

## Grants 2011- 2012

Oxford City Council recognises the contribution made by community and voluntary organisations in Oxford and through the Councils community grants programme provides funding to a range of community & voluntary organisations that help the Council deliver the objectives set out in the Corporate Plan.

Last year 17 community & voluntary organisations benefited from grants totalling £68,000 through the community grants annual open bidding programme. It funded 19 community projects across the city that supported the Council in meeting objectives under the Corporate Priority of Strong, Active Communities.

This booklet provides a snapshot of those organisations funded during the financial year 2011/2012.



**Below are some of the projects that have received grant funding for projects and services in 2011 – 2012.**

**Projects are listed alphabetically with more information on the organisations, projects and the amount they received.**

## **The Archway Foundation**

**Received £5,000**

**Other Funding Levered in £27,691**

The Archway Foundation (known as Archway) was established in Oxford in 1982 to help people affected by loneliness.

Feelings of loneliness can affect people of all ages and backgrounds and can be caused by external circumstances - lack of mobility, mental or physical ill health, bereavement, relationship break up, redundancy and retirement.

Archway helps over 400 people (of which 323 live in the city) deal with the distress caused by loneliness, through a variety of supportive activities and by recruiting an essential team of volunteers.



## **Barton Community Association**

**Received £3,750**

**Other Funding Levered in £2,960**

Barton Community Association is based in the Neighbourhood Centre at Underhill Circus. They are a proactive group and were awarded funding for three projects last year, Barton Bash (received £450), Barton Therapy Day (received £300) and Hands on News their community newsletter (received £3,000). The Barton Bash and Therapy Day ran as a combined event last year and was attended by approximately 1,000 local people.



## **Blackbird Leys Community Development Initiative**

**Received £2,635**

**Other Funding Levered in £26,560**

The Clockhouse Project is for people over 50 living on Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys. The funding helps subsidise weekly Tai Chi, Yoga and monthly dance sessions.

These activities promote good health and reduce isolation. Feedback from users of these activities included comments that their overall health has improved; they can move better, have improved balance and they feel less stressed. Several called the project activities a lifeline.



## **Blackbird Leys Credit Union**

**Received £5,000**

**Other Funding Levered in £6,044**

Blackbird Leys Credit Union provides an important financial service in an area of high social deprivation where some residents face financial exclusion and could be vulnerable to loan sharks.

The Credit Union provides a savings facility, free cheque cashing, payment of benefits and low cost affordable loans for 1,480 members.



## Cowley Road Works – Cowley Road Festival

Received £7,500

Other Funding Levered in £138,050

Cowley Road Festival took place in South Park on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2011.

The Saturday event, Fiesta in the Park attracted 2,300 people while on Sunday an estimated 20,000 people attended Carnival in the Park.

Around 688 people took part in the carnival procession and there were a total of 647 performers on stages at both the carnival (600) and fiesta (47). There were also 67 stalls (including 18 charities & 23 food stalls) plus 4 bars. It took 93 volunteers, working over 660 hours before and at the events, to make it all happen.



## Cotteslowe Community Association

Received £1,500

Other Funding Levered in £5,000

Cotteslowe Community Association is based in the Cotteslowe Community Centre at Wren Road. They were awarded a grant to provide a holiday playscheme for local children aged 5-11 years old.

In August 2011, 33 children attended the playscheme that ran for 3 weeks and reached many families on benefits. Activities were fun and educational and with a high staff ratio meant very positive relationships were established between workers and the children, helping to reduce anti-social behaviour on the estate during the school summer holidays.



## Cotteslowe Seniors Group

Received £450

Other Funding Levered in £0

This is a thriving, friendly and supportive club for people aged 60 or over who live in the Cotteslowe area. The group meets every fortnight on a Friday morning, alternating a social meeting (usually with a speaker) with an outing to a place of interest. It currently has around 30 members and is managed by a part-time co-ordinator and management committee.



## Donnington Doorstep Family Centre

Received £10,000

Other Funding Levered in £15,423

Donnington Doorstep provides a free drop in facility for children and young people aged 8-18 years old who are at risk of social exclusion or offending. Last year a total of 218 children & young people used this facility.

168 sessions were provided throughout the year and activities focused on the following themes:-

- being healthy
- staying safe
- enjoy & achieve
- make a positive contribution



## Restore - Elder Stubbs Festival

Received £1,415

Other Funding Levered in £237

Elder Stubbs Allotments is a recovery group that offers opportunities to socialise and learn new skills. Funding was awarded for the festival which promotes mental health awareness. Last year they celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, with over 3,000 people attending the event and many users helped out on the day.



## Kids Enjoy Exercise Now (KEEN)

Received £6,000

Other Funding Levered in £8,000

KEEN is run by students from Oxford University and with other young people from the local area they provide sporting and recreational activities for children and young adults with special needs in Oxfordshire.

The project runs four weekly activities during the University term:

- AllSorts, a Saturday sports session;
- Zig-Zag, a drama and crafts workshop which is aimed at primary school aged children;
- KEEN Teens, a social club for 11 to 19 year olds; and
- GrEAT an over 18's social club

Last year 140 children & young people with special needs from Oxford participated in these activities.



## Leys News

Received £5,000

Other Funding Levered in £12,700

Leys News is a free community newspaper delivered monthly to over 5,000 homes in Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys. Free training in Community Journalism is available for anyone interested in getting involved. The training covers all aspects of community journalism and newspaper production, as well as an insight into mainstream media.



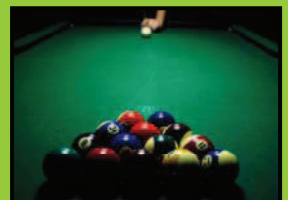
## Open Door

Received £4,000

Other Funding Levered in £0

Open Door operates as a drop in service for asylum seekers and refugees, offering advice and a referral service for practical problems. They run their service from East Oxford Community Centre and are open on Thursdays from 11am to 4pm.

On average 41 people attend the drop in to have a free lunch and participate in games and leisure activities.



## Oxford Friend

Received £3,000

Other Funding Levered in £3,689

Oxford Friend is a voluntary organisation that provides a free and completely confidential helpline and counselling service for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people. Their phone line is open Tuesday, Wednesdays & Fridays between 7pm – 9pm. In 2011/12 they took 211 active calls.

In June 2006, this organisation received the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.



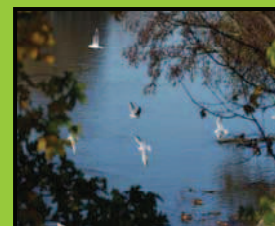
## Oxford Urban Wildlife Group

Received £2,250

Other Funding Levered in £3,954

Funding was awarded to help with the maintenance of the Boundary Brook Nature Park, which was opened in 1990 by the Oxford Urban Wildlife Group. The park was developed on former allotment land in East Oxford.

They maintain and continue to develop the park. Last year 700 local people visited the park and enjoyed the wildlife park which has a rich variety of habitats including woodland, pond and marsh area, wildflower meadow, kitchen garden and a demonstration wildlife garden for the disabled.



## Roots Allotment Project

Received £2,000

Other Funding Levered in £0

The Roots Allotment Project is based at Cutteslowe and works with young people who are not in education, employment or training and are finding it difficult to move on with their lives.

The produce they grow is given to Cutteslowe Community Centre for the lunches they provide for older people.



## South Oxford Adventure Playground (SOAP)

Received £8,000

Other Funding Levered in £17,941

South Oxford Adventure Playground is located off Whitehouse Road and is a free supervised playground for children and young people aged 7-15 years old.

During school term time the playground is open Monday to Friday from 3.15pm to 5.30pm, whilst during school holidays they are open 10am to 5pm. Last year over 1,000 children attended during the 2011 summer holiday period.



## West Oxford Community Association

Received £500

Other Funding Levered in £917

West Oxford Community Association are based in West Oxford Community Centre. They organised and ran an annual family fun day and last year this event took place on 16 July 2011. Despite the heavy rain that day 400 local people came along to the event, which featured 58 volunteers and participants and 54 performers and local artists.



“I am very proud to be the City Councillor with overall responsibility for our Community Grants Initiative. The fantastic work undertaken by Community Groups in our City makes it a richer place for all of us.

“This scheme enables this positive work and often acts as a lever for further grant aid. The wealth of fine work undertaken by committed staff and volunteers provides high quality schemes of work and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the myriad of people involved in making our City a better place to live.”

**Councillor Steve Curran**  
Oxford City Council Executive Board Member for  
Young People, Education and Community  
Development

For more information on community and voluntary sector grants, please contact Communities and Neighbourhoods on 01865 252791 or at [communities@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:communities@oxford.gov.uk)

