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**Neighbourhood Portion of
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for Bath**

**PROJECT EXPRESION OF INTEREST AND APPLICATION
FOR FUNDING FORM**

SECTION 1: FOR COMPLETION BY THE PROJECT APPLICANT

1) Contact Details:

Name:	Lucy Bartlett
Organisation:	Bathscape
Phone number:	
E-mail address:	

2) Project Details:

2.1 Have you or your organisation previously applied for funding from Neighbourhood Portion of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for Bath
Bathscape received funding for a different project in 2017 (Bathscape Walking Festival)
2.2 Description of your project – including your outcomes and objectives (maximum 300 words)
<p>The Workhouse Burial Ground, Odd Down (off Wellsway), is the last resting place of over 3000 people who died in poverty in the 19th century. There is currently no memorial. A group of people have been working with us over the past couple of years to increase recognition for the site and those buried there.</p> <p>A local group has been researching their lives and reading their names at monthly events. You can read and hear their work here http://www.walknowtracks.co.uk/workhouse-</p>

[walks.html](#) – and they have created a temporary memorial. Other local people have been researching the site for many years.

Our project will make this simple memorial more permanent and includes planting shrubs and a wildflower area, a memorial plaque, interpretation board and benches.

We will be planting shrubs and flowers which are relevant to the site – primrose, cowslips and other wildflowers.

The planting will be carried out by the local group, Bathscape Community Action for Nature volunteers and the local community. If covid restrictions allow, school children from St Martin's Garden primary school will also be involved.

Members of the group, including a local historian who has written a pamphlet about the site, will produce the text for the interpretation panel, providing more information about life in the workhouse.

The objective is to make it a space that is beautiful for humans and wildlife friendly, and which provides an area for contemplation. It will also raise awareness about the workhouse and its residents.

The outcomes will be to contribute to the climate and ecological emergency by an increased number of shrubs and flowers and to respect and commemorate those buried there and acknowledge their lives and struggles. To create a site that respects both the dead and the living who continue to use it.

2.3 Reasons for supporting this project (maximum 300 words)

The Burial Ground is a really important part of Bath's cultural history and one that is relatively unknown. The site has had little attention from the council or the public over the years, with people perhaps preferring to forget or ignore the stories it holds – of poverty and mass unmarked graves. There is currently nothing on the site to tell people that this is where thousands of people who died in poverty are buried.

Our project will rectify that and will provide a dignified and fitting memorial to those buried there. The project will memorialise them, by erecting a plaque, and provide more information about the conditions of their lives, through an information board.

And crucially it will also make the space better for the living – the local community using it and the wildlife that will be encouraged to come here. It is the perfect time to bring the project to life – events of the past year have led to a greater appreciation of our local public spaces, and the continued development in the area mean that now is the time to make this space a pleasant and wildlife rich area for local people.

The walking project (outlined in 2.2), involving reading the names of those buried there on the first Sunday of each month, comes to an end in early 2021, and so our project will pick up where that leaves off – to make physical commemoration.

We are working with Parks to ensure that the signage and infrastructure are in keeping with other public spaces in Bath.

2.4 Is this a new project or does this project link into an existing project? (include a breakdown of how you plan to allocate the funding)

This is a new project within the Bathscape scheme. Bathscape has been delivering similar projects since 2017 around Bath, thanks to the National Lottery Heritage Fund. We are creating wildflower areas in Innox Park and Kensington Meadows, and planting trees in the parks in the Twerton area.

The Community Action for Nature group is supervised by Avon Wildlife Trust and the National Trust who are both experts in community-based conservation and habitat management.

The Bathscape project is about encouraging people to explore and understand Bath as a landscape city, and to protect and conserve the green spaces. But it is also a project to increase knowledge and understanding of the local heritage – particularly that which has been overlooked. We will use the funding to carry out the practical improvements to the site and to draw attention to it.

Part of Bathscape's lottery funding will cover the volunteer sessions and a contribution towards the cost of the plants. Lottery funding also covers the staff time to manage and coordinate the project.

2.5 Target Start Date

March 2021

2.6 Target Completion Date

December 2022

2.7 What milestones and targets have you included in the delivery of this project?

Activity	Timescale
Change mowing frequency, agree planting list and location and publicise the change	Feb to July 2021
Placing of plaque	April 2021
Family event and school project	June or Summer holidays (covid dependent)
Scarifying ground, seed, bulb and plug planting	Sept/October 2021
Shrub/tree planting	November 2021
Interpretation panel installed	Winter 2021
Benches, when best location is agreed	2022

2.8 If planning permission is required for this project has it been granted? If Yes - please include the dates and reference numbers for these permissions.

n/a

3) Criteria

- **3.1 How does the project address the specific impacts of the new developments from which the funding has been generated? (You may consider this on a ward basis, a locality basis or a city wide basis.)**

The space is currently amenity grass, with relatively low ecological interest. This project will enhance the green space, increasing its biodiversity, and is a very small contribution to replacing that lost to development. It is a mile from the new development at Mulberry Park and close to Sulis Meadows.

There has been an increase in development over the years in the area, and this green space provides tranquillity. Our plans for planting don't encroach on its other uses – for play and dog walking, but will enhance it, creating areas of interest.

During this period of a climate and ecological emergency, many spaces are being assessed for their potential contribution to tackling that, and at the same time reduce the impact of developments. This space is an ideal location to make the shift from amenity grass to a more diverse mix. It isn't appropriate to plant large trees here as the roots would disturb the graves, however, shrubs and flowers are suitable and the space is large enough to have a meadow whilst allowing other activities, eg dog walking, picnicking and playing to continue.

The planting will reduce the need for frequent mowing.

- **3.2 How does the project provide links to the locality in the area where development has taken place? (if your project has city wide impact you will need to demonstrate how the broader community in the city will benefit)**

The space is part of a link from the back of Sainsbury's to the area around Oolite Road avoiding the busy A3062.

It is one of several smaller spaces that act as ecological stepping-stones between nearby larger sites – The Tumps at Odd Down, Entry Hill and Springfield Park in Foxhill – with the wider countryside beyond Odd Down Park & Ride

It is an important historic/social link from when the workhouse was in the grounds of St Martin's hospital. The burial ground is a really important part of the social history of the area and is largely unknown. The hospital grounds themselves have since been redeveloped. It provides a green space in the middle of quite dense housing.

The broader community will benefit from any increase in biodiversity, and there will be opportunities to get involved with the planting and growing for the site. There will also be opportunities for local people to learn new skills – species identification and planting; using geophysical equipment; and increasing our knowledge of the site and the forgotten part of the community who are buried there.

• **3.3 Please provide evidence which shows how the community has been listened to and what support exists for your project?**

A group of people have been visiting the site once a month to read the names of those buried there as part of a collaborative project with local walking artist, Richard White, previously outlined. Some of the members of the group have deep connections to the site, either living locally, having researched the history, or having relatives buried there. The plans have been discussed with them, and they have been one of the key driving forces in getting the site properly recognised. A larger event was held in September 2020, attended by more than 20 people.

Richard White also has a larger email list of those interested but who haven't attended walks, and he has kept them updated of plans and invited comments.

We put a poster on site in February 2020, inviting comments, and whilst we got little response, some people did join the group as a result.

Ward councillors have been invited to comment and have helped with directing progress. This bid has been discussed with Cllr Hedges, who has been researching the local history for 15 years.

The planting has been discussed with the group and with the Parks team. The final decisions on which areas to plant up will be taken following the results of the Lidar and geophysical investigations, and more posters will be displayed in the park with the detail, inviting comment. An event will be held in the Park in May half term or summer (depending on covid restrictions), before the planting commences, aimed at local families.

We have met with the head teacher of the school which borders the site, who is keen to see some interesting planting/biodiversity. She also advised on placement of any benches.

Bathscape social media and newsletter have included regular updates.

The planting regime has been developed with the Parks Department, including the tree officer, who understand what plants are needed and where to put them, taking into account how the space is used.

Bath and County Archaeological Society are undertaking the geophysical investigations.

3.4 The project must show that it either:

- **Supports the development of the relevant area by funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure**
or
- **Anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the area.**

Please explain how the project fits with these requirements

Developments within the area as already outlined, are likely to have an impact on traffic and air quality in the local area. Green spaces are increasingly important to escape that and this

site is a buffer between the busy Wellsway and the housing. Covid has seen increased use of green spaces such as this one, which makes investment in it even more timely.

The simple improvements of enhancing the wildlife, providing benches and highlighting the historic significance of the site, will create somewhere for local people to linger. It will become less a pedestrian thoroughfare and more a place to stop for quiet contemplation and recreation.

4) Project Contact Details:

Contact details for the project (if different to person completing the form)	As above
Project Name	Workhouse Burial Ground improvements
Project Location	Workhouse Burial Ground, Wellsway, Bath
Locality or Ward which will benefit from this project	Odd Down, but historic significance to the whole city

5) Funding:

5.1 Total Cost of Project:	£8300
5.2 Amount of funding sought from Neighbourhood Portion of CIL Fund:	£6800
5.3 Does this project benefit from any source of matched funding? (include below the sources, dates funds agreed/expected and the amounts)	
5.3.1 Volunteering Hours:	Not included
5.3.2 Additional Funds which have already been agreed:	£1000 (Bathscape lottery funding)
5.3.3 Funds which have been applied for but are awaiting a decision:	£500 (Odd Down Community association)

5.4 Please provide and breakdown of the costs for the delivery of this project

Item	Estimated cost (or quote)
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Shrubs	£1000
Seeds/bulbs	£500
Plug plants	£500
Benches (x2)	£2700
Plaque (x2 one for St Martin's grounds)	£500
Interpretation panel	£2500
CAN days for planting (x2)	£600
TOTAL	£8300.00
Balance	

6) Bank Details (for successful projects)

6.1 Details of the Bank Account into which the funds from the Neighbourhood Portion of CiL should be paid:			
Bank name:		Sort code:	
Account name:		Account number:	

6.2 If the project is being delivered internally, internal code is required below:												

SECTION 2: FOR COMPLETION BY STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE

Project Form Validation Decision (Officer decision)

SECTION 3: FOR COMPLETION BY BATH CITY FORUM WORKING GROUP

Project Expression of Interest Recommendations (Working Group decision)

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SECTION 4: FOR COMPLETION BY BATH CITY FORUM

Recommendations received (Bath City Forum decision)

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SECTION 5: FOR COMPLETION BY SUPPORTING COUNCIL SERVICE AREAS

Recommendations received on project delivery (Officer decision)

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SECTION 6: OUTCOME OF THE COUNCIL CABINET DECISION

Recommendation (Cabinet decision)

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SECTION 7: PROCESS LOG

	Process start date	Date agreement reached
Expression of interest and Officer Validation		
Bath City Forum Working Group recommendations		
Bath City Forum recommendations		
Service Area recommendations		
Submission to Council Cabinet for agreement		
Grant Funding Agreement Signed		
Payment of Funds		

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SECTION 8: COMPLETION STATUS

Confirmation from the monitoring officer that the project has been completed satisfactory

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Publication through @bath_forum and the B&NES Council website once the project is completed

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