



About our Community Spaces Capital Grant

What is Barnwood Trust's Community Spaces Capital Grant?

Barnwood Trust's vision is to create the best possible environment in Gloucestershire for disabled people and people with mental health challenges to make the most of their lives. Our aim is to help **build belonging** in the county.

We believe that community spaces that help connect people and build relationships, through doing things together, are a vital part of building belonging.

The Community Spaces Capital Grant aims to help support communities or organisations that would like to develop 'inclusive' community spaces: places where everyone is welcome to meet and do things together.

***'Everyone is welcome'* means that particular attention should be given to helping people who are usually marginalised to feel that they belong in the community; for example, Barnwood Trust's beneficiaries - disabled people and people with mental health challenges.**

Therefore, Barnwood welcomes applications to its Community Spaces Capital Grant, which contribute to that vision and aim.

This guidance explains in more detail about the grant including how to apply.

What do we mean by 'Community Spaces'?

Community spaces are simply places where people gather together to share time for all sorts of reasons, such as:

- to socialise;
- for events, recreation and entertainment;
- to attend groups and meetings and
- taking part in activities like sport, arts and crafts and gardening.

A community space could be:

- a building, an outside space or combination of both;
- of varied size, design, or financial value;
- a permanent or temporary structure;
- used for a specific, few or a wide range of purposes.

Barnwood Trust will consider funding for any of the above places if the application can demonstrate that the grant contributes to creating a welcoming and inclusive community space.

More about the importance of Community Spaces

Evidence shows that community spaces can make a huge contribution to our wellbeing. They can make a difference to whether we have opportunities to meet and connect with other people, and whether we can take part in activities, events or pursue interests.

We believe the best community spaces are welcoming and inclusive: meaning they are physically, accessible, well designed and run, so they are great places to spend time in enhancing everyone's health and quality of life.

Barnwood has created this Grant to help fund new or existing community spaces that play a part in making everyone feel welcome and included.

Is your project eligible to apply?

There are numerous community spaces in Gloucestershire that make very positive contributions for the local communities. However, in order to meet the aims of Barnwood Trust's Community Spaces Capital Grant, **your project must demonstrate all of the following three criteria:**

1. The community space project must be **in Gloucestershire** and demonstrate **a clear plan for creating a welcoming and accessible space and for building a more inclusive community.**
2. Applications should be from **'constituted' groups or organisations that have community or charitable purposes.** [*Constituted* groups are those that are registered (e.g. as a company, charity, or industrial & provident society) with a constitution (i.e. a set of adopted aims and rules). Un-constituted groups working with a constituted group (for example as their fiscal agent to manage financial matters on their behalf) may also be eligible. If you represent a group that is not constituted, please contact Barnwood as we may be able to offer information about organisations to contact for information.
3. Applications must demonstrate that they are able to meet the 'extra mile criteria to build belonging (and generate genuine social benefit in their community).

'the extra mile' means:

- The physical space plays a part in bringing people together and making everyone feel welcome and included.
- Plans for the physical space will lead to new or enhanced opportunities for people to come together and build inclusive social connections.
- The project is community led and/or has strong community support and builds upon the strengths in the community.
- For community organisations, there must be plans or current actions which engage with disabled people and people with mental health challenges;
- For organisations with a disability or mental health focus, the space must bring about new or enhanced opportunities for community connections.

Your application will need to show how your project meets all these criteria, including the 'Extra Mile'. If you think you meet our criteria, we would be pleased to hear about your project to see if we can assist or help provide funding.

For further guidance on these grant criteria, this please [follow this link](#).

<p>What can the Community Spaces Grant be used for?</p>
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If Barnwood believes that a community space, and the process of developing it, can make an **active contribution to building a welcoming and inclusive community**, we will consider funding various aspects of a project including:

- construction costs;
- refurbishment costs;
- furnishings and equipment.

We may also be able to offer support or funding regarding:

- technical advice, consultancy services or design work that for example help make your space more physically accessible;
- links to other similar projects to yours.

If your application is for more than £10,000, we would not normally fund it without a contribution from you.

- Your contribution can be financial (from your own funds or other grants) or non-monetary (such as volunteer labour for the project) or a combination of the two.
- The higher Barnwood's contribution above £10,000, the larger the input would be expected from the organisation or group applying.

We have provide additional guidance in our document, [Evaluating Voluntary Contributions](#)

Please note, this Grant cannot be used for revenue (or day to day running) costs.

What types of projects has Barnwood funded?

Barnwood Trust has funded a wide range of community spaces projects with grants ranging from a few hundred pounds to nearly £30,000.

For projects of the higher amounts, we are looking for schemes that are very closely aligned with Barnwood Trust's vision (outlined earlier), that go the extra mile in terms of building belonging and provide exceptional outcomes for communities.

Projects Barnwood has funded have included:

- **Capital improvements** – to improve the physical environment of the space and to make it more welcoming for everyone.
- **Technical advice or consultancy services** – for example, advice on accessibility, design or business planning in connection with a community space.
- **Grants for equipment and hardware** - such as chairs and tables.
- **Grants to make outdoor spaces more accessible** – such as raised beds for planting.

[Typical Community Spaces projects Barnwood has funded so far](#)

How to apply for a Community Spaces Capital Grant?

As with all Barnwood's funding, our Community Spaces Capital Grant has a fixed limited budget. This means we carefully allocate funding based firstly on our criteria and also throughout the year and across Gloucestershire.

The following steps outline our application process:

STEP 1 Contact us:

Discussion of your ideas or plans at an early stage is helpful. It enables us to see if Barnwood can provide help or advice about your project and about whether we think it meets our criteria. Following a visit and meeting you, we carry out an eligibility assessment.

You are able make an application without contacting but our experience shows that it is less likely to be successful. Details of how to contact us are shown later.

STEP 2 Submit your application:

If we think your project is eligible, we will invite you to make an application.

Download or print [The Community Spaces Capital Grant Application](#)

Once we receive your application form, we may contact you to offer further advice before it is finalised.

STEP 3 Assessment of your application:

Community Spaces Capital Grant applications are assessed as follows:

- **Grants Advisory Panel** – meets monthly and assesses all applications and recommends grants up to £20,000.
- **Social Change and Grants Committee** – this meets three times a year and makes grant decisions above £20,000.

Contact details and further information:

Please contact a member of our team:

Telephone:

01452 614429

Email:

Ged Cassell ged.cassell@barnwoodtrust.org

Martin Hawkins martin.hawkins@barnwoodtrust.org

Tanya Kirby tanya.kirby@barnwoodtrust.org

Website:

<http://www.Barnwood Trusttrust.org/what-we-do/growing-communities/community-spaces/>