

SHIPLEY TOWN COUNCIL GREEN GRANT AND PARKS & RECREATION GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Mission Statements: To provide grants to people and organisations for purposes that
“Further the [recommendations](#) made by the Citizens’ Jury and contained in
Shipley Town Council’s [Climate Action Plan](#) (Transport, Housing, Education
and Nature) to benefit, improve and support the environment and residents in
Shipley (parish boundary)”
and / or
“Enhance the provision and enjoyment of Shipley parks, green spaces and
outdoor recreational pursuits. Shipley residents (parish boundary) and/or
biodiversity should benefit from the idea.”

Name of applicant: Canal & River Trust and The Garden Party Volunteers

Name of organisation that will support the achievement of your project (if under 18): N/A

Tell us about yourselves and/or what your organisation was set up to do:

Canal & River Trust is the UK’s largest canal charity, caring for a 2,000-mile network of canals and navigable rivers. We maintain 250-year-old bridges, locks, reservoirs, and towpaths, so they remain safe, welcoming, where people, wildlife and nature can thrive.

Our waterways, and the ecosystems they support, are increasingly vulnerable to climate change and extreme weather requiring ongoing stewardship to protect the wide range of social, environmental and wellbeing benefits they provide.

Working with volunteers and partners we transform local waterways into places where people want to spend time, connect with nature, and take pride in their surroundings.

This application is supported by members of the Canal & River Trust’s volunteer led Garden Party, established in 2023 and already recognised for its creative and impactful horticultural work along the Leeds & Liverpool Canal. The group meets weekly to deliver horticultural maintenance, wildflower planting, conservation activities and the development of community green spaces – including the Bog Garden in Shipley.

What is your idea (that you are applying for these funds for)?

We are seeking funding to create and install an A1 interpretation board at the newly established Bog Garden near Stone Arch Bridge, Shipley. This will celebrate the efforts of local volunteers, acknowledge the Council's support, and provide the final component needed to complete this transformative environmental project.

The Bog Garden has been transformed from a neglected basin at the old Bradford spur into a thriving habitat for wildlife and a valued feature for residents and visitors. Working with our ecologists, volunteers selected and planted species suited to the area's unique conditions, boosting diversity and enhancing local green space.

The interpretation board will:

- Celebrate Shipley Town Council's support and highlight the value of collaborative investment in local nature projects.
- Recognise volunteers whose commitment created this transformation.
- Educate visitors about the purpose, ecological role and importance of the Bog Garden.
- Highlight the plant species used and encourage appreciation of the natural environment.
- Reduce anti-social behaviour by fostering a sense of ownership and pride.
- Ensure long-term understanding of the site's environmental purpose.

This final addition will make the Bog Garden a fully understood, meaningful feature of the community.

Please complete one of the following:

Which element(s) of Shipley's [Climate Action Plan](#) does your idea address?

Our project directly supports the Nature priority within Shipley's Climate Action Plan. By transforming an unused space into a thriving habitat, we are encouraging local engagement with nature.

The interpretation board will make the purpose and ecological value of the Bog Garden easily accessible, increasing awareness, pride and community involvement in local environmental action.

How does your idea enhance the provision and enjoyment of Shipley parks, green spaces and outdoor recreational pursuits and/or biodiversity?

An interpretation board enriches resident and visitor experience by encouraging people to pause, understand, and engage with the natural surroundings. It will:

- Explain the ecological role of the Bog Garden.
- Highlight its diverse plant species and wildlife benefits.
- Strengthen public appreciation and responsible use of space.
- Support long-term protection by helping people understand why it matters.

As a result, the project will enhance Shipley's blue-green spaces, deepen community connection and encourage nature-focused recreation.

How will Shipley benefit from carrying out your idea?

The Bog Garden project delivers long-term environmental, educational and community value through:

Enhanced Biodiversity – a diverse range of native species supports local wildlife and strengthens the ecosystem.

Climate Resilience – Native species and the creation of wildlife corridors help the local environment adapt to the effects of climate change.

Improved Air and Water Quality - naturally filter pollutants, contributing to a cleaner environment.

Long-Term Sustainability - reduced mowing, no pesticide use and nature-positive management contribute to Shipley's climate goals.

Community Engagement & Education – the interpretation board provides a lasting legacy, helping residents and visitors understand and appreciate the site's environmental purpose for years to come.

How will you measure that you have successfully achieved what you plan to do?

Success will be measured through:

- Content creation
- Joint design sign-off (including dual branding if desired)
- Frame construction
- Interpretation board installation
- Media announcement

We will also seek informal feedback from residents and visitors who engage with the board through conversations with local team members and volunteers.

Risk Assessment

How will you engage people with your idea, if applicable? Please tell us about any experience you have in engaging people:

The board itself will act as a key engagement tool. Our local team and Garden Party Volunteers will also support engagement when working locally.

Is the success of your project dependent on one or a limited number of people? If so, what are your contingency plans should they be unavailable?

If volunteer capacity becomes limited, Canal & River Trust will ensure all work required to create and install the board is completed.

What other risks have you identified that might prevent the project being realised and how will you manage them?

Weather may affect installation, timing, but work will be rescheduled by our local team.

Dual branding requirements will be managed collaboratively with the Council ahead of print.

How much funding are you seeking from STC*?: £1,109

Total Cost of Project: £ 1,109 + Volunteer and Staff time.

Source of balance of funds: Staff time including frame construction and installation covered by Canal & River Trust.

Please include a breakdown of costs:

- A1 aluminium interpretation board (anti-vandal, weather-resistant, 10-year guarantee, recyclable): **£925**
- Materials for wooden frame and installation: **£184**

and any estimated income (including other grants, admission charges, fund-raising, subscriptions and similar) for this project: None

*maximum £2000 for Green Grant applicants and £1000 for Parks & Recreation Grant applicants

Contact details:

Name: Sal Chapman

Address: Canal & River Trust, Dobson Lock, Apperley Bridge, West Yorkshire

Post Code: BD10 0PY

Telephone: 07345 442337

E-mail Address: Sal.Chapman@canalrivertrust.org.uk

Referees:

Please give the name and contact details for two referees who we can contact

Alice Quinn, Volunteer Leader

Address: Canal & River Trust, Dobson Lock, Apperley Bridge, West Yorkshire

Postcode: BD10 0PY

Telephone: 07345 472842

Email Address: Alice.Quinn@canalrivertrust.org.uk

Sean McGinley, Director, Yorkshire & Northeast

Address: Canal & River Trust, 21 The Calls, Leeds, West Yorkshire

Post Code: LS2 7EH

Telephone: 07919 327310

E-mail Address: sean.mcginley@canalrivertrust.org.uk

Please sign and date to confirm you have read and agree with the Criteria and Notes
for Applicants

Signature of Applicant: *Sal Chapman*

Date: 27/02/26

Applications should only be made on this form, which should be returned by Royal Mail or
electronic mail **by midnight on Sunday 1 March 2026** to:

**The Town Clerk, Shipley Town Council
Town Hall, Kirkgate, Shipley BD18 3EJ**

E-mail: deputyclerk@shipleytowncouncil.gov.uk