

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Grant Application Form

West Swindon Parish Council
West Swindon Library
Whitehill Way
Swindon
SN5 7DL

Tel: 01793 466418

About You:	
Date:	4 December 2018
Name of Organisation	Peatmoor Woodland Group
Name of contact person	Roger Ogle
Contact Address and contact number	
E-mail for organisation	
How long has your organisation has been active?	30 years
Please tick the boxes to confirm you are submitting all of the following with your completed application:	Governing Document e.g. Constitution/Terms of Reference <input type="checkbox"/>
	Management Group or Committee Membership details <input type="checkbox"/>
Annual Turnover of your organisation	£500
Your Grant Project:	
Name of project or activity?	Three requests
<u>Who</u> is it for? and <u>where</u> is it happening?	<p>Peatmoor Copse is a Swindon Borough Council asset and the Community Woodland Group was set up by council officers in 1988 to involve Swindon residents in the management and maintenance of the 6.5 acre woodland. It is a remaining fragment of the ancient Bradon Forest and is believed to have been in existence for over 1,000 years.</p> <p>The site is an unusual and rare example of wet woodland and nowadays is looked after for its environmental benefit to Swindon, for teaching people how to manage wooded areas using traditional techniques, and providing an educational resource to local schools.</p>
How will residents in West Swindon benefit from this?	Residents benefit from having an important ecological site close to their homes. Parents explore the area with their children, it's a route for people walking their dogs, and teenagers use it as a place to meet up rather than around the local shops.
When you aim to start and finish?	This an ongoing project and funds will be used over 24 months.

What funding are you requesting from the Parish Council?

The three projects we are seeking support for:

1. In the winter group members are involved in coppicing trees, cutting them down so that they regenerate over the following seven years. In the summer, we maintain board walks and bridges over the wet areas around the copse. These have been built over the last 25 years and now need constant renewal. We purchase cut wood planks from Swindon Enterprise Works.

The problem with the wood boardwalks is they become slippery and wet, especially during the winter. We need to purchase non-slip strips to nail on the wood to make them safer.

The request is £1,500 to cover these costs.

2. The group works to a Management Plan drawn up 30 years ago. We would like to:

- i. know whether we are meeting up to date thinking about woodland management;
- ii. survey the site to have a better idea of the ecology of the area;
- iii. gain more knowledge about how the site can be used on a micro-level to respond to climate change.

The cost depends on whether Swindon Council has the expertise to advise or if we should seek survey assistance from a charity like Wiltshire Wildlife Trust or The Woodland Trust, or approach a university to find an environmental/ecology focussed student seeking a site to study.

We would ask for £1,000 to initiate this work.

3. Wild Bee Rewilding. Bees are very important to the pollination of plants but they are under tremendous pressure because of loss of habitat and pesticide damage, resulting in loss of foraging and bee colony destruction. Wild bees are all around us but are generally unnoticed. Unlike commercial honey bees, they build hives high in trees and rarely come into contact with humans unless provoked.

Beekind Hives install barrel-like homes in trees which are found by bee swarms to create new colonies. The coordinator of Hreod Urban Forest, where a Beekind Hive was installed in April this year, says wild bees found it within a month and have not been interfered with.

A hive in Peatmoor Copse would become part of Bee Roadzz, a growing mapping network to discover where these important pollinators are located

The cost of an installed hive is £700 but we have been offered funding to meet half the cost if the parish council would fund £350.

<p>Please detail any match funding you will bring to the project <i>e.g. donations, in kind funding, volunteer hours.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All the work in managing the copse and maintaining boardwalks and bridges is undertaken by volunteers. The group meets once a month for three hours where 6 to 10 people participate. I patrol the copse two or three times a week and carry out minor works where necessary. Each year three to five volunteer teams of 10 from Nationwide spend a day. 2. A grant might be available from Swindon Council or from a charity depending on the scale of survey we envisage. 3. Half the cost of a Wild Beehive has been offered to us.

Thank you. Please return your form in person, post or email to: Grants, West Swindon Parish Council, West Swindon Library, Whitehill Way, Swindon, SN5 7DL. Email: clerk@westswindon-pc.gov.uk

Peatmoor Community Woodland



Repairing boardwalks and bridges

Wild beehive on the ground and being installed

