

Is the fund currently open to applications?

- The Project Fund opens for applications on 1st April each year for projects that can be completed by 31st March of the following year.
- If you have a project which will take longer than one year to complete, please contact the AONB Office to discuss its suitability and, if appropriate, how best to proceed with an application. We may be able to fund your idea in stages.

Species-rich grassland management at Appleton-le-Street churchyard



How do I apply?

- Project Fund Application Forms and Guidance Notes can be downloaded from the Howardian Hills AONB website.
- If you do not have access to the internet please contact the AONB Office (see details below).

How can I find out more?

- You can find out more about the Project Fund by looking on the Howardian Hills AONB website or
- Request a copy of the guidelines from the AONB Office at:

Howardian Hills AONB Unit
The Mews
Wath Court
Hovingham
York
YO62 4NN

Tel: 0845 0349495
Email: info@howardianhills.org.uk
www.howardianhills.org.uk

Howardian Hills
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

AONB Project Fund

A grant scheme to help you to look after the landscape, local heritage and wildlife within the Howardian Hills AONB

What is the AONB Project Fund?

- The AONB Project Fund is a grant scheme to support projects which conserve and enhance the landscape, cultural heritage, communities and biodiversity within the AONB.
- It is designed to assist with the implementation of the AONB Management Plan.



New hedge planting at Westow

Examples of projects which have received support so far include:

- Restoration of historic park walls at Wiganthorpe Park and Newburgh Park
- Churchyard habitat management at Amotherby and Appleton-le-Street
- Wood pasture creation at Yearsley
- Re-roofing of Threshing Barn at Moor House Farm, Hovingham
- Hedge restoration for landscape and biodiversity benefit, usually in places visible from a road or public right of way
- New village name signs for Sproxton, Dalby, Coxwold and Hovingham
- Installation of barn owl boxes
- Himalayan balsam control along Wath Beck



Birch control at Terrington Carr

Where does the funding come from?

- Funding comes from the AONB Partnership, which includes Natural England, North Yorkshire County Council and Ryedale and Hambleton District Councils.
- Other bodies such as LEADER and Heritage Lottery Fund may offer further funding.

How much can I apply for?

- Grants are normally in the range of £100 to £2,000, depending on the type of project. Major projects on historic buildings may be eligible for larger awards.
- Grants usually provide up to 50% funding for a project but in exceptional circumstances up to 100% can be given.



Stone wall repairs at Grimston



Exmoor pony grazing at Terrington Moor



Hedgehog box in Oswaldkirk

Who can apply?

- Public, private and voluntary sector organisations, community groups, businesses and individuals can apply.
- You do not have to live or work in the Howardian Hills AONB, but you must be able to demonstrate that your project will have a positive impact upon the area.

AONB Project Fund

- The AONB Unit works with community groups, landowners and farmers, offering advice and funding to restore the historic features, walls, hedgerows and wood pastures that typify our local landscape.
- Priority is given to projects which can be enjoyed by the public, from public rights of way and roads, or to schemes which give significant biodiversity benefit (usually by linking existing woodlands and/or mature hedgerows) to create living corridors.
- The percentage of the total project cost that is grant aided is assessed on a scheme-by-scheme basis.

To be eligible projects must:

- Benefit the landscape, wildlife or local heritage of the AONB.
- Contribute to the Local Priorities and Objectives (as outlined in the current AONB Management Plan).