

How does the Community Fund work?

There are four different levels of funding to suit everyone's needs; from individual and local groups, to larger committees and organisations.

In 2018-2019, applications were reviewed and approved by members of our Youth Group. In 2019-2020, applications for community events will be reviewed and decided by our customers through a private **Communities@Cottsway** Facebook group. If you want to join the group, please get in touch.

Grant	Eligible projects	Examples
£250	For individual Cottsway customers to support individual learning and skills development, especially where this will increase employment prospects.	Training courses, qualifications and the materials and equipment needed to support learning.
£500	Small projects and community events which benefit your neighbourhood and directly affects other residents of Cottsway properties.	Events, activities and trips that involve the neighbourhood and bring the community closer together.
£2,500	Group projects that benefit the community and are accessible to Cottsway residents.	One-off and ongoing projects; social, environmental and educational. Including training to improve services, equipment, printing and publicity.
£5,000	Environmental projects that directly benefit Cottsway's customers.	Community clear-ups and improvements, conservation projects etc.

How can I apply?

You can find more information and download an application form at: www.cottsway.co.uk/community-fund. you can also call us on **01993 890 000** or email us at communities@cottsway.co.uk



Cottsway Community Fund

Annual Report 2018-2019

As a way to give back to the communities we work in, Cottsway makes money available to fund various projects every year. This report highlights some of the great causes that we have supported. It also gives you an idea of how the funding works and how you can apply.

Who have we supported?

Quest for Learning

We awarded £1,800 to Oxfordshire-based charity Quest for Learning to teach their “Numskills” programme to Year 2-4 pupils at Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School in Witney. The programme provided extra support to pupils; boosting their maths skills through fun and interactive activities. Quest for Learning reported some fantastic feedback. One of the teachers commented that a pupil was “definitely more confident in his use of maths. his basic recall has improved, and I think this will have a positive impact on his SATs scores.”

“When I'm playing computer games at home I'm better at calculating my scores!”

– Our Lady of Lourdes Pupil



“Donations such as this ensure we can continue to help local young people exercise, have organised activities and the opportunity to make new friends and develop their sporting skill and passion.”

– Paul Haydon, Volunteer Coach at Carterton Town FC

Carterton Town FC

Carterton Town Football Club’s under 14s team received £475 to fund new football kits. Community clubs have a vital role to play in ensuring young people have opportunity to mix in a safe environment and the chance to develop new skills. The club reported that the players were “delighted” with their new kits.

D.I.T.T.O

D.I.T.TO (Doing It Together To Overcome) are a fully inclusive social group for disabled and vulnerable people in and around Witney. They were awarded £450 for their members’ annual Christmas party which saw over 90 attendees. The party went “really well” with lots of gifts, food and entertainment including Belly Dancing and live music.



What did we achieve?

April 2018 to March 2019 was a fantastic year for the Community Fund. We completely exhausted our budget of £20,000 funding 17 amazing causes across our communities, including three applications for learning and skills development from our own residents. Because of the immense popularity of the Community Fund, we have decided to expand the budget to £25,000 for 2019 -2020. Below you will find the complete list of applicants from last year.

Group Applicants	Reason for applying	Amount awarded
Rugby League Inspires	Rugby lessons for schools	£2,000
Wootton Parish Council	Playing field refurbishment	£1,750
Cassington Parish Council	New playground equipment	£1,750
Eynsham Carnival	Annual craft fair and family day	£800
OASIS	Over-60s event	£300
Oxfordshire Play Association	Play and activity days for children	£2,000
Joss Searchlight	Witney Wonderland winter festival	£2,500
Tower Hill school	Summer Holiday Club	£1,750
Carterton Football Club	Under-14s football kits	£475
Quest for Learning	Math skills workshops	£1,800
Clean Slate	Support services extension	£1,250
Witney Food Bank	Running Costs	£1,500
D.I.T.TO	Christmas party	£450
Madley Park R.A.	Playground equipment	£1,250
Individual Applicants	Reason for applying	Amount awarded
Female, 25-29	Accredited online psychology course	£100
Female, 70-74	Beginner Italian language course	£75
Male, 45-49	IT equipment for voluntary work	£250

