

Community Chest Application Summary 2019/2020

Forest Heath & St Edmundsbury councils

West Suffolk
working together

Local Authority	SEBC
Organisation	Millennium Farm Trust – Artful Farm
Amount Requested	£6,800 (2019-2020)
Total Project Cost	£9,691 (includes in kind contributions)
Match Funding	MTF Contribution from earned income and reserves - £1,360 In kind – 175 hrs volunteering equivalent to £1,531.
Partnerships	West Suffolk College, Priory School, Riverwalk, Broadlands Hall, Suffolk Open Studios, Little Teapots pre school, Chedburgh.

Overview

Millennium Farm Trust was formed in 1996 to provide adults with additional needs the opportunity to learn skills in construction, agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry. Since 2015, the Trust has established a sustainable working base at Depden Care Farm, (DCF) a 6-acre smallholding.

The mission of the Trust is to enable everyone with additional needs to be the best they can possibly be by providing learning and work opportunities rarely available elsewhere. Working on the farm improves physical fitness, mental health, social skills and wellbeing and develops knowledge and skills that help participants reach their life goals.

The Artful Farm will provide the opportunity for local people living with mental health difficulties, learning disabilities or other additional needs to use art materials and the creative process to explore their emotions and feelings about their environment and in particular the farm. The appointed artist will deliver arts based workshops.

The artworks created by the artist and by workshop participants will be inspired by the farm and explore our response to its impact on our mental health. Art pieces will be exhibited at the farm as part of Suffolk Open Studios in 2019.

The programme will operate for 30 days over April, May and June 2019 and is being developed in partnership with Suffolk Open Studios, and local special schools in St Edmundsbury.

Outputs

465 people will benefit from the Artful Farm project

5 workshops with 12 in attendance at each – 60 participants

3 workshops with schools with 25 children at each – 75 participants

2 workshops with volunteers – 30

Attendees at open day – 300

Outcomes

- heightened enjoyment, excitement, fulfilment and therapeutic release of tensions
- an increase in skills and knowledge associated with particular art forms
- enhanced knowledge of social and cultural issues

- a new insight into the rural environment
- advances in personal and social development
- development of creativity and thinking skills
- enrichment of communication and expressive skills

Finances

Income for last financial year - £144,415

Expenditure for last financial year - £133,055

Reserves

£9,400

Request breakdown

Staff and associated overheads based on 20% of direct project costs - £1,360

Materials - £600

Documentation/records/exhibition/photography - £1,000

Artist in residence @£150 per day for 32 days - £4,800

Travel expenses - £100

Marketing - £300

Previous Community Chest funding

Community chest 2017/18 - £12,000 to run Time Out programme.

Officer comments

Supported by 1 families and communities officer



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Forest Heath & St Edmundsbury councils

West Suffolk
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St Edmundsbury Borough Council Community Chest Grant Application Form Part A

Community Chest funding supports voluntary and community groups who make a contribution to improving the quality of life for people in West Suffolk. The information you provide will help us consider your application. If you have any questions, please give us a call on 01284 757077. Before completing this form, we ask you to please read the guidelines, which are available on:

<http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/community/community-grants.cfm>

Please return your completed, signed form and supplementary documents to:
polly.kane@westsuffolk.gov.uk.

Please Note: This form is for applications to the Forest Heath District Council Community Chest grants scheme. If you wish to apply to St Edmundsbury Borough Council the St Edmundsbury form can be found on the Community Grants page above. If you wish to apply to both councils, you will need to complete a separate form for each, clearly stating how your activity will benefit the area.

Privacy Notice

West Suffolk councils is a Data Controller and can be contacted at: West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 3YU. Tel: 01284 763233. The Data Protection Officer is Leah Mickleborough and can be contacted at the same address.

We are collecting your personal information in relation to an application for a grant supplied by West Suffolk councils. The councils administer these grants as a legitimate interest in strengthening, empowering and building resilient communities.

Your data will not be shared with third parties unless to contact other parties (specifically specialist advisors/experts and community referees) who will help the processing of this application or used for Council publicity purposes (i.e. media outlets) in relation to a successful grant, or where we are required or permitted to share data under other legislation (for example the detection and prevention of fraud).

Your data will be kept for six (6) years in line with our retention policy.

You have the right to access your data and to rectify mistakes, erase, restrict, object or move your data in certain circumstances. Automated decision making and

processing is not used during this application. Please contact the Data Protection Officer for further information or go to our website where your rights are explained in more detail. If you would like to receive an explanation of your rights in paper format please contact the Data Protection Officer.

Any complaints regarding your data should be addresses to the Data Protection Officer in the first instance. If the matter is not resolved you can contact the Information Commissioner’s Office at: Wycliff House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF Tel: 0303 123 1113.

For further information on our Data Protection Policies please go to our website: [How we use your information](#) or email: data.protection@westsuffolk.gov.uk

1. Contact Details

Organisation/lead partner name	The Millennium Farm Trust (which trades under the name Depden Care Farm)
Organisation Address	The Millennium Farm Trust Depden Care Farm Rookery Farm Depden Bury St Edmunds
Postcode	IP29 4BU

Organisation main email	tim@depden.com
Organisation main tel.	01284 851013
Organisation website	www.depden.com
Organisation Twitter	
Organisation Facebook	www.facebook.com/DepdenCareFarm

Contact Person 1 (main contact)		Contact person 2	
Name	Tim Freathy	Name	Jerry Massey
Position in organisation	Director	Position in organisation	Trustee/Board Member
Daytime tel.no	01284 851013	Daytime tel.no	
Mobile	07816828016	Mobile	07791643071
email	tim@depden.com	email	masseyjerry@hotmail.com
Address if different to organisation’s		Address if different to organisation’s	
Postcode		Postcode	

2. About your organisation

2.1. Which local authority area(s) does your organisation currently work in?

St Edmundsbury (90%) Forest Heath (10%)

2.2. What type of organisation are you? (please check the relevant box)

Registered charity <input type="checkbox"/>	Charity number: 1070145
Applying for charitable status <input type="checkbox"/>	
Company limited by guarantee <input type="checkbox"/>	Company number: 03567659
Community Interest Company <input type="checkbox"/>	
Part of a larger regional or national charity (Please state which one) <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Constituted Community Group <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Social Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Other (Please specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A

2.3. How many people are currently involved in your organisation?

Trustees	6	Management Board	7
Management team	6	Service users – per week	35
Full Time paid staff / workers	1	Volunteers and helpers (non-management)	38
Part Time paid staff / workers	5		

When did your organisation start? Year

2.4. What is the purpose of your organisation?

Please briefly describe why your organisation was set up, its aims and objectives, what activities it carries out and who primarily benefits.

Millennium Farm Trust was formed in 1996 to provide adults with additional needs the opportunity to learn skills in construction, agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry. Since 2015, the Trust has established a sustainable working base at Depden Care Farm, (DCF) a 6-acre smallholding.

The mission of the Trust is to enable everyone with additional needs to be the best they can possibly be by providing learning and work opportunities rarely available elsewhere. Working on the farm improves physical fitness, mental health, social skills and wellbeing and develops knowledge and skills that help participants reach their life goals.

DCF provides a safe and supportive learning and working environment. The focus is on supporting recovery and building the resilience of people with mental health problems, learning disabilities or acquired brain injury, as an addition to treating or managing their symptoms.

DCF provides structured activities and opportunities to learn skills in horticulture, animal husbandry and agriculture. Within a formal daily framework, attendees perform routine and seasonal tasks required to maintain the farm. Activities comprise looking after the animals; helping to grow, harvest and prepare fruit and vegetables for sale, helping to maintain and develop the gardens and carry out routine farm maintenance and construction work. In recent months, to provide a bridge to other employment opportunities, external contract work has been undertaken.

Most clients are on the Autistic Spectrum and have moderate to severe learning disabilities accompanied with some motor or coordination difficulties. Working at DCF helps to:

Develop key social skills and cognitive functioning that assists with greater independence and increased social inclusion;

Improve social functioning by maintaining and developing appropriate relationships with friends and colleagues;

Increase self-esteem by the development of new skills and the achievement of key work tasks; and

Improve mood and reduced anxiety.

- 2.5. What was your organisation's total income for last financial year?
(your branch if part of a larger organisation) £144,415
- 2.6. What was your organisation's total expenditure for last financial year?
(your branch if part of a larger organisation) £133,055
- 2.7. Does your organisation have more than six months running costs?
(your branch if part of a larger organisation) No
- 2.8. What are your organisation's current unrestricted reserves or savings?
(your branch if part of a larger organisation) £9,400

3. About Your Project

- 3.1. What do you want the funding for? Please be specific. Please note that 'project' is meant to describe the project for which you are seeking funding, and not your organisation. Please include outputs (what you will deliver).

The Artful Farm is a project that will improve the lives of local people, particularly those with mental health difficulties, learning disabilities or other additional needs. Using art materials and the creative process to explore our emotions and feelings about our environment and our farm in particular, the appointed artist will deliver arts based workshops.

As well as developing arts skills in their own right, the artistic process reduces anxiety, increasing self-esteem and helps develop personal insight. Many of the people that come to the care farm find talking about their feelings about their condition difficult. The Artful Farm will provide another avenue for them to express themselves and help inform their time with us. The artworks created by the artist and by workshop participants will be inspired by the farm and explore our response to its impact on our mental health. Art pieces will be exhibited at the farm as part of Suffolk Open Studios in 2019.

The programme will operate for 30 days over April, May and June 2019 and is being developed in partnership with Suffolk Open Studios, and local special schools in St Edmundsbury.

The Artful Farm provides a unique opportunity for partners to work together and enable local people, including those with additional needs to explore their response to the farm in new ways, to socialise and meet new people in a supportive and creative environment. This is the first time that the Trust has used the arts in this way and will support future working and help ensure the sustainability of the provision once funding comes to an end.

The funding will be used to pay an artist, purchase materials, document the created works and market the programme.

- 3.2. How does your project contribute towards the Council's Families and Communities Strategy and Families and Communities Approach? Please refer to guidance and reference both in your answer.

The 'Artful Farm' project is aligned to the council's strategic priority to maintain resilient families and communities. The main beneficiaries have learning and physical disabilities or are recovering their mental health. These groups are often alienated from mainstream society. The project aims to encourage individuality, reduce dependency and improve employability.

The project reflects the Council's aspirations to maximise an individual's talents to enable them to achieve the best that they can in all aspects of their life and enable them to play a fuller role in society. It will provide stimulation and education. It is aimed at both existing farm helpers and potential clients.

Working with the Artist, farm helpers will experience new ways to express themselves, be given the opportunity to understand their rural surroundings in a very different manner and have the chance to learn practical and life skills.

As encouraged in the Families and Communities Approach (FCA), the project will engage with partners (West Suffolk College, Riverwalk, Priory School and Broadlands Hall). The Artist will host engagement workshops with these institutions to enable their students nearing completion of their education to experience the benefits of working outdoors and increase awareness of the natural world.

Reflecting the FCA the outreach work aims to build the self-confidence of these students who are understandably apprehensive of the changes they are facing. The project will help provide a safe and enjoyable introduction to working life on the care farm. In doing this the 'Artful Farm' project will form a supportive link with the students, their families and their institutions.

The achievements of the students and farm helpers will be celebrated at a farm open day where the work produced during the project will be presented. As outlined in the FCA this will reinforce both individual and collective achievement.

3.3. How many people will benefit from your project (on a weekly, monthly or annual basis) and how? Please include outcomes (how your project will benefit the people who are involved in it) and how you will collect evidence of this.

Around 465 people will benefit from the Artful Farm project as follows:

- 5 workshops with 12 farm helpers in each = 60 participants
- 3 workshops with schools with 25 children = 75 participants
- 2 workshop with volunteers = 30
- Attenders at open day = 300

The anticipated outcomes for participants include:

- heightened enjoyment, excitement, fulfilment and therapeutic release of tensions
- an increase in skills and knowledge associated with particular art forms
- enhanced knowledge of social and cultural issues
- a new insight into the rural environment
- advances in personal and social development
- development of creativity and thinking skills
- enrichment of communication and expressive skills

Evidence to assess the impact of the project will be collected from feedback from the partner organisations, staff and the artist and by asking participants to complete a short evaluation.

3.4. Are you working with any other organisations/groups on this project? Yes.

If yes, please state the names of these organisations/groups and the nature of the relationship.

The Artful Farm project will work with key educational partners (**West Suffolk College, Priory School, Riverwalk, Broadlands Hall**) to help highlight the role the care farm can play in the students decision making on the transition to the world of work. They will assist with the workshops run by the Artist on their premises and help with the evaluation of the outcomes.

Suffolk Open Studios, a non-profit making organization run by artists, will promote the outcomes of the project as part of their 2019 Open Studios event where visitors are able to see the artist at work.

There is capacity within the project to engage with local organisations (for example the **Little Teapots pre school, Chedburgh**). The aim of this part of the initiative is to raise disability awareness, help to break down barriers and reinforce positive relationships between the local community and the care farm.

3.5. What evidence do you have that there is a need for this project? Please include sources of evidence, including any public/user /community consultation and research you have carried out.

Demand for placements at the farm is increasing. Since 2015 attendance has tripled to over 1700 user day sessions annually. This growth means that clients have a wider range of interests and abilities. The skills development programme on offer to service users needs to reflect these wider requirements. The 'Artful Farm' project will help to do this.

Nationally there is significant evidence that an Artist in Residence can have a major and lasting impact on the quality of life for people in care situations. The Arts Council promotes the value of this approach and there are many examples of successful projects that deliver long-term benefits. In 2017 Suffolk Art Link ran a programme in care homes. They found that creative interventions impacted positively on the wellbeing of residents and developed confidence and creative skills. The 'Artful Farm' project is a new approach for care farms and is designed to encourage innovation in the way farm helpers perceive their natural environment and learn new skills.

Guardians of farm helpers support this proposal. They feel that it will provide a structured framework and specialist support for the development of new skills that will have lasting benefits for work and social situations.

3.6. How has the project been developed out of the community's desire to improve the lives of local people? What role have users and/or the community had in developing this project?

Working on the Farm builds self-confidence, increases the capacity to cope with the challenges of everyday living and opens up new opportunities for greater independence. Guardians of service users are keen to see the farm offer new learning opportunities to help explore and discover new talents and awareness. They see the Artful Farm initiative as an exciting and new way to do this.

Based on a deep understanding of the capabilities and potential of farm helps the Artful Farm project has been shaped by the Farms Director who has previous arts experience of delivering similar arts based placements.

The projects partners want their final year students to explore all the next-step life choices available to them. They welcome the project and feel that engaging students in this novel manner will be an effective way of explaining the benefits of outdoor employment.

The Trust is one of a few West Suffolk based SCC accredited suppliers for work placements for clients with special needs. The County Council appreciates the major role the care farm plays in meeting local demand for supported employment and, as is proposed in this initiative, they are keen that the skills of work placements are maximized.

4. Timescales and sustainability

4.1. When will your project start and end? (the period for which you are asking the Council for funding)

Start date

End date

4.2. If this is an ongoing project, how will it be funded and supported after the end of the grant period?

There are no ongoing financial liabilities.

5. Funding request and budget

5.1. Which years are you applying for funding for? Please delete as applicable

2019/2020	
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5.2. What is the total cost of the project? (project costs only, not for your whole organisation and not just the funding you are requesting)

£ 9.691

5.3. Please provide a full breakdown of the total cost of this project, including VAT if applicable. Please only include direct expenditure for this project.

Item	Amount
Staff and volunteers (including roles, hourly rates, NI/tax contributions and expenses where applicable)	
Staff and associated overhead costs based on 20% of direct project costs	1,360
Overheads (including items such as venue/office costs, utilities, back office services, insurance)	
Overhead costs included above.	
Equipment and resources	
Materials	600
Documentation/records/exhibition/photography	1,000
Other	
Artist in residence @£150 per day for 32 days:	4,800
5 days preparation/research	
20 days on site at farm	
7 days workshops and final exhibition	
Travel expenses	100
Marketing	300
Total	£8,160

5.4. Please provide a full breakdown of all other funding you have secured for this project.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Funding already secured (please detail funders, amounts and funding periods individually)	
MFT contribution from earned income and reserves	£1,360
Total	£1,360

5.5. What other funders have you applied to for this project but have not yet had a decision from?

Funder	Amount requested	Decision timescale
None		

5.6. Please provide a full breakdown of all in-kind support* you have secured for this project.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Volunteer contributions (including estimated hours given and roles) Volunteers will be available to assist when the artist is on site and with the preparation and hosting of the open day to celebrate achievements. This is estimated to be at least 175 hrs with an in-kind contribution value @£8.75 per hour (living wage)	£1,531
Equipment and resources (please itemise)	-
Other	-
Total	£1,531

*In-kind support is assistance and items you would normally expect to pay for, but which you are getting for free, such as volunteer hours or a free venue. You might find it useful to give volunteer hours a value, such as the minimum wage, or higher if you have volunteers with particular expertise it would be expensive to pay for.

5.6. How much funding are you applying to us for?

2019/20 £6,800

2020/21 £0

5.7. What other grants and contracts has your organisation received over the past three years from either Forest Heath District Council or St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

Funding Source	Amount (£)	Reason for funding
Community Chest Grant Scheme 2017/18	12,000	To run a TIME OUT programme for 2 days a week during school holidays. TIME OUT offered participants, who have learning and physical disabilities and attend local schools, an introduction to the world of work. Attending for a half/full day on the farm, TIME OUT allowed local schools and MFT to work together to offer students the opportunity to socialise and meet new people in a supportive environment as part of the preparation for leaving formal education.
Total:	12,000	

Thank you for completing Part A of the form. Please continue to part B.

