



Bucks Coronavirus Response Appeal

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WE'VE LAUNCHED AN APPEAL TO HELP VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN BUCKS AT THIS TIME OF CRISIS

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, Heart of Bucks has set up a fund to support individuals, charities and organisations most affected at this difficult time.

We know that this is an uncertain time for all of us.

The coronavirus outbreak has left people around the globe not only facing fears around falling ill and protecting those around them, but also losing their income in the process of taking vital precautions against the virus - and it is no different in Buckinghamshire.

Heart of Bucks have set up the 'Bucks Coronavirus Response Appeal' to support people, charities and organisations in Buckinghamshire who are most affected and vulnerable at this time of crisis.

Those who donate to the appeal will be supporting Buckinghamshire residents who are most affected by the pandemic and, as a result, are struggling to make essential household payments, living through a short term crisis or experiencing hardship. We will identify the households to benefit from this appeal by working closely with our team of community advocates, whose understanding of need in their local communities and close working relationships with disadvantaged local

individuals will ensure funds get to where they are most needed.

If you would like to donate or are in a position to promote this appeal, our online Total Giving page can be found at: www.totalgiving.co.uk/appeal/coronavirus-response-appeal.

The fund was set up on 18th March and, as of 6th April, the Bucks Coronavirus Response Appeal has already awarded a total of £10,405 in grants to Buckinghamshire-based organisations and individuals most affected at this difficult time. To receive the latest updates on how much the appeal has raised, make sure to follow us on social media.

We'll be announcing the beneficiaries of the generous donations to this fund on our website, so keep an eye on our News section: heartofbucks.org/news/.

If you are a Buckinghamshire-based community group, charity or organisation interested in applying for funding from the Bucks Coronavirus Response Appeal, please visit: heartofbucks.org/coronavirus-response-funds/.

HEART OF BUCKS TO DISTRIBUTE FUNDING FROM THE NATIONAL EMERGENCIES TRUST (NET) CORONAVIRUS APPEAL



The National Emergencies Trust (NET) have launched a fundraising appeal to help those most affected by the recent coronavirus outbreak and have partnered with the UK Community Foundation (UKCF) network to distribute funds.

The NET Coronavirus Appeal is raising funds for local charities and grassroots organisations that can provide vital support to people in the quickest way possible. As such, the NET will be working closely with the UK Community Foundation (UKCF) network for the charitable relief of the vulnerable across the country in the wake of the coronavirus outbreak.

As a member organisation of UKCF, Heart of Bucks will be the local distribution partner in Buckinghamshire for funds allocated to the county from this appeal.

In the first phase of this appeal, NET will release £100,000 to each of the nations through the community foundations in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. For all other community foundations, the NET will make available funds of £50,000. The NET will issue further funds as donations come in, so for the most up-to-date figures please visit: heartofbucks.org/net-launches-coronavirus-appeal/.

Heart of Bucks, working in partnership with the NET, are working to distribute the funds as quickly as possible due to the urgency of the situation.

The appeal has gathered a great deal of UK press attention, with Prince William, the Duke of Cambridge, promoting the appeal only one year after speaking at the NET's launch.

If you would like to make a donation to help vulnerable people across the country through the NET's appeal, The Big Give is match-funding so all donations will be doubled. You can donate at: donate.thebiggive.org.uk/covid-19.

If you are a Buckinghamshire-based community group, charity or organisation interested in applying for funding from the NET Coronavirus Appeal, please visit: heartofbucks.org/coronavirus-response-funds/.



LOCAL COUNCILLORS LAUNCH GREEN FUTURE BUCKS FUNDS

Before becoming Buckinghamshire Council on 1st April, Aylesbury Vale District Council launched Green Future Bucks, their legacy environmental initiative which includes two funds for promoting eco issues in the county.



GREEN SCHOOLS FUND

Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC), working closely with Heart of Bucks and Buckinghamshire County Council, launched the Green Schools Fund on 12th February. The fund, now being handled by the unitary Buckinghamshire Council, is open to all primary and secondary schools in the Aylesbury Vale area and will award grants to support environmental projects initiated by the school's students.

The formal launch took place at Royal Latin School in Buckingham which already has an impressive number of green initiatives initiated by the student-led Green Touch Team. The team have instigated the moving away from single use plastic bottles to cans that can be recycled, changed their waste

contractor so that waste can be separated into recyclable and non-recyclable bins and worked with the school authorities to specify a new heating system that includes the use of rooftop photovoltaics to generate renewable energy.

Applications to the Green Schools Fund will be considered from school councils and similar student bodies affiliated to schools within the AVDC area, subject to the school acting as sponsor and receiving the grant payment on behalf of its students. Grants of up to 1,500 can be applied for, though larger grants may be awarded where significant added value or match funding is demonstrated in the application.

GREEN COMMUNITY FUND

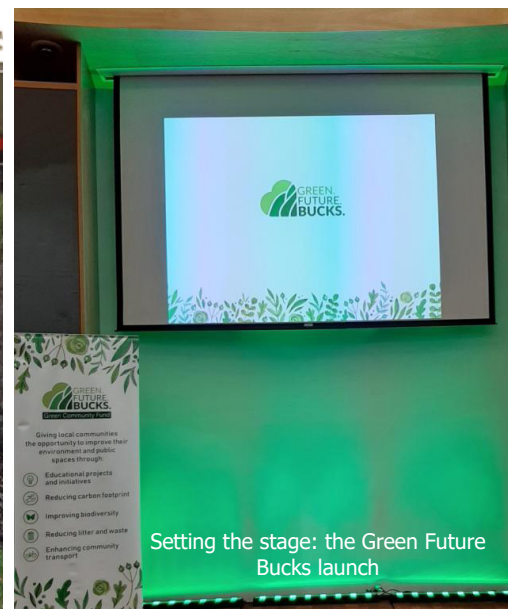
Exactly one month after the launch of the Green Schools Fund, AVDC hosted the launch of the Green Future Bucks initiative at The Gateway on 12th March.

The occasion was also a celebration of the opening of the initiative's second environmental fund: the Green Community Fund.

The fund is open to voluntary and community groups in the Aylesbury Vale area, awarding grants for projects designed to improve the environment and/or public spaces for the benefit of AVDC residents. Grants of up to £2,500 can be applied for, although again larger grants will be considered if they have the potential to make a big impact on the local community.



The Green Schools Fund launch at Royal Latin School



Setting the stage: the Green Future Bucks launch

IMPACT STORY

Young People's Puppet Theatre



A Midsummer Night's Dream with puppets, sets and props made by Stony Dean students

Project: Teaching students how to make and use puppets in preparation for a full puppet show to their schoolmates and teachers

Grant: £3,540

Fund: Co-funded by Youthbank and the Heart of Bucks General Fund

Young People's Puppet Theatre (YPPT) promotes puppetry in schools as a means of getting young people engaged in the arts, performance and group work that often doesn't form part of the standard curriculum.

YPPT's projects centre around building confidence, resilience and social skills, often with children who have educational needs.

With their grant from Youthbank and the Heart of Bucks General Fund, YPPT were able to deliver puppet-making sessions to Stony Dean School, a Special Educational Needs school in Amersham, which culminated in a final performance of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The grant helped fund all the required art materials for the making of the puppets and sets, the provision of specialist equipment including staging and lighting using professional-grade materials, transportation of equipment and script royalties. The participating students designed and made

their own complex marionette puppets, collaborated on set designs, painted backdrops and designed and made all props for the show.

After learning skills including voice acting, lighting design and stage management, the students put on their final performance.

The project has made a huge difference – and not only to the 32 pupils involved in the creation of the show. Staff were amazed at the level of concentration and focus of both the performers and the audience (roughly 120 students) and the performances were incredibly well received.

A quote from Neil Strain, Head Teacher at Stony Dean School:

"From the moment the narrators took to the stage I was overcome with many emotions... the pride I had when the pupils were delivering the language of Shakespeare, the engagement from the audience, many of which have attention deficit and short term memory issues... the professional feel the production had - it made me feel like I was sat in the theatre. It blew me away!"

INTRODUCING OUR IMPACT CATEGORIES...

Heart of Bucks funding goes to a range of projects and causes across the county. Having reviewed the community groups and charities we've supported with grants over the years, we've identified 6 categories of impact that our funding has supported.

We will be using these categories to monitor the spread of our grants going forward and will aim to support projects in each of these categories at each round of funding. Here are our 6 impact categories:



Physical & mental health, wellbeing & safety



The arts, culture & heritage



Education & employment



Isolation & disadvantage



Community cohesion



The environment & public spaces

COMING SOON: Buckinghamshire Uncovered

Our data-led report into these 6 impact categories, offering insight into the areas of the county that are thriving and where help is needed most.

...AND OUR IMPACT AMBASSADORS

We're proud to announce our first two impact ambassadors. These individuals have been chosen to represent Heart of Bucks and promote local issues in their area of interest and expertise as a result of their work in the Buckinghamshire community.



David Hall

Ambassador for Education & Employment

Managing Director of the Cloudy Group, a Bucks tech company, and Cloudy Enterprise Academy which delivers technology-focused events in schools.



Julius Weinberg

Ambassador for the Arts, Culture & Heritage

Chair of Ofsted and Co-Chair of the Buckinghamshire Cultural Partnership, which aims to use culture to make the county a creative and exciting place to live.

To read their full profiles, head to heartofbucks.org/ambassadors.

We're recruiting for our other impact categories! If you would like to apply to be an impact ambassador, email henry@heartofbucks.org.

CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



Coronavirus Response Funds

Heart of Bucks has funds generated from its own **Bucks Coronavirus Response Appeal**, as well as the **National Emergencies Trust (NET) Coronavirus Appeal**, to support charities in Buckinghamshire who are most affected and vulnerable at this time of crisis. As a member organisation of UKCF, Heart of Bucks is the local distribution partner in Buckinghamshire for funds allocated to the county from this appeal.

Application deadline: Ongoing

London Marathon Charitable Trust

This fund is managed by Northamptonshire Community Foundation on behalf of The London Marathon Charitable Trust and provides grants between £5,000 and £20,000 to groups across South Northamptonshire and Aylesbury Vale District Council. It supports projects that encourage physical activity and deliver the greatest possible impact for The Trust's target audiences, including women and girls, BAME communities, people from lower socio-economic groups, older people and disabled people.

Application deadline: 1st May

Green Schools Fund

This new fund, which is open to all primary and secondary schools in the Aylesbury Vale area, awards grants to support environmental projects initiated by the school's students. Grants are expected to be up to £1,500, although larger grants may be considered where significant added value or matched funding is demonstrated in the application.

EOI deadline: 3rd June **Application deadline:** 24th June

Green Community Fund

This new fund, which is open to voluntary and community groups in the Aylesbury Vale area, awards grants for projects designed to improve the environment and/or public spaces for the benefit of AVDC residents. Grants are expected to be up to £2,500. Larger grants may be considered where significant added value or matched funding is demonstrated in the application.

EOI deadline: 3rd June **Application deadline:** 24th June





Recovery & Awareness Fund

Flood Recovery & Awareness Fund

A fund established in the wake of recent flooding. Grants can be used to support capital, revenue and project costs and expenditure must relate to flood damage/prevention or awareness in the form of training or education. Grants of up to £5,000 can be applied for by Bucks voluntary and community groups that are charitable in purpose and town/parish councils.

EOI deadline: 3rd June **Application deadline:** 24th June



Youth Bank

Buckinghamshire Youth Bank primarily funds activities and projects that benefit vulnerable young people aged 12-19 years (and up to 25 years for young people with disabilities). The fund aims to give young people a voice within the community and young people from a wide range of backgrounds have an opportunity to be part of this panel, which offers grants of up to £3,000.

EOI deadline: 3rd June **Application deadline:** 24th June



The Nic Willoughby Fund

This fund supports grassroots sports activities throughout Buckinghamshire and on the Oxfordshire border. The fund offers grants of up to £1,000 to small sports clubs and community groups in the area, with a particular interest in activities supporting children aged 16 or under with the aim of increasing engagement and participation.

EOI deadline: 3rd June **Application deadline:** 24th June



The Kop Hill Climb Fund

Heart of Bucks provides grant funding from the proceeds of the Kop Hill Climb Festival event. Applications are considered once a year for grants ranging from £100 to £5,000 for projects in Princes Risborough and the surrounding areas which demonstrate social inclusion or need and/or support those with long-term or life-limiting diseases or conditions.

EOI deadline: 14th October **Application deadline:** 11th November

For more information on any of these funds and to apply, visit heartofbucks.org/grants/apply-for-a-grant

THE HOB HUB

STAFF NEWS FROM HEART OF BUCKS HEADQUARTERS

This year, we're celebrating 20 years of helping the Buckinghamshire community.

Depending on the situation and government guidance regarding COVID-19, we hope to have the opportunity to share this exciting occasion with Heart of Bucks' supporters later in the year.



Our Community and Impact Lead, Mahuya Kanjilal, left Heart of Bucks at the end of March.

After two and a half years working for Heart of Bucks, we're sad to announce that Mahuya is moving on to a new role.

We'll miss Mahuya's kind and understanding approach to her work and her wealth of experience working with voluntary and community groups. Mahuya's education and interest is rooted in research and she has conducted extensive research projects for Heart of Bucks to identify trends and areas of need in the Buckinghamshire area. It's great news, then, that her new role as Lecturer in Social Work and Social Care at the University of Wolverhampton is a very research-driven position.

We hope she will be in her element in this new role and wish her all the very best for the future.



Catherine Pearson joined the Heart of Bucks team in November 2019 in a year-long maternity cover post as the Marketing & Communications Officer.

Catherine joins the team having previously worked as the Content Manager of a tech firm and as a film and television journalist, having appeared on TV and BBC radio as a film critic and written reviews and features for The Times, Digital Spy and The Radio Times, among others.

She is enjoying sharing the great work of Heart of Bucks, both on our website and social media, with local outlets and on the airwaves, and has been learning all manner of new design tools to ensure our funds and campaigns stand out and help as many local people, community groups, charities and organisations as possible.

She's enjoyed writing this newsletter, too!

KOP HILL CLIMB CELEBRATES 10 YEARS SUPPORTING HEART OF BUCKS

Following a hugely successful event in 2019, the volunteers behind Kop Hill Climb announced the total amount they'd raised, as well as the overall figure raised in their 10 years of supporting Heart of Bucks.

Kop Hill Climb, the famous Bucks motoring event, announced that they raised a fantastic £106,000 from their 2019 event. They presented this generous cheque to our CEO Henry Allmand in November 2019.

On the occasion of their 10th anniversary, Kop Hill Climb also celebrated having raised a grand total of £753,000 for causes in Buckinghamshire from 2009-2019.



All the money raised from the Kop Hill Climb events has gone towards supporting local causes through grants. We are hugely grateful to the team of volunteers who run the event and work so hard to help the Buckinghamshire community.

B P COLLINS ANNOUNCE BENEFICIARIES OF THEIR STEWARDSHIP FUND

Buckinghamshire-based law firm B P Collins announced the local causes to benefit from their £10,000 stewardship fund in December.

B P Collins' fund has helped local charities and community projects over the last five years, supporting causes that build stronger communities, provide better futures and help to create safer lives.

From a total of 62 applications, received from across all of Bucks, B P Collins shortlisted four causes and invited the representatives of these organisations to meet with staff from Heart of Bucks and over 100 B P Collins staff members at a charity lunch at their office in Gerrards Cross. Staff then voted on the causes to decide how much funding each organisation would receive. The result of the voting and the split of their funding was as follows:

Connection Support: £3,500. Based in Aylesbury and High Wycombe, this organisation offers specialist support services to a range of people facing complex life challenges.

Hills Café: £2,000. Based in High Wycombe, this not-for-profit community café responds to the social and employment needs in the local area.

Wycombe Refugee Partnership: £2,000. Based in High Wycombe, this organisation works to resettle refugee families in the High Wycombe



area, providing help with housing, education, language, befriending, welfare and job-seeking.

Chiltern Rangers : £1,500. Based in High Wycombe but supporting all of Bucks and the wider Chilterns, this environmental organisation works with communities to provide practical habitat management.

B P Collins also gave £1,000 to support the work we do at Heart of Bucks to ensure that the grants and donations of companies and individuals go to where it matters most and can make the biggest impact on a local level.

TAMPON TAX MONEY AWARDED

We're delighted to announce the beneficiaries of the Tampon Tax Community Fund, decided at a panel held at the end of last year.

This is the second year that Heart of Bucks have awarded grants from this fund. The beneficiaries of this round are as follows:

£9,570 to Wycombe Mind to run peer support groups for women and provide a safe space for sharing experiences and making connections to promote the change needed to improve their quality of life.

£6,690 to Restore Hope to deliver their 'Girls in the Wild' project, working alongside local schools to run outdoor learning sessions with themes such as river based activities, trees, crafting, team work and wild cooking, ending with a celebration in the last session.

£5,921 to Startup to expand their 'Breaking the Cycle' programme, which will support a total of 100 vulnerably housed young women over the next year, with the aim of supporting young women previously involved with the Criminal Justice System towards positive life changes.

£4,000 to Buckinghamshire Cricket Board to run two 'Get into Cricket' programmes for women and girls largely from the South Asian community. The programme will involve a 10-week indoor fitness and skills session and another 10-week outdoor programme, culminating in a festival at the end with competitive cricket playing.

INTRODUCING OUR COMMUNITY INVESTORS

Heart of Bucks has introduced the Community Investor scheme, which recognises corporate and business supporters of local communities and charities in Buckinghamshire through their work with Heart of Bucks.

We've been recognising our most valued partners with our Community Investor of the Month award, which we announce on our social media platforms. The recipients so far have been:

November 2019: Rectory Homes Ltd, December 2019: B P Collins LLP, January 2020: Ctrl and Shift, February 2020: Esri UK, March 2020: Buckinghamshire Business First.

Our 2020 Community Investors are:



To find out more about becoming a Community Investor, please get in touch with Henry Allmand on henry@heartofbucks.org.