

Application for Funding from Hampshire Action Teams
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Organisation Details

Name of Organisation	Staunton Country Park
Type of Organisation (Please tick or double click to check the appropriate box)	Other (please describe below): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Staunton is partnership managed through a Joint Management Committee (JMC) comprising members from Hampshire County Council, Havant Borough Council and East Hampshire District Council. There is also a Stakeholder Forum which advises the JMC and comprises members and officers from the JMC as well as Portsmouth Water Limited, Rowlands Castle Parish Council, Horndean Parish Council, Forest Enterprise, Hampshire Gardens Trust, and Portsmouth City Council.</p>
Contact Name	Gordon Gardner
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Funding Details

Which HAT are you requesting funding from	East Central
Amount of Funding Requested (Please state if all or part of the funding will be spent on staffing costs)	£45,810
Joint Funding (Please list any other funding secured for the project from other organisations)	None

Details of the Bid / Project

Title of Bid/ Project	Staunton Wild Zone
Summary of Bid/ Project	<p>To create a wildlife area, including indoor classroom facility, which will be used by schools and act as a demonstration area for Park visitors.</p> <p>The area will include a pond, with bog and dipping platform, wild meadow, a variety of nest boxes for birds and small animals as well as invertebrate friendly ideas which all visitors will be encouraged to replicate in their home or school grounds.</p> <p>The area will incorporate many environmentally friendly products and features such as the use of non-toxic paints, wood sourced from the Parks woodland and reed bed waste water processing.</p> <p>Work will be led by the Parks Education and Ranger teams under the management of the Joint Management Committee who will be responsible for preparing update and project reports.</p>

<p>How does the Bid meet the HATs Term of Reference?</p> <p>1) To tackle economic, social and health inequalities in the local area</p> <p>2) To support the delivery of Hampshire's improvement priorities within the Hampshire Local Area Agreement*</p> <p>3) To support local highways and transport priorities**</p>	<p>The area has been recognised in the Lottery commissioned document Environment Design Assessment (2001) as an ideal location to link native species and wildlife conservation in the Farm & Gardens area which will encourage visitors to explore the rest of the estate.</p> <p>This project would lead to reinstating landscape views across to High Lawn, whilst using sympathetic hedging to distract from the urbanisation in the vicinity.</p> <p>1) The Staunton Wild Zone presents new opportunities for volunteers of all abilities to get involved with the Park. It will also create a base for a Wildlife Watch Club for children staffed by Park staff and Hampshire Wildlife Trust volunteers. This will provide a focus for community engagement and social cohesion as well as ensuring the long term management and sustainability of the project.</p> <p>This project will benefit school groups and particularly local member schools who will take an active part in maintaining and learning about the natural environment.</p> <p>There is growing evidence of the benefits that people derive from the natural environment particularly in relation to health and wellbeing. We know that in health terms connection with nature reduces stress levels and has a positive effect on mental health as well as contributing to more active healthier lifestyles and helping to reduce obesity across all age groups.</p> <p>The Staunton Wild Zone is located in Havant which has higher obesity levels compared to other districts in the sub region.</p>
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	<p>2) This project contributes to the following LAA priorities:</p> <p>Theme A; Children & Young People The Staunton Wild Zone will enable young people to re-engage with nature which will have a positive impact on their emotional and mental wellbeing (NI 51). Local children and young people will be actively involved in establishing and maintaining the wild area which will benefit their physical health and will contribute to tackling obesity. The main beneficiaries of this project are children between the ages of 5 – 16 and predominately the key (NI 56) target group of primary school children.</p> <p>Theme G; Environment. Havant has a low sustainability score. Through sustainable use of materials, recycling, composting this project will assist in educating and raising awareness of global and local environmental issues including practical ideas for improving biodiversity and sustainability in the home.</p> <p>Theme H; Improve Community Engagement through involving the local community in the design, creation, maintenance and enjoyment of the Wild Zone.</p> <p>There will also be opportunities for members of our Supported Volunteer Scheme to undertake variety of tasks and learn skills required to maintain and enhance the area.</p>
<p>Timescale (What is the anticipated period over which the money will be spent?)</p>	<p>Commencement Date: January 2011 Preview: February Half-term 2011 to link in with National Nestbox week. Completion Date: April 2011 - to link in with Easter holidays and Step into Spring event See attached project schedule</p>
<p>Intended Outcomes (How will the success of the bid/project be measured?)</p>	<p>The intended outcomes of the project are to increase the number of users to the Park and to provide an additional attraction to our visitors, therefore increasing the length of their visit and activity they are able to participate in.</p> <p>General Visitors – open Wild Zone at peak weekends and school holidays = 52,000 general visitors, based on 12,000 for Easter fortnight, 4,000 per half-term and school holiday weeks and average of 400 visitors per day at weekends during peak season. School groups – increase range activities and area available for member schools / independent groups to use = all 10,000 plus school visitors will be able to view aspects of the Wild Zone. It is anticipated that each of our Education Members (last year 34 members) will make regular use of the area and help to maintain it. Volunteers. Conservation Volunteers - anticipate a team of 20 newly recruited volunteers who will undertake a minimum of 24</p>

	<p>days each per year maintaining and developing the Wild Zone = 480days</p> <p>Education volunteers who manage the area and provide information and demonstrations to visitors = 90 to 180 days</p> <p>Supported Volunteer Scheme – currently a group of 15 volunteers with learning difficulties who attend the Park every week. This group would be able to be increased because of the Wild Zone as they could undertake tasks on an alternate weekly basis.</p> <p>Children – the Wild Zone would be the base for children aged 5 to 16 years who would attend either the nature club or monthly youth volunteer group.</p> <p>In addition a key objective is to enhance biodiversity in the Park. Surveys would be taken prior to the project commencing (although difficult to collect data for many species during winter) and throughout the project lifetime to collect data, specifically species of flora and fauna present and the increase or ‘introduction’ of new species. Finally this project would enable a natural link between ‘two-sides’ of Staunton as outlined in the EDA and Staunton Business plan.</p>
<p>Future Funding Arrangements (If the project is to last more than a year how will it be funded in subsequent years? How will any outcomes achieved by the project be sustained in the longer term? If it is a capital scheme how will the equipment be maintained?)</p>	<p>The maintenance costs for this project will be absorbed by the Parks overall maintenance plan budget. However it is anticipated that a team of volunteers will provide the labour so expenditure will be required for some material only. The material will be sourced onsite wherever possible. It is proposed that by opening this new feature during relevant events, including National Nestbox and Bat weeks, and providing workshops sufficient revenue will be generated to enable the site to be developed. Schools will also be charged for a guided education session in the Wild Zone (e.g. pond-dipping) and this will be ring-fenced to invest into the area. Future funding applications may be sought as necessary and the Park is in the process of establishing a Friends Group who will be tasked with fundraising in a variety of ways.</p> <p>The project will be managed jointly by the Parks Education & Community Manager along with the Senior Ranger.</p>

* Further information on the LAA can be found at the following website - <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/localareaagreement.htm>

** Any approved bids for highways/transport projects will require liaison with the Executive Member for Environment.

Declaration

I declare that the information supplied in this application is true and that any funding received from Hampshire County Council will be used for the purposes described in this form. The Council reserves the right to reclaim any funding not used for the purposes stated on this form.

I agree to provide a report detailing the outcomes of this bid/project (a form will be sent out for completion at the relevant time).

Signed Date

Position in organisation

Please return your completed form to: The HAT Team, Room 105, Elizabeth II Court, Winchester, S023 8UJ, or email: members.services@hants.gov.uk

Staunton Wild Zone - Budget Breakdown

THEME	ITEM	QUANTITY	COST	SUPPLIER	DETAIL
Habitat Enhancement	Nestboxes		200	envisage wildcare	
	Mammal Homes		200	envisage wildcare	
	Bird tables		200	envisage wildcare	
	Feeders		100	envisage wildcare	
	Obstacle Course (squirrels)		100		
Pond	Liner		1000		
	Building material		1000		
	Decking		500		
Planting	Plants		300		
	Trees / shrubs		1000	BTCV	variety
	Containers		500		
	Compost		500		
	Hedgerow Wildflower plugs / seeds	2 packs	300	BTCV	50 bare rooted trees
Equipment (Field studies)	Hide		250	envisage wildcare	
	Nest box videos			envisage wildcare	
	Bird box counters			envisage wildcare	
	Binoculars			envisage wildcare	
	Night vision		300	envisage wildcare	
	ID Charts		50	FSC	
	Pond dipping equipment		200	envisage wildcare	
Equipment (maintenance)	Gardening tools		300		
	Large Interpretations				
Interpretation	Boards		3000		
	Trail boards		3000		
	Interpretation design		800		
Room Décor	Lino flooring		200		
	Paint		200		
	Room divider		500		
	Storage		500		
	Furniture		500		

Undercover Area	Sides to pergola	800	
	Flooring	500	
Misc	Mini digger hire	750	
	Recycling Bins	400	
	Contribution to boardwalk	10000 (TBC)	boardwalk through Dutch Gardens to allow access to visitors through Front Lawn paddocks
	Staff time (development)	1500	10 days of interior and interpretation planning
	Staff time (maintenance)	5000	30 days of ground work
	Benches / furniture	2000	
	Water Butts	60	
	Willow Sculpture	2000	create and surface all access paths through paddocks leading to Dutch Garden boardwalk connected to outdoor hand wash area
	Path work	6800	
	Reed bed display	7500	
	Contingency	2500	
TOTAL		45810	

Staunton Wild Schedule

Month 2011	Task
January	Begin clearing area
January	Education Team to commence work with design team re trail and interpretation boards
January - February	Rangers (or contractors) spend approximately 30 days undertaking ground work, using manual and mini-digger, hedge laying, path work, pond creation, erect fences and all outdoor building work
February	Staff to spend 5 days on interior improvement
February - April	Plant wildflower area
March - April	complete area by installing furniture, feeders etc
Open Staunton Wild Zone to public during Easter Holidays and Step into Spring event BUT preview at national event during February (either Big Garden Birdwatch or National Nestbox week)	