



## **Kent & Medway village and community halls funding sources list**

**Last updated May 2022. Do let me know if you come across other funds, or if any details are out of date. Also, contact me if you would like to discuss best options for your project.**

**I strongly recommend that you read the guidelines on eligibility and criteria for funding carefully so that you don't waste time on applications that will not be successful.**

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### **1. Searching for funding sources**

#### **1.1 KCC – Inside Track**

## [Inside Track newsletter - Kent County Council](#)

Regularly updated and comprehensive listing of funding sources (not just for village halls). Follow this link to sign up.

### **1.2 Funding for All**

#### [Community Buildings/Halls Archives - Funding for All](#)

Provides a list of funding specifically for community buildings. Most are listed below but worth keeping an eye on. They also provide high quality free fundraising training, fundraising surgeries and 1 to 1 mentoring – see their website for details.

### **1.3 Kent For Community**

#### [Home | Kent 4 Community \(idoxopen4community.co.uk\)](#)

Funding search engine supported by KCC. You have to register to use it (free).

## **2. Fundraising support**

### **2.1 Funding for All**

#### [Funding for All - Mentoring for VCSEs in Kent & Medway](#)

Free mentoring and workshops for small charities and community groups in Kent & Medway.

### **2.2 Kent County Council**

#### [Facts and figures about Kent - Kent County Council](#)

Useful source of information about Kent, with statistics down to Ward level – population, age, gender, employment, health status etc. Helps for example to show the demand for your hall/services.

### **Rural Kent Village Hall Advice service**

That's me! I can discuss your project, direct you to possible funding sources, look over applications, business plans etc.

## **3. Local Grants**

### **3.1 Parish Councils**

If your village hall is in a parished area, speak to your parish council to see if they can make a grant to the hall or raise some money on the parish precept (local taxation). They also have access to public works loans and can gift this to village halls (not lend on). They can also submit planning applications for half the usual fee. See ACRE information sheet 2 *Parish Council Help for Village Halls* (free to Rural Kent members).

### **3.2 District level**

- **Ashford**

[Information on the capital grants scheme. | Ashford Borough Council](#)

Up to £10,000 for any one project. Loans of £25,000 also available exceptionally. Support refurbishment and new build village halls, projects to reduce or offset carbon footprint and increase the efficient use of resources, eg local tree planting schemes, replacing inefficient lighting or heating systems; sports facilities and playgrounds. 50% match funding required. Annual deadline 30 July. Visit the website for list of conditions (charities and parish councils are eligible) or contact Michelle Byrne, Funding & Partnerships Officer, 01233 330485.

[Information on the ward member community grant scheme. | Ashford Borough Council](#)

Each ward member has a small budget of £3000 each year Small grants, minimum £100. Contact your ward member first.

- **Canterbury City Council**

#### **Councillors' opportunity fund**

£200 grants. Contact any councillor.

- **Dover**

[Community Grants Scheme \(dover.gov.uk\)](#)

£100 to £2000 grants. Two rounds, May and October, open for approx. 6 weeks. Contact the Dover Community Development Team to discuss your application and receive 1:1 support. [CommunityGrants@dover.gov.uk](mailto:CommunityGrants@dover.gov.uk)

[Dover District Lotto doverlotto.com](#)

DDC's Lottery raises money for good causes. You can sign up on the website and once accepted, you will have your own lottery page which you can promote. The idea is that when people buy lottery tickets they choose to support your cause. Alternatively they can support the DDC Community grants listed above.

- **Maidstone**

[Home | Cobtreetrust \(cobtreecharitytrust.org\)](#)

Maintain support of public parks and open spaces, museums and other buildings, and other amenities for the promotion of mental, moral and physical education and health within the above mentioned area. Grants of £1,000 to £5,000. Applications are considered quarterly, in January, April, July and October and must be received by

the first of the preceding month, (ie, 1<sup>st</sup> December, March, June and September).  
Contact The Secretary for details 01622 736865.

- **Folkestone & Hythe**

[Ward budget scheme - Folkestone & Hythe District Council \(folkestone-hythe.gov.uk\)](http://folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

Small grants awarded by ward councillors. See Ashford.

- **Sevenoaks**

[Community Grants Scheme Guidelines 2021 up to 500 \(2\).pdf](#)

Up to £500.

- **Swale Borough Council**

[News and Your Council - Grants and Funding \(swale.gov.uk\)](http://swale.gov.uk)

- **Thanet**

[Boost your cause's fundraising with Thanet Community Lotto - Thanet Community Lotto \(thanetlotto.co.uk\)](http://thanetlotto.co.uk)

See under Dover District Council for details.

- **Tunbridge Wells**

[Boost your cause's fundraising with TW Lotto - TW Lotto](#)

See under Dover District Council for details.

### **3.3 Kent County Council**

[Community grants and funding - Kent County Council](#)

Keep an eye out on this website for new grants. Currently available to village and community halls:

- **KCC Combined members grant (county councillors)**

[Combined Members Grant - Kent County Council](#)

Each county councillor can individually recommend expenditure up to £10,000 per year in grants to benefit local services or projects.

These grants can support the following activities which might be relevant for community buildings: local events and activities, purchase or repair of equipment

and furniture; promotional materials; marketing and training costs; website creation and redesign; sports projects.

Applications can be submitted at any time to your local county councillor. [Find Councillor \(kent.gov.uk\)](#). You must contact your county councillor to discuss your application before applying as they need to countersign your application for it to be considered.

- **KCC Village and Community Halls Grant scheme**

[VCS Grant prospectus \(kent.gov.uk\)](#)

These grants enable communities to improve existing facilities or build a new facility that meets an identified need in the community. Examples of work are building an extension, building a new hall, upgrade of toilets and/or kitchens, replacement windows and heating systems, improved insulation (not normal maintenance/repair work or car park surfacing).

Grants of up to £30,000 available, up to 50% of costs. Matching funding must be secured. Open to registered charities (not parish councils or church-run halls). Competitive. Strict criteria (evidence of community demand, representative management committee, business plan for larger amounts).

Deadline: 31st December each year. Applicants are notified of the decision 3 months after the deadline date (before 1st April). Successful applicants are required to start the project within the financial year that the award is made. Read the brochure at the link above for more info then apply online at [Village and Community Hall Grant Scheme - Kent County Council](#)

- **Crowdfund**

[CrowdFund Kent - Home \(spacehive.com\)](#)

KCC are providing match funding (up to 50% of total funding required, maximum £20,000) for projects created on this crowdfunding site. Must be a charity and project contributes to wider community. You need to complete an expression of interest online and set up a Spacehive fundraising page (very easy – follow on-line guidance). Worth a go if you've got lots of supporters willing to each make a small contribution, which KCC could then match. You can also apply for Gift Aid on donations. Crowdfund Kent is designed to support local organisations and groups the opportunity to take forward projects and ideas to improve their local area.

The Spring round has just opened with a deadline of the 20th of April to get involved. This means having projects fully costed and permissions secured by this date.

**For a full overview of the process and the criteria of the funding, visit [spacehive.com/movement/crowdfund-kent/about](#)**

### **3.4 Community infrastructure levy (CIL)**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/community-infrastructure-levy#spending-the-levy>

The Community Infrastructure Levy (the 'levy') is a charge which can be levied by local authorities on new development in their area. It is an important tool for local authorities to use to help them deliver the infrastructure needed to support development in their area. The funding can be used for village halls – refurbishment or new builds. Check your local district or borough council website to find out whether they have signed up and how the scheme works in your area.

### **3.5 Other local grants**

- **Asda Foundation**

[How to Apply | Asda Foundation](#)

Apply through your local Asda store Community Champion. The Investing in Spaces and Places programme offers grants of £5000 to £25,000. Funds can be used to transform, renovate or create a safe and inclusive space and place for the community to be together.

- **Kent Community Foundation (KCF)**

[Kent Community Foundation - Improving the Lives of Local People \(kentcf.org.uk\)](http://kentcf.org.uk)

KCF administers a range of privately donated funds and awards grants of on average £5,000 in Kent and Medway. Projects need to fit within one of their themes. They have recently funded refurbishment work to a village hall which was making real efforts to reach vulnerable and isolated residents.

- **Roger de Haan Charitable Trust**

[Roger De Haan Charitable Trust | supporting charities and communities \(rdhct.org.uk\)](http://rdhct.org.uk)

The Roger De Haan Charitable Trust supports charitable causes and projects in east Kent, and in particular the District around Folkestone, Hythe and Romney Marsh. Give capital grants and also for development of amateur sports facilities. Continuous rolling programme. See the Trust's website for upcoming Trustee meeting dates.

- **Veolia Trust**

[Funding \(veoliatrust.org\)](http://veoliatrust.org)

£10,000 to £75,000. Must be within 5 miles of a landfill site (Canterbury, Rainham, Rochester). Check postcodes on the website. Contributing Third party payment of 10% must be paid.

- **FCC Communities Foundation**

[CAF criteria / FCC \(fcccommunitiesfoundation.org.uk\)](http://fcccommunitiesfoundation.org.uk)

Up to £100,000. Don't cover extensions or new builds, but will fund refurbishment eg new windows. Must be within 10 miles of an FCC landfill site (the two in Kent are Allington and the Isle of Sheppey). The website allows you to see which areas fall within this area.

- **Biffa Award**

### [Community Buildings - Biffa Award \(biffa-award.org\)](http://biffa-award.org)

Check postcode on the website. as must be within 5 miles of a 'significant' Biffa operation or landfill site (see website, but broadly Ashford, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Swale, Tunbridge Wells). £10,000 to £75,000. Have funded heating, windows and doors, kitchens, toilets etc. Must show wide community benefit/use. Church halls can also apply if used more widely by the community. Also fund sports pavilions, playgrounds, outdoor gyms etc and biodiversity projects. Less than £200,000 project cost overall. Accept applications any time. Apply when have 75% of any additional funding needed in place.

- **Viridor Credits (Landfill Communities Fund)**

### [Apply for Funding | Viridor Credits Environmental Company \(viridor-credits.co.uk\)](http://viridor-credits.co.uk)

Grants available for community, heritage and biodiversity projects. Use the postcode checker on the website to check your eligibility. Three levels of grant, £20,000 up to £100,000. Contributing Third Party payment of 10% must be made.

- **Suez Communities Trust: Landfill Communities Fund**

### [Landfill Communities Fund - SUEZ Communities Trust](http://suezcommunities.com)

Grants up to £50,000, within in a 2.5 mile radius of a SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK waste processing location (West Lane, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3TT) and within a ten miles radius of any licensed landfill (Kemsley Mill Landfill, Kemsley, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 2SG). Won't fund new builds or extensions but will fund refurbishments. Successful applicants will have to pay a 11.5% Contributing Third Party (CTP) payment before any funds are released.

**Note on Landfill Communities Funds and Contributing Third Party payments:** the CTP is paid back to the landfill operator. It can be funded by a local authority, another charity, private companies, voluntary organisations, private donors, monies from fundraising. There is some confusion about whether the applicant can pay it – guidance varies so check with the particular company.

## **4. National grants for buildings and rural projects**

These national funding bodies offer grants for various projects, usually including work on buildings. Contact them directly for the latest information.

- **Asda Foundation – Building Resilient Communities Fund**

### [PowerPoint Presentation \(asdafoundation.org\)](http://asdafoundation.org)

Investing in Spaces and Places category funds improvements of facilities and equipment eg tables and chairs, kitchen equipment. Will also fund eg an electrician to install new lighting. Grants of £5,000 to £25,000. Apply through your Community Champion at your local Asda store.

- **Aviva Community Fund**

[aviva-community-fund-eligibility.pdf \(avivacommunityfund.co.uk\)](#)

Grants up to £50,000. Includes grants to help communities prevent, prepare and mitigate the effects of climate change.

- **ACRE/DEFRA Village Hall Improvement Grant**

<http://acre.org.uk/our-work/village-hall-improvement-grant%20fund> or call 01285 653477

Grants of up to £75,000 for major building works on halls in villages and small towns.

***Scheme currently closed but please log your interest so the demand can be noted.***

- **B&Q Foundation**

<https://www.neighbourly.com/BandQFoundation>

- Grants of up to £5,000 (occasionally more) to registered charities. Funding to maintain, repair or improve housing or community space. Need to show helping people in need (due to eg disability, isolation, age etc). Register your interest by filling in an on-line form.

- **Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation**

<http://www.bernardsunley.org/> or call 020 7408 2198

Grants are available in the areas of community, education, health and social welfare. The funding is for one-off capital projects (not running costs) such as new buildings, major refurbishments, transport and equipment. The majority of grants awarded are under £5,000. Fund projects to provide disabled facilities, eg toilets. Grants exceeding £25,000 are exceptional and are typically awarded to major capital projects. Continuous rolling programme.

- **Foyle Foundation**

[Small Grants Scheme - \(foylefoundation.org.uk\)](#)

Grants of £2,000 to £10,000 to registered charities. If applying for funding towards a capital project apply towards the end of your fundraising campaign, when the majority of funding has been raised and you have an estimated start date for the works. Unlikely to consider a request if the lease is less than 10 years. If successful, the pledged grant offer is only valid for 12 months. The Foundation does not fund feasibility studies.

- **Government Community Ownership Fund**

[Community Ownership Fund: prospectus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Grants of up to £250,000 to voluntary, community and charitable organisations to support them in taking ownership of local assets which are at risk of being lost to the community. The Fund will contribute up to 50% of the total capital required.



Proposals will need to prove the value of the asset to local people and that the asset can run sustainably for the long-term benefit of the community. Projects could include community centres, sporting and leisure facilities, pubs, post office buildings and shops. The Fund will support proposals to:

- Acquire a physical community asset or facility at risk, such as land and buildings which deliver a benefit to local people
- Renovate, repair or refurbish the asset, only where this is part of a sale or transfer to save a community asset at risk and where this is critical to saving the asset and making it sustainable
- Set up a new community business or buy an existing business in order to save an asset or amenity of importance to the community
- The purchase of associated stock, collections or intellectual property, where it is associated with buying a physical asset or buying a business to save an amenity
- Move a community amenity to a new, more appropriate location within the same community. This might be because a different location offers better value to continue the amenity, or because the venue is in itself an asset of community value.

Round 2 will open in December 2021. Round 3 will open in May 2022.

- **Garfield Weston Foundation**

[www.garfieldweston.org/](http://www.garfieldweston.org/) or call 020 7399 6565

Grants from £1,000 to £100,000. Their policy is to give a small proportion of the total project cost, typically around 10% for building works. The grant can support capital projects, revenue/core costs or project costs. It is recommended that applicants should have around 50% of their funding identified before applying to the Foundation.

- **Henry Smith Charity**

Will consider funding community buildings in Kent in areas in the bottom third of the Indices of Deprivation under the Kent County programme. Grants of £10,000 on one year or £20,000 over 2 to 3 years are available. Open to not for profits and charities (not parish councils).

- **Morrison Foundation**

[Grant Funding Request | Morrisons Foundation](#)

The Morrisons Foundation awards grant funding for charity projects which make a positive difference in local communities. From support groups to children's hospitals and homeless shelters to hospices, the grants aim to provide vital funding for good causes across England, Scotland and Wales. In the main grants are available to fully fund projects up to £25,000.

- **The National Lottery**

[Funding programmes | The National Lottery Community Fund](#)  
([tnlcommunityfund.org.uk](http://tnlcommunityfund.org.uk))

This is the new name for the Big Lottery Fund. Details of all the Community Fund programmes, both for large and small grants, can be found from this main site.

Support is currently focused on people and communities most affected by Covid but may now be widening out.

Larger schemes (over £10,000):

[Reaching Communities England | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](https://tnlcommunityfund.org.uk)

[Partnerships | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](https://tnlcommunityfund.org.uk)

Under £10,000:

Awards for All: [National Lottery Awards for All England | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](https://tnlcommunityfund.org.uk)

Awards from £300 to £10,000.

- **Screwfix Foundation**

<https://www.screwfix.com/help/screwfixfoundation/> or call 0500 41 41 41

Grants of up to £5,000 for projects that fix, repair, maintain and improve properties and community facilities for those in need across the UK. Continuous rolling programme, projects reviewed on a quarterly basis.

- **Tesco Community Grants**

[Apply for a grant – Tesco Community Grants](#)

Grants of up to £1,500 for a wide range of community projects / activities, voted on by customers.

- **Trusthouse Charitable Foundation** (phone number 020 7264 4990)

[Small Grants | Trusthouse Charitable Foundation](#)

Grants of £2000 to £10,000. In rural areas must be in the bottom 50% most deprived areas based on indices of deprivation. 50% match funding needed, which must already be secured before applying.

- **Burg-Wachter**

[Secure Communities Scheme – Burg-Wächter UK](#)

Currently providing security kits but have also provided wider funding, with a security element.

- **The Prince's Countryside Fund**

<http://www.princescountrysidefund.org.uk/grant-giving-programme/grant-programme>

Grants for projects that will have 'a long-term positive impact on rural communities.

As with many other funds, you need to show evidence of community demand and the benefits there will be for the community.

- **Pilgrim Trust** – (preserving heritage, including buildings)

<https://www.thepilgrimtrust.org.uk/grants/> or call 020 7834 6510

- **Power to Change Bright Ideas Fund and Community Business Fund**

<http://mycommunity.org.uk/funding-options/bright-ideas-fund/>

<https://www.powertochange.org.uk/get-support/programmes/community-business-fund/>

## 5. Loan schemes

**IMPORTANT** In general, we recommend that **unincorporated** organisations (e.g. village hall charitable trusts) do not borrow money, because of the potential liability to the charity trustees as individuals. The ACRE Loan Fund (below) is an exception; it is specifically designed for small, unincorporated charities and has flexible terms and a low interest rate.

- **ACRE Rural Community Buildings Loan Fund**

[www.acre.org.uk/our-work/rural-community-buildings-loan-fund](http://www.acre.org.uk/our-work/rural-community-buildings-loan-fund) or call 01285 653477

Loans from £1,000 to £20,000 (and occasionally higher) to help community halls in rural areas to meet the cost of capital works. Repayments over 5 to 8 years. The Fund is often over-subscribed so please contact ACRE as soon as you decide that you might want to apply for a loan.

- **Co-op Foundation**

<https://www.coopfoundation.org.uk/>

Interest-free loans of up to £50,000 for 'enterprising ideas to improve community spaces'. See the website for examples of projects they would like to support.

- **Charity Bank loans**

[www.charitybank.org/](http://www.charitybank.org/) or call 01732 774040

Charity Bank can give loans for a range of purposes up to £1,000,000.

- **Venturesome – loans from the Charities Aid Foundation**

[Unsecured loans to help you grow | Social investment CAF Venturesome \(cafonline.org\)](http://cafonline.org)

Unsecured loans to incorporated organisations only, for a wide range of charitable / social purposes.

## 6. Other options

- **Gift Aid**

<https://www.gov.uk/claim-gift-aid/overview>

If your organisation is charitable (or a Community Amateur Sports Club) and you are embarking on a major fundraising drive, consider registering for Gift Aid. This allows you to claim back 25p on every £1 you receive in donations from individuals. Also note the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme: <https://www.gov.uk/claim-gift-aid/small-donations-scheme>

- **Crowdfunding**

This is a new approach to fundraising which uses online technology to enable the gaining and handling of donations from a large number of people. See KCC scheme above but also:

<https://www.charitydigitalnews.co.uk/2019/02/21/the-best-free-online-fundraising-platformsfor-charities/> A list of crowdfunding sites for charities

Two of the most well-known fundraising platforms used by charities are Just Giving and Virgin

<https://www.justgiving.com/for-charities/a-new-free-way-to-join-justgiving>

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/charities/>

- **Dulux Community Re-Paint scheme**

[www.communityrepaint.org.uk](http://www.communityrepaint.org.uk)

Community buildings can apply for paint for their halls from their local scheme.

- **B & Q**

Contact your local branch

B & Q stores can donate items like slightly damaged tins of paint and end-of-range materials, and they give grants of up to £250 for projects that save energy, conserve nature, help people grow their own produce or support local culture and heritage.

- **Community Payback**

<https://www.gov.uk/nominate-community-payback-project>

Formerly known as Community Service. Organisations put themselves forward to get support from offenders, with decorating a community centre being one of the suggested projects.

- **Local businesses**

They may be able to help with grants, sponsorship (in return for some publicity), resources, equipment, staff time etc. Be creative with what you can offer local companies in return for their support and use any contacts or other links you have.

## **7. Specific areas**

### **7.1 Support and funding for energy efficiency / renewable energy/EV chargepoints, biodiversity projects**

- **Dan Hanson Charitable Foundation**

[Smart Energy Program | Don Hanson Charitable Foundation](#)

Smart energy funding, giving interest-free loans to halls to install building energy management systems in order to make savings on their heating/energy use. The loans are repayable from the savings over 5 years. In partnership with Heating Save [BMS & BEMS | Building Energy Management Systems | HeatingSave](#)

- **Kent Community Foundation**

[Kent Community Foundation – Improving the Lives of Local People \(kentcf.org.uk\)](#)

Nothing currently but keep checking their website.

- **NLCF**

[The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](#)

Nothing currently but have had funds in the past. Keep checking the website. They also have a list of other possible funders: [Climate action – other funders | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](#)

- **Kent County Council**

[Solar Together Kent – Kent County Council](#)

Solar panels for residents and small businesses. Up to 50 panels. Will also cover battery storage if panels already installed. They group buy to obtain lower prices but you do have to pay.

Reopens 7 February but you can register your interest for Spring 2022. **Includes Medway.**

- **KCC Electric vehicle chargepoint scheme**

[Travel Plan Management System \(kentsmartertravel.co.uk\)](#)

The scheme is open to village halls as well as parish councils. Please contact me for more information. This is a much more generous scheme than the central government one below.

- **Office of Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV)**

Grants of up to £350 available to charities to install EV chargepoints. These will cover up to 75% of the cost of buying and installing a chargepoint. A grant will be available for each parking space provided with a chargepoint socket, with every charity able to claim up to 40 grants. To apply, charities will need to be registered with Companies House, have a VAT number or be a registered charity.

The grant is provided using the Workplace Charging Scheme: [Workplace Charging Scheme: guidance for charities and small accommodation businesses – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) as this contains most information charities will need.

You will need to talk to EV chargepoint installers to get options and quotes. Go [here](#) to find installers in your area. Watch, the Energy Saving Trust webinar series ([Residential landowners Electric Vehicle Homecharge Scheme – Energy Saving Trust](#)) on what to consider.

- **Rural Community Energy Fund**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rural-community-energy-fund>

A grant scheme of up to £100,000 for the development of renewable energy projects that will benefit rural communities as a whole (not just individual community buildings in those communities).

- **Naturesave Trust: Community Renewable Energy Grants**

<https://www.naturesave.co.uk/the-naturesave-trust/> or call 01803 864390

Small grants for specific initiatives to promote sustainable development, e.g. energy efficiency surveys, solar panels, heat pumps etc. Not currently accepting applications but keep checking their web page for the next round.

- **ACRE Rural Community Buildings Loan Fund**

[www.acre.org.uk/our-work/rural-community-buildings-loan-fund](http://www.acre.org.uk/our-work/rural-community-buildings-loan-fund) or call 01285 653477

For halls in rural areas, this loan fund is worth considering if you need funding for work that will quickly reduce your energy bills (e.g. by improving your building's insulation) or increase your income (e.g. by making your building more appealing to potential hirers). Then you can use the money saved to pay off the loan. See Loan Schemes above.

- **The Ashden Trust**

Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts, The Peak, 5 Wilton Road, London SW1V 1AP | 020 7410 0330 | [ashdentrust@sfct.org.uk](mailto:ashdentrust@sfct.org.uk) | [www.ashdentrust.org.uk](http://www.ashdentrust.org.uk)

The Ashden Trust is a grant-making charity focusing on climate change, sustainable development and improving the quality of life in poorer communities across the UK. In order to make lasting changes in the UK and internationally small grants (typically between £1,000 - £20,000) are offered to organisations with a track record of delivering innovative and effective projects. Don't generally accept unsolicited applications but occasionally put out requests for bids.

- **Woodland Trust**

Free tree packs for community groups and schools. The land must be accessible to the public and there must be community involvement.

### **7.3 Sport and playgrounds**

Note that some of the funders above will also fund playgrounds, sports pavilions etc, eg BIFFA.

- **Kent County Council**

[Capital grants for sport - Kent County Council](#)

If you offer sports facilities at your community building, these might be of interest.

- **Kent Sport**

[Funding & Insight - Kent Sport](#)

Useful site to finding funding for a range of sports, including badminton, tennis etc.

- **Kent Playing Fields Association**

<https://www.kentpfa.org.uk/>

Grants and loans for playing fields and children's playgrounds.

- **Sport England**

<https://www.sportengland.org/funding/> or call 0345 8508 508

National Lottery funding relevant to community buildings with any kind of sporting facilities.

- **Queen's Platinum Jubilee Activity Fund – Sport England**

[Queen's Platinum Jubilee Activity Fund | Sport England](#)

This Fund aims to use sport and physical activity as a means of bringing a community together and tackling inequalities via awards of between £300 and £10,000 from a pot of £5 million of National Lottery funding.

Sport England want organisations to consider how they could work more collaboratively across their community, in order to make the biggest possible impact. The priority is to support projects working with people in disadvantaged communities.

Awards are to help inactive people get active, or less active people become more active.

### **Return to Play Fund – Sport England**

[Funding, innovation and flexibility | Sport England](#)

One element of this fund remains open.

- Return to Play: Active Together – is a crowdfunding initiative that can match fund, up to £10,000, successful Crowdfunder campaigns from a pot of £1.5m. The partnership with Crowdfunder also includes advice, guidance and training to help create a successful campaign.

- **Football Foundation**

[Football Foundation](#)

The Football Foundation provides grants for building or refurbishing grassroots facilities, such as changing rooms, 3G pitches, fencing, portable floodlights, pitch improvements and clubhouse refurbishment. The Fund is available to football clubs, schools, councils and local sports associations and gives grants for projects that:

- Improve facilities for football and other sport in local communities.
- Sustain or increase participation amongst children and adults, regardless of background age, or ability.
- Help children and adults to develop their physical, mental, social and moral capacities through regular participation in sport.

Grants are available for between £10,000 and £500,000.

#### **7.4 Heritage buildings**

- **Transforming Places through Heritage Grants – Architectural Heritage Fund**

[England - Transforming Places Through Heritage | The Architectural Heritage Fund \(ahfund.org.uk\)](#)

This programme supports projects that will contribute to the transformation of high streets and town centres in England helping them become thriving places, strengthening local communities and encouraging local economies to prosper. It is part of a wider initiative to revive heritage high streets in England, alongside Historic England's High Street Heritage Action Zones.

This programme is for individual heritage buildings in, or transferring to, community ownership. They will support charities and social enterprises to develop projects with the potential to bring new life to high streets by creating alternative uses for redundant or underused historic buildings in town centres.

A range of grants are available:

- Project Viability Grants: up to £15,000, for early viability and feasibility work, open now for applications.
- Project Development Grants: up to £100,000, for capital project development costs, open now for applications.
- Crowdfunding Challenge Grants: up to £25,000, to match fund crowdfunding campaigns, open now for applications.
- Community Shares Booster Grants: supporting community share offers with development grants and matched investment.

- **Heritage Fund (previously the Heritage Lottery Fund)**

<https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding> or call 020 7591 6042



A range of grant schemes, some of which will be relevant to community buildings.

## **7.5 Church buildings**

- **Benefact Trust**

### [General Grants Programme | Benefact Trust](#)

Churches, cathedrals, denominational bodies, Christian charities, and schools and educational institutions are all eligible to apply. All applicants must be able to demonstrate a clear Christian foundation or ethos.

The programme typically funds capital projects, not salaries or running costs. The Programme supports the repair, restoration, protection and improvement of churches, cathedrals and other places of Christian worship where changes support wider community use and enable greater impact.

Most grants range from £1000 to £15,000.

- **National Churches Trust**

<http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/our-grants> or call 020 7222 0605

- Cornerstone grants. The Cornerstone Grant Programme offers grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 towards the cost of urgent structural repair projects costed at more than £100,000 including VAT. The Trust will also consider projects that introduce kitchens and accessible toilets to enable increased community use, costed at more than £30,000 including VAT. Grants will never exceed 50% of the project cost. See the website for the next deadline for applications.
- Gateway grants. The Gateway Grant Programme offers grants of between £3,000 and £10,000 towards project development and investigative work up to RIBA planning stage 1, to support churches preparing for a major project, and in developing their project to the point at which they can approach a major grant funder. Grants will never exceed 50% of the project costs for this phase. The next deadline for applications is 12 May 2022.
- Foundation grants. The Foundation Grant Programme will offer grants of between £500 and £5,000 towards urgent maintenance works and small repairs identified as high priority within a recent Quinquennial Inspection or Survey Report. Also, small investigative works and surveys. Project costs should not exceed £10,000. The next deadline for applications is 31 October 2022.
- Preventative maintenance micro grants. If the cost of booking maintenance services is a problem, the National Churches Trust, with its partner the Pilgrim Trust, can offer grants towards the cost of a building's maintenance services. You could receive up to 50% of the cost of works (excl. VAT) up to a maximum grant of £500. The cost of your service must not exceed £1,000 (excl VAT).

- **Listed Places of Worship grant scheme – Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport**

[Listed Places of Worship - Home page \(lpwscheme.org.uk\)](http://lpwscheme.org.uk)

The Listed Places of Worship (LPW) Grant Scheme gives grants that cover the VAT incurred in making repairs to listed buildings in use as places of worship. The scheme covers repairs to the fabric of the building, along with associated professional fees, plus repairs to turret clocks, pews, bells and pipe organs.

The Scheme has been run by DCMS with a focus on preserving heritage in the fabric of UK listed places of worship. The scheme only accepts applications where the minimum value of eligible work carried out on any one claim to the scheme is £1,000 (excluding VAT). The Government has confirmed funding is available for the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme until 31 March 2025.

### **7.6 Funding and information to start and develop community businesses such as shops, pubs, farms, and cafes**

[www.henrysmithcharity.org.uk](http://www.henrysmithcharity.org.uk) or call 020 7264 4970

#### **Clothworkers' Foundation**

[www.foundation.clothworkers.co.uk](http://www.foundation.clothworkers.co.uk) or call 020 7623 7041

#### **Tudor Trust**

[www.tudortrust.org.uk/](http://www.tudortrust.org.uk/) or call 020 7727 8522

#### **People's Postcode Trust and Postcode Community Trust 0131 555 7287**

<http://www.postcodetrust.org.uk/> <http://www.postcodecommunitytrust.org.uk/>

### **Community Shares Booster – Power to Change**

Delivered by the Community Shares Unit and funded by Power to Change, Community Shares Booster supports community businesses in the process of setting up and launching a community share offer that can demonstrate high levels of community impact, innovation and engagement. The programme provides:

- Development grants of up to £10,000 to prepare a community share offer; financial planning, governance support, marketing costs and being awarded the Community Shares Standard Mark
- Match equity investment– typically matching pound for pound up to £100,000 providing that the minimum share offer target is achieved
- Ongoing support and advice as an active investor in community businesses

### **Community Business Crowdmatch – Power to Change**

Power to Change has teamed up with Crowdfunder to launch Community Business Crowdmatch to back new or existing community businesses to deliver brilliant community-led projects.

Whether it's launching new ideas to help your neighbourhood, help meet increased demand, save a community space or help bridge a funding gap, Power to Change will match fund up to 50% of your target, to a maximum of £10,000, as long as you can raise the rest through crowdfunding.

Through this fund Power to Change are particularly keen to support new and existing projects in more deprived areas of the country, and to work with communities experiencing racial inequity across England.

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