



Active Community Fund 2021 – 2022

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

| Section A: You and your community group | Complete details |
|---|---|
| Community Group Name and charity/company number (if applicable) | Slindon Parish Council |
| Parish name | Slindon |
| Postal address | C/o Westward Cottage, Westward Lane West Chiltington |
| Postcode | RH20 2PA |
| Your name | Sarah Linfield |
| Position | Parish Clerk |
| Daytime phone number | 01798 813391 |
| Email address | clerk@slindonparishcouncil.gov.uk |

Section B: Payment information

Payment will be via bank transfer

Successful applications for funding will usually be paid by bank transfer. Successful applicants will be asked for bank detail upon confirmation of successful application

Section C: Authorisation

If this application for funding is successful, this group undertakes to:

Complete an evaluation sheet 6 months after funding is awarded, if required, outlining how the grant was spent and the value of the project to the local community

Participate in promotional activities

Declaration: I have read and understood the terms and conditions and declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided on this form is true and accurate

Signature of Applicant

Date



| Section D: Your funding application | Complete details |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Community Group | Slindon Parish Council |
| Project Title | Project ResPOND |
| <p>Description of issues, needs and/or initiatives</p> <p>Slindon Pond as an attenuation pond has a key role to play in effective flood management, through the retention of rainwater and controlled discharge of excess water through an outlet structure. Numerous incoming drainage pipes form part of the overall system.</p> <p>The current construction of the system has a number of limitations which are increasingly impacting the pond's storage capacity, as well as restricting flows into the pond from the incoming drainage pipes. The incoming pipes primarily serve run off from the public highway.</p> <p>Whilst routine maintenance work has been undertaken over the years, the removal of substantial layers of silt is now required to improve the capacity of the pond, coupled with material changes to the existing incoming/outgoing infrastructure, through engineering works. Numerous works have also been carried out by WSCC in the past to improve the highway drainage system but have proved largely ineffective.</p> <p>The position has deteriorated such that significant flooding is occurring on the public highway in the vicinity of the pond with increasing frequency and also causing damage to the road surface.</p> | |
| <p>Brief description of proposed works or activity</p> <p>The pond is around 850 metres square and is constrained by an embanked area and woodland to the south and Church Hill to the north.</p> <p>Project Respond will address a ground water flood risk through both material changes to, and increasing the drainage capacity of, the existing infrastructure.</p> <p>This will be achieved by -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removing a willow tree, where its extensive root system has infiltrated the inflow pipes. • Increasing the capacity of the pond by dredging and de-silting, silt to be sent to a licensed waste management facility. • Pond revetment and stabilising the banks adjacent to the northern bank, at the edge of the highway. • Changes to incoming and outgoing pipe structures, delivered through material improvements to existing infrastructure and new infrastructure installations and builds. | |



| Section D: Your funding application | Complete details |
|---|------------------|
| <p>How long has the community been aware of the issue or needs you aim to address?</p> <p>Several years of more extremes of weather, a reduction in pond capacity and temporary fixes over the years to infrastructure which are now insufficient, have combined to focus attention on the importance of timely and sustainable remedial work.</p> <p>The Council's application to fell the willow generated awareness of the issues with both an enthusiasm for and appreciation of the pond.</p> | |

| What are the Operation Watershed objectives this work will achieve? <i>(please tick)</i> | |
|---|-----|
| Protects homes, properties, businesses and access from flooding | ✓ |
| Improves and or develops 'Community Commitment' to deliver the project including all and any future maintenance | ✓ |
| Makes material change improvements to existing infrastructure | ✓ |
| Improves local understanding of maintenance, obligations and responsibilities | ✓ |
| Improves maintenance and or increases capacity of drainage and watercourse | ✓ |
| Supports development of joint working with other groups addressing flood issues | ✓ |
| What will the scheme protect? <i>(please tick)</i> | |
| Residential properties | N/A |
| Commercial Premises | N/A |
| Public Highway | ✓ |



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| Has the project identified any vulnerable people who will benefit from this work/activity? | No |
| Does the project align with any existing emergency plan or is this something that will be looked at as part of the project? | No |
| Who is going to do the work for you? | To be confirmed |
| Are any Community Volunteers involved | Yes |
| For contracted works what is the estimated cost of the proposed project? <i>(Please provide competitive quotes from 3 contractors):</i> | Include the cost provided by the nominated contractor Contractor A £62104.92 Contractor B £80390.75 5 quotes sought, 2 obtained. 2 did not respond and 1 did not have capacity. |
| Total amount of grant funding you are applying for: | To be confirmed |
| Identify any match funding for project | Preliminary work funded with partner organisations at circa £9000 as follows Parish Council (Slindon) Silt depth and contamination survey £ 2500 Removal of willow tree £ 700 District Council (Arun) CCTV Jetting Drainage Survey £ 3325 Topographical Survey £ 660 South Downs National Park Authority Ecology and Bat Report £ 600 Civil Engineer's Design £ 2000 |



Community Commitment Statement: *Please provide a statement detailing;*

Slindon pond, which is of both historical and social importance, lies at the heart of the village, and over time it has fallen to the Parish Council to maintain the area. It was first registered as a public green in 1967 and whilst its upkeep has often proved costly, with so many ponds disappearing in recent decades, this small Parish is committed to retaining and improving an important community asset albeit with limited resources.

The project is aimed at improving the biodiversity and physical environment of the pond, encouraging more wildlife and making it an area that can be enjoyed by the whole community. This is of course in addition to the positive impact of effective flood management for the community by providing a safer environment.

Slindon Parish Council has worked with a number of organisations in making this application and has also benefited from the experience of Friends of Middleton on Sea Pond, which received funding from Operation Watershed last year.

Chris Drake from 'FLOW' (Fixing and Linking Our Wetlands) has provided ecology and bat reports and the Council has taken advice from Paul Stevens, who had 13 years' experience as Reserve Manager with the Arundel Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, and Damon Block from the Environment Agency.

It has also worked closely with Paul Cann, Arun District Council's Principal Drainage Engineer and Simon Mockford, Ranger with the South Downs National Park Authority - both organisations are supportive of this application and have made significant contributions towards the preliminary costs.

Arun District Council has funded the CCTV survey/jetting/root cutting and topographical survey at a cost of c £4000 and the South Downs National Park Authority has paid for Ecology Report and Civil Engineer's design at a cost of £2400 through their Community Funding programme. A silt depth and contamination survey has been paid for by the Parish Council at a cost of £2500.

Looking to the future, a volunteer scheme will be set up focussing on a regular programme of specific activities designed to sustain the benefits of the project long term -

- Monthly maintenance of the pond including clearing of banks and ditches.
- Annual management of leaf drop which adds debris to the surrounding ditches and water body, which will over time reduce water depth.
- Regular testing of the water using some basic quality testing equipment to maintain the health of the pond.



- Planting with a diverse range of native plants without impeding future maintenance

The Parish Council will be taking expert advice on setting up a volunteer group and how best this can be structured and managed with the potential to include those from the village through the local schools and the wider community, including those participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Details of this application have already been shared with the Parish through the minutes of Council meetings, our newsletters and the parish magazine. Ordinarily a presentation could have been made at the Annual Meeting of the Parish, which is always very well attended, although lockdown prevented this. It may be possible to arrange a leaflet drop and 'SlindonLife' will continue to share details via its round robin email circulation of about 300 subscribers.

This planned work will continue to enhance and benefit Slindon, which lies within the South Downs National Park and to improve community resilience through protection from flood risk and water damage.



The authority is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers, and to this end may use the information you have provided on this form for the prevention and detection of fraud. It may also share this information with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds

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| Name of WSCC County Councillor | Trevor Bence |
| Member Signature: | Signature of your West Sussex County Councillor |
| Project Title: | Project ResPOND |
| C&ED Officer Name | |
| C&ED Contact Details | |

for these purposes. For further information see: westsussex.gov.uk/watershed

Please note – Communities receiving funding will be listed on the [WSCC website](#). All personal and financial details will be redacted.