

The City Bridge Trust

Bridging Divides: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Organisation Details

Name of your organisation: Myatt's Fields Park Project	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Lambeth	
Contact person: Mrs Victoria Sherwin	Position: Community development manager
Website: http://www.myattsfieldspark.info	Social Media Accounts: Twitter: https://twitter.com/@myattsfields Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/myattsfields park/
What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold?	

Legal Status

Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity			
Charity Number: 1139256	Company Number: 07321235	CIC Number:	Bencom Number:
When was your organisation established? 01/02/2002			
Aims of your organisation: The charity's objects (?Objects?) are specifically restricted to the following: The promotion for the public benefit of urban regeneration in Myatt's Fields Park for the benefit of the socially and economically deprived wards of Vassall and Coldharbour in the London Borough of Lambeth and Camberwell Green in the London borough of Southwark, by all or any of the following means: (a) The maintenance, improvement or provision of public amenities; (b) The preservation of buildings or sites of historic interest; (c) The provision of recreational facilities for the public at large or those by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances, who have need of such facilities; (d) The protection or conservation of the environment; (e) The advancement of education training or retraining particularly amongst the unemployed, people with disabilities and providing unemployed people with work			

Main activities of your organisation:

MFPP employs gardeners to run a weekly gardening club, maintaining eight beds in the park with volunteers and it employs people to carry out litter picking at weekends. It raises income for the park from a range of hires (eg weddings, sports hires). The charity offers space and support for individuals and organisations that run activities in the park (eg Myatt's Fields Market, Tigers Football Club, Mulberry Outdoor Preschool). It is a food hub with a community kitchen and greenhouse; the park houses a weekly market and food bank. MFPP offers routes to work through training and enterprise support and runs community events and activities with a focus on food and music (including supplying 70,000 seedlings to Lambeth food growing groups in 2018). It hosts a family engagement team for Lambeth Early Action Partnership, organising events and activities for families with children under 4 years. It nurtures neighborhood networks.

Your Staff & Volunteers

Full-time:	Part-time:	Trustee/Board members:	Active volunteers:
0	9	10	50
Do you have a Safeguarding policy? Yes			
Are the following people in your organisation subject to DBS checks?			
Paid Staff Yes	Volunteers No	Trustees / Management Committee Members No	

Property occupied by your organisation

Is the main property owned, leased or rented by your organisation?	If leased/rented, how long is the outstanding agreement?
Leased	5 years

Environmental Impact**What action have you taken in the past year to progress environmentally sustainability principles and practice?**

We have introduced recycling in our office and in the park with a new large bin that the public, office and our cafe can use to recycle glass, plastic and card. We now use biodegradable cups used by customers in our cafe as planting pots and we use wooden cup stirrers as plant markers. We re-use all plant pots where possible. Our Mulberry Outdoor Nursery recycles all its waste. We compost all biodegradable waste from the greenhouse and cooking activities. As far as possible, staff use public transport, walk or cycle to work. New bike racks were installed outside two entrances to the park. We would like the Trust to provide us with an eco-audit of our activities.

Finance Details

Organisation Finances

	Year of most recent audited / examined accounts	Current financial year forecast	Next financial year budget
End of financial year date	31/07/2018	31/07/2019	
Grants & donations:	£110,890	£111,858	£0
Earned Income:	£32,194	£22,990	£0
Other income:	£1,200	£1,200	£0
Total income:	144,284	£136,858	£0
Charitable activity costs:	£171,500	£154,635	£0
Cost of raising funds:	£0	£0	£0
Other costs:	£0	£0	£0
Total expenditure:	£171,500	£154,635	£0
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end:	£53,859	£43,695	£0
What is your organisation's reserves policy?			
MFPP policy is to hold 3 months worth of unrestricted funding (currently £45000) as a reserve to cover gaps in funding, redundancy costs, rental costs and other liabilities. This is essential in 2018-19 to cover gaps in funding, redundancy costs, sick pay etc while the organisation puts in place plans for new unrestricted and restricted funding.			
For your most recent financial year, what % of your income was from statutory sources?			
11-20%			

Organisational changes

Describe any significant organisational changes to your structure, financial position or core activities since the date of your most recent accounts.

None

You and your grant request

What, specifically, are you applying for (your project)?

We are applying for funding to run volunteering programmes from Myatt's Fields Park community greenhouse. We want to employ a community gardener and volunteer coordinator (one full time equivalent post) to run a gardening club from the park's greenhouse and to provide support for 20 local community food growing projects a year. The gardening club will support volunteers to develop engagement and demonstration gardens in the community greenhouse and park. This will include developing edible plantings in hedgerows, beds, bushes and trees and World Physic Gardens with medicinal plants exploring and celebrating local traditional remedies. Volunteers will grow seedlings in the greenhouse for 20 neighbourhood projects. Twenty neighbourhood projects will be supplied with free seedlings and five local community projects will receive five half day training sessions at their site. All volunteers will be offered induction, development pathways, welfare/employment support and level 1 horticulture accredited training.

How will the project described achieve your stated outcomes?

The volunteering programs will provide the resources and support needed for local people to develop their local assets including a much loved community park and growing projects on estates, in schools, by roadsides and on meanwhile plots.

Demonstration and engagement projects in the park and community greenhouse, and support for neighborhood projects, will engage people experiencing disadvantage who will be able to learn new skills in food growing and improve their well being through improved access to fresh food, nature, social activity and support. The projects are designed to attract people from diverse communities who are living in poverty, giving opportunities to contribute their knowledge and to learn. People will be part of a local food network that will represent their interests.

MFPP will have the resources it needs to develop as a community growing hub, supporting the horticultural development of the park and a network of food projects.

How do you know there's a need for this work?

There are high levels of poverty and ill health in the local community. The quality of the built environment is poor with large estates where people live in over crowded housing with few community spaces and opportunities to socialise. The area is a food desert. The park and local growing projects provide the only high quality natural spaces where local people can access nature and good quality food. Myatt's Fields Park Project has evidenced the success and popularity of food growing in bringing our diverse community together, improving the environment and creating a local network. A City Bridge grant in 2013 - 2015 funded MFPP to provide support for 10 food growing projects a year and to develop the greenhouse as a centre of excellence for urban food growing. The project facilitated the development of a thriving community network of activists, supported to work together to improve their neighbourhood.

How will the work be delivered - specifically, what will you do?

- 1) One day a week greenhouse volunteering session led by the community gardener: working with volunteers to grow seedlings for local food growing projects, park demonstration and engagement projects and our market/food bank. Community gardener available to 20 local food growing projects in an advice clinic and also to place and pick up seedling orders.
- 2) One day a week gardening club led by the community gardener - planting out and caring for demonstration and engagement projects in Myatt's Fields Park community greenhouse and park. Supporting volunteers to develop a range of plantings. Supporting volunteers to develop spaces where they demonstrate their horticultural skills and knowledge of world foods. Single Homeless Project delivers level 1 training.
- 3) Provide support for local food growing projects: five training sessions led by the volunteer coordinator for five projects
- 4) Horticultural and welfare support provided by volunteer coordinator across 1) - 3)

Why are you the right organisation to do this work?

Myatt's Fields Park Project has spent twenty years developing as a community food and growing hub. It has the experience, resources and networks to reach people, deliver high quality work and change lives. It has a proven track record in delivering support for local food growing projects from its community greenhouse and working with volunteers as part of a gardening club in the park. It supports Myatt's Fields Park which is the only local asset accessible to the whole local community and which has high quality resources including a community greenhouse. MFPP has a great track record in developing projects that attract a wide diversity of people to work together and contribute their skills; it is a well trusted and networked local organisation. It nurtures the development of Vassall and Coldharbour Forum, a network of more than 60 organisations that developed from a foundation of food growing and cooking projects.

How does your work complement and not duplicate other services within your area?

We work closely with other organisations in a network of mutual support: Vassall and Coldharbour Forum is based on the belief that we are stronger working together. The two wards are rich in community activism with more than 60 community organisations delivering services for all ages and across a range of interests (eg youth services, sports, older people's clubs, adventure playgrounds, tenants and residents' associations). Community organisations collaborate with statutory providers in innovative projects such as Project Smith (small NHS grants for local projects). Food growing is a common denominator between these projects with projects on estates, in schools and by roadsides. Myatt's has developed as a hub for community food growing for the area, supporting food growing projects with resources and training, and working alongside partners who deliver specialist services (eg building growing beds). We will work with other organisations to reach people and jointly deliver programmes of support.

How will you ensure that your project will hear and represent the views and needs of disadvantaged people and/or diverse communities?

We are fortunate to work in a neighbourhood in which there is a rich food culture with people who bring knowledge about food and growing from all over the world. Many of these are people from diverse communities who are disadvantaged by entrenched poverty and intergenerational unemployment. Our project will provide a platform for local people to contribute their skills, knowledge and experience of food growing through volunteering, demonstration growing and peer mentoring. Our volunteers will receive a high level of support from the volunteer coordinator who will meet with them regularly to explore their views of the project and to understand their needs; information from these discussions will be used to shape the project and the support provided. We will develop a model of community-led governance for the greenhouse project and all volunteers will have access to Vassall and Coldharbour Forum local network to represent their views.

How does your project engage and empower individuals and/or communities to come together on this issue? Will you be working with people who are particularly excluded?

Our project will target and reach a wide diversity of local people who are currently excluded from opportunities and will give them access to networks of support that empower them to improve their lives and neighbourhood. Food growing has a proven track record of reaching a wide diversity of people who are particularly excluded, especially people from diverse communities, refugees and people living in poverty. It has a great track record for building trust and collaboration in our neighbourhood, with a grant from City Bridge Trust 2013-15 laying foundations for the creation of community network Vassall and Coldharbour Forum in 2015. The project will provide resources needed by a wide variety of projects in a new VACF food network (including community cafes and kitchens, youth projects, growing spaces, a market and food bank) that aims to create new prosperity, to empower people and bring them together through food.

Is the focus of your project meeting an already identifiable need (acute or otherwise) or are there elements which are preventative and/or incorporate early action?

MFPP mission is to grow a green and healthy neighbourhood: the organisation aims to improve social cohesion, health and wellbeing and provide new opportunities for prosperity by supporting the development of the park as an inclusive community space. This project will meet identifiable needs (eg by supporting the food bank we will alleviate food poverty and by providing volunteering opportunities we will alleviate loneliness and provide opportunities to learn new skills, helping people out of poverty). It will also support preventative action by empowering and bringing the community together, improving the environment and thereby improving health and well being. MFPP is a community partner for Lambeth Early Action Partnership, a National Lottery funded project that aims to provide children with a better start in Vassall, Coldharbour, Tulse Hill and Stockwell wards. We employ a community engagement team that will be supported by our gardening project.

Who might you need to work closely with in delivering this project - whether before, during or afterwards?

- * Local food growing spaces: schools, tenants' and residents' associations, youth clubs and children's projects, street growers and meanwhile spaces
- * Incredible Edible Lambeth as one of four food growing hubs in the borough: we work with them to improve the food that people eat in Lambeth
- * Vassall and Coldharbour Forum: a local community network that will help us reach a wide diversity of local people and offer a network of support
- * Vassall and Coldharbour Forum food growing network and Cooks Coop: supporting food based development
- * Lambeth council parks and housing: as a Pioneer Park we have permission to use the greenhouse and to carry out gardening projects in the park. We support the council's efforts to develop food growing on estates
- * Other partners: NHS, Sustain, Community Food Growers Network, Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens, Lambeth Early Action Partnership, Incredible Edible Lambeth

Our aim as a funder is to help people move positively between any of the four stages of Surviving, Coping, Adapting and Thriving. For your project at which of these stages will most people begin their journey?

Through many years working in this neighbourhood, we understand that many people start volunteering with us at the point where they are surviving. They are living in temporary accommodation, on benefits or without recourse to funds, without qualifications or work experience and excluded from mainstream life. They are often isolated and in vulnerable accommodation. We aim that the support we will give through the horticultural volunteering will be the start of a journey through coping, adapting and thriving. People will be engaged by volunteering on food growing projects that allow them to contribute their skills and value their experience. They will be supported by the volunteer coordinator to create a development plan that includes understanding of the challenges they face. The coordinator will work with partners to help them overcome difficulties eg by referring to partners that can provide benefits or health advice and will support them while volunteering.

Will there be any elements of this project that will help you or your beneficiaries to reduce your environmental footprint?

Grow more local food: we will support local projects to grow more local food so park and neighbourhood organisations (eg cafes) can reduce their environmental footprint. Growing local food is fundamental to developing a more environmentally sustainable local food system in our neighbourhood, and developing understanding about how this can happen in London.

From our work in supporting food growing projects, several enterprises (eg a market and two cafes supplying locally grown and produced foods) has evolved; this grant will help us build on this work with support for food growers to build sustainability

We will use used disposable, compostable cups from the park's café as pots for seedlings and wooden stirrers from the café as markers

We will use organic compost and will not use pesticides

We will develop our composting systems so that all greenhouse waste is reused and recycled

We will recycle all office materials where possible

Funding required for the project

What is the total cost of the proposed activity/project?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Community gardener 3 days per week pro rata @ £30k per annum + 3% increments each year and employment costs	19,831	20,462	21,111	21,781	22,470	105,655
Volunteer coordinator 2 days per week pro rata @ £30k per annum + 3% increments each year and employment costs	12,823	13,244	13,676	14,122	14,582	68,447
Resources £3000 per year: seeds, compost, pots	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	15,000
Contribution towards administration costs	4,000	3,500	3,000	2,500	2,000	15,000
Single Homeless Project cost of delivering level 1 horticulture	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,000
Volunteer expenses (eg travel, meal at site, trips to other gardens)	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	15,000
TOTAL:	44,654	45,206	45,787	46,403	46,052	229,102

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0	0	0

What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
	0	0	0			0
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0	0	0

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Community gardener 3 days per week pro rata @ £30k per annum with 3% annual increments	19,831	20,462	21,111	21,781	22,470	105,655
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Single Homeless Project to delivery level 1 training	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,000
Volunteer expenses	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	15,000
TOTAL:	44,654	45,206	45,787	46,403	47,052	229,102

Who will benefit?

How many people will directly benefit from the grant per year?

250

In which Greater London borough(s) or areas of London will your beneficiaries live?

**Lambeth
Southwark**

Does this project specifically target any groups or communities?

Yes - please enter details below

This project will specifically work with the following age groups:

0-15/16-24/25-44/45-64/65-74/75 and over

This project will specifically work with the following gender groups:

**Male
Female**

This project will specifically work with the following ethnic groups:

Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British (including African; Caribbean; Any other Black/ African/ Caribbean background)

Mixed / Multiple ethnic groups

White (including English/ Welsh/ Scottish/ Northern Irish/ British; Irish; Any other White background)

Refugees and asylum seekers

Other ethnic group

If Other ethnic group, please give details:

There are 50 ethnic groups locally; we are an inclusive project

This project will specifically work with Deaf and disabled people:

Yes

This project will specifically work with LGBTQI groups:

No

This project will specifically work with other groups or communities:

How will you target the groups/communities you have identified? What is your expertise in providing services for these groups?

Our volunteer coordinator will reach out through local networks and partnerships including Single Homeless Project, young and older people's groups etc. We have 20 years experience in providing services and we are extensively networked.

Are there any groups or communities you think your organisation will find hard to include through this project?

No

If yes, please specify which groups or communities? Where possible using the categories listed above.

If yes, what steps will you take to make your services accessible to and meet the needs of the groups/communities you have identified?

Declaration

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, all the information I have provided in this application form is correct. I fully understand that City Bridge Trust has zero tolerance towards fraud and will seek to prosecute and recover funds in every instance.

Please confirm: Yes Full Name: **Victoria Sherwin**

Role within Organisation: **Community Development Manager**

MYATT'S FIELD PARK PROJECT: Revised budget for City Bridge Trust application						
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Annual total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Community gardener	19,831	19,831	19,831	19,831	19,831	99,155
Volunteer coordinator	12,823	12,823	12,823	12,823	12,823	64,115
Resources	3,000	3,090	3,182	3,277	3,375	15,924
Admin	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	20,000
Training	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,000
Volunteer expenses	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	40,000
TOTAL	49,654	49,744	49,836	49,931	50,029	249,194

