



## Connecting People and Landscapes: Grant Criteria April 2026

### Community Grant Scheme

The purpose of the grant scheme is to engage local community groups in the areas surrounding our focus farms. By providing financial support, we aim to move community members from awareness of our project to active participation.

**1.Key dates:** Closing June 15 2026. Notification by mid-July 2026. Completed by Dec 7<sup>th</sup> latest.

**2.Maximum Grant Amount and In-Kind Contribution** Grants are up to £500 per project. We ask that you match your application with in-kind (non-cash) of 25%. So for a £500 project that is £125. This could be from 6.25 volunteer hours at our rate £20/hour.

**3.Geographic Eligibility** Projects need to be close to our focus farms, ideally within the area on the map (see below). These farms are: Springwater Farm nr Exeter, Gappah Farm nr Chudleigh, Blackmore Farm nr Buckfast, Pullhayes Farm nr East Budleigh, Ramsland Farm nr Holbeton and Firebeacon Farm nr Tiverton. Please see map on grant page for further information. [Small grants Scheme - Connecting People and Landscapes | Devon Communities Together.](#)

**4.Promoting Active Learning** As part of the grant, all successful applicants will be offered support from the Connecting People and Landscapes team to visit a local farm or to co-host a community activity such as a walk, workshop or event. This is a great opportunity for groups to learn more about nature-friendly farming, local species, and connect with local farmers.

If appropriate your application can focus on providing the equipment or resources you need to carry out a visit e.g. coats, wellies, transport.

**5.Eligible Costs** These must be directly associated with the project, have not been incurred before you get funding from us, and can be revenue or capital items. Examples include:

- Volunteer or group travel costs for nature-based outings
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) for accessing the natural environment, e.g. raincoats or wellies
- Hosting a community event, walk or workshop
- A nature-related arts project

**5. Grant Assessment Criteria** We will assess against each of these three. Your project may focus more on one heading than another which is OK.

**a. Increase Community Engagement and Empowerment**

- How does the project actively involve local residents, young people, or community groups?
- How many community members will benefit?
- What plans are there plans to facilitate active participation that promote awareness and education around local heritage, nature friendly farming practices and community building?

**b. Support Underserved Communities**

- Does the project target underserved communities, youth groups or local groups to ensure diverse participation by funding local farm visits and/or environmental projects?
- Does the project create opportunities to strengthen local place-based social networks and foster inclusive collaboration between community members and local farms?
- Does the project foster connections between underserved groups in the community and local farms?

**c. Foster Sustainable Practices:**

- Does the project promote sustainability and community stewardship?
- Does the project support initiatives that educate the community about sustainable farming practices, conservation or local biodiversity?
- Can the project be replicated by other communities or farms?

**If application passes eligibility checks, it progresses to small panel for assessment and then to CP&L Steering Group for approval.**



**Points-based assessment system for panel:**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Score Range</b>
<b>Project Assessment</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Pass/ Fail</b>
<b>Increase Community Engagement and Empowerment</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>0-5</b>
<b>Support Underserved Communities</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>0-5</b>
<b>Foster Sustainable Practices</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>0-5</b>