activities over the year.

The woodcraft workshop runs for just two hours one day in the autumn and the group regularly get around 20 to 30 families visiting.



Case study



Staveley King George V Bowls Club - New Pavilion

Budget: £55,000

Funding:

Sport England Inspired Facilities Fund

In 2012/13, the park and bowls green were being blighted by vandalism and anti-social behaviour. The bowls club started to engage with the local junior school teaching year 5 and 6 pupils how to play bowls and to realise that not all adults were against them. The Head of Staveley Juniors, Mrs Wigfield, was very enthusiastic and the sessions went so well that they are still running to this day.

The bowls club supported by the council prepared a bid to Sport England's Inspired Facilities fund for a grant to

provide a new fully accessible sports pavilion. The new pavilion has a small kitchen area, accessible toilet and a club house space where people can socialise.

A key driver for the project was to increase participation in the sport and increase membership at the club in order to sustain it into the future. Membership has grown and the club have had the confidence to develop facilities further securing additional grant from Viridor Landfill Tax Credits for floodlights to extend the playing season.

Jim Marriott a member of the bowls club said "Had we not had the funding and assistance, particularly from Chesterfield and Staveley Councils, we would not be in the enviable position we are now.

"Players come from all over England to play in County matches; their comments on our facilities make us very proud of our achievements."

Case study



Brimington Circle

Budget: £700

Funding: Chesterfield Borough Council

In May 2018 the Chesterfield in Bloom committee organised an activity to breathe new life into a neglected area of Brimington.

The bloom committee along with volunteers from the Brimington area worked hard to transform the area from a drab and neglected space into one brimming with colour.

Works undertaken included, removal of old dead and dying plants, refurbishment of existing planters and replanting with bedding plants, painting of knee rails and a new sustainable planting scheme designed by the bloom committee.

The Brimington volunteers ably assisted by the local brownie pack are now maintaining the plantings and carrying out watering of the bedding plants. The existing seat on site has been replaced with the old one being recycled at a nearby allotment site. In the autumn of 2018 the group met to carry out tidying works and to plant some additional bulbs at the garden, ensuring that the works are continued and maintained.

Two businesses in close proximity were very kind in letting us utilise their water and hose pipes.

Case study



Bumble bees

In May last year the Bumblebee Conservation Trust were at Eastwood Park, in Chesterfield, to celebrate the coming of Spring. Along with a group of incredibly enthusiastic and knowledgeable volunteers and the support of Chesterfield Borough Council, they were able to share their key messages and love for bumblebees with over 100 local people.

They gave local kids a free bee friendly plant in exchange for their postcode. They were then able to map a local network of bumblebee friendly plants and show people that even though they have only planted one plant, they are part of something much larger that will make a positive difference to bumblebees.

Families loved the bee craft, drumming, guided bee safaris and bumblebee identification challenge. There was also a bumblebee hunt and we made a giant Bilberry Bumblebee out of natural and recycled

materials. Local people have a better understanding of the importance of where food comes from and that bumblebees are in serious decline.

“Working in partnership with the Friends of Eastwood Park and Chesterfield Borough Council made the event a great success and allowed Bumblebee Conservation Trust to reach a local community to passionately share our love for bees and show how people can take positive action with just ‘one plant each’ to make a huge difference.

(Sally Cuckney Project Manager- Bumblebee Conservation Trust)

Case study



SANDs Baby Garden, Boythorpe Cemetery

Budget: £15,000

Funding:

SANDs and Chesterfield Borough Council

In 2014 the local branch of the Stillbirth and Neonatal Death society (SANDs) charity worked in partnership with Council to provide a garden where families who have lost a baby or child have somewhere to go to remember them.

Raising over £15,000 from a series of walks, swims, concerts and other fundraising activities the group were heavily involved in the design of the garden. The garden was officially opened in June 2014. In the autumn of that year the group planted spring flowering bulbs with families who were bereaved.

Each year around the anniversary of the opening of the garden Chesterfield SANDs organise a teddy bears picnic to celebrate the anniversary of the opening of the garden.

Nicky Whelan, chair of Chesterfield SANDs said: "We were so excited to have opened the Boythorpe Baby Garden following on from the success of the Never Land Garden at Chesterfield Crematorium. I know that our new garden at Boythorpe has helped so many more local families."