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

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Project title:	Henrietta Park Pond Restoration
Amount of funding sought from the Neighbourhood portion of CIL for Bath fund	£20,000

Section 1: Applicant details

Organisation:	Friends of Henrietta Park - Memorial Garden in Henrietta Park, Bathwick.
Locality or ward which will benefit from this project:	Bathwick

Section 2: Project Details

2.1 Please provide a clear description of your project proposal – including your outcomes and objectives (maximum 300 words)

The ornamental pond in the Memorial Garden in Henrietta Park has developed a leak. The CIL grant will enable us to pay for a specialist contractor to reline the pond.

The Friends of Henrietta Park have been maintaining the pond for the last four years. From our own resources, we paid for a contractor to empty and clean the pond of many years of silt in November of 2020. Members assisted with cleaning and removing the silt. All plants and animal life were preserved, replaced, and enhanced subsequently.

In the summer of 2022, we renewed the circulation pumps and have maintained the pond, filters, plants, and wildlife since. This has relieved the Parks Department of the responsibility and cost of maintaining the pond.

This project will assure the future of the valuable community asset and allow an increase in the biodiversity of Henrietta Park.

2.2 Please tell us briefly about your organisation, for example is it a charity, residents' association, etc.

A local community organisation.

2.3 Have you or your organisation previously applied for funding from the Neighbourhood Portion of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for Bath?

No

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 stand-alone project but one which will allow the Friends of Henrietta Park to continue to help maintain the park as a Green Flag centre of excellence.

2.5 Target Start Date:

Autumn 2024

2.6 Target Completion Date:

1 month completion date from the start.

2.7 Please provide more detail on the proposed timeline for the delivery of key components of your project including any targets and how these will be evaluated. (You may wish to include a table with dates and outcomes for example).

As a stand-alone project that can only commence with sufficient funding the first criterion is to acquire funding.

We would then invite members to contribute funds to match as far as possible. The sums quoted, however, are beyond the scope of the FoHP.

With the pond relined and restored we will direct any remaining funds towards renewing the pump/filtration system. This broke many years ago and has been operating in a much-reduced state since.

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.

No planning permission is required, as this is a permitted development on the owner's (B&NES Council) land.

2.9 Are there any planned changes which will have an effect on the premises or location where your project is to be located?

No

2.10 Are there any planned changes in the circumstances of your organisation's operation or **financial position** that you are aware of which may prevent this project being completed?

No

Section 3: Funding Criteria

The project must address the specific impacts of new developments within the city or locality from which the funding has been generated.

This application must show that the project either:

- *Supports the development of the relevant area by funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation, or maintenance of infrastructure.*
Or
- *Addresses other demands that development places on the area.*

3.1 How does the project address the specific impacts of new development(s)? (Maximum 300 words)

- Does it fund the provision, improvement, replacement, operation, and maintenance of infrastructure?
OR
- Does it address another demand that development places on the area?

(You may consider this on a ward basis, a locality basis, or a city-wide basis.)

Henrietta Park has wide use from residents and visitors from across the city. The Holborn Park development has added to the number of residents in the area. Henrietta Park is both a destination for dog-walking, exercise, and relaxation as well as a transit route for people accessing schools and shops.

This project will rescue a vital community asset that has now reached a point of decay that will make it unviable without restoration. The Friends group will be unable to maintain the asset on a continuous basis which means that the wildlife and plants will be lost, and the biodiversity of the park reduced drastically. To fully appreciate the splendour of Henrietta Park, take 12 minutes to view the drone tour compiled by a friend of one of our members. The pond view comes 6 minutes in.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAV66MfgEZ4>

- 3.2 How does the project benefit 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 Friends of Henrietta Park is a local community-based organisation which, from small beginnings in 2016, now has over 150 paid-up members. The park provides a community focus and has assumed a more central, vital, role since Covid lockdowns. The Friend's informal gatherings are centred in the Memorial Garden and attract a high proportion of our members to socialise and enjoy the peace and beauty of the area. Children love to watch the fish and search for tadpoles and frogs amongst the rushes. Our website illustrates our activities over the years. Note the photographs of the pond clearance in the "Events" section. That section also shows one of our most popular events which is Christmas Carols in the Memorial Garden with the pond lit by candles and lamps. All of this will be lost with the dereliction of the pond.

<https://henriettapark.org>

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

Our members are concerned about the leak and the subsequent removal of the circulation pumps. Many have offered financial aid, and we will start fund raising as soon as we hear of any assistance we can gain from the Neighbourhood CIL fund. £20,000 is probably beyond us but we intend to raise as much match funding as possible. We have set a target of £5,000. One of our local councillors, Manda Rigby, has already offered £1,000 from her Ward Councillor Fund.

- 3.4 Have you consulted your ward councillor(s) about this project?

Yes Bathwick Ward

Section 4: Funding Information

4.1 Total Cost of Project:	£20,000 plus
4.2 Amount of funding sought from the Neighbourhood Portion of CIL fund:	£20,000

- 4.3 Please provide a detailed breakdown of the costs for the delivery of this project, specifying how the funds will be allocated to different aspects of the project (including personnel, supplies, equipment, outreach etc).

The estimates vary depending on the outcome required.

1) The most basic approach would be to empty the pond and install an EPDM liner. This is slightly complicated by the fountain and outlet pipes to the circulation system. We are assured by the contractor that these problems can be overcome easily. This can be achieved for £6,000. This would involve the assistance of volunteers over an extended period. It does involve lifting the large coping stones around the pond, which the contractor would not do. The size and weight of the stones precludes volunteers from taking on the task. An outside contractor would have to be employed for this. We have not approached anyone for an estimate as we do not support this basic procedure. A life of 25 years is given for the liner.

2) A second contractor was a specialist in tank lining and had been approached by BANES some years ago to suggest a means of restoring the pond. No leak was mentioned in the BANES documentation, so we assume this was because the pond was seen to be aging and in need of restorative work. The specialist surveyor attended, and we discussed the process. It would require isolating the whole pond beneath a weatherproof shelter, grinding off the existing waterproof layer and applying an industrial sealant, commonly used in public water systems. This would give a guarantee of 10 years and the costs roughly quoted at £80-£100,000. We have discounted this procedure entirely.

3) Our favoured contractor is a specialist in water features and wetland construction. They have provided us with an ascending scale of outcomes and associated costs. We have their estimate to provide an EPDM liner and leave the pond as it is now at £12,000. Thus, does not require the coping stones to be lifted. The EPDM liner has the 25-year guarantee as before.

The second scheme is an advance on this and is aimed at increasing biodiversity with the addition of rocks, gravel, and extra planting pockets. This has an estimate of £25-30,000.

They have also looked at the very old and unsuitable pump and filter system and suggested a complete renewal which is estimated to increase costs to £45-55,000. This is something that we think is desirable, and will be necessary eventually, depending on available funding. We see this as a separate project which we can address in future years.

4.4 Can you provide evidence that your proposals will provide value for money (for example – have you obtained more than one quote for a service or item)?

We have approached 3 companies for opinions and an estimate of cost.

4.5 Does this project benefit from any source of matched funding? (Include sources, dates, funds agreed/expected and amounts):	£1,000 from Ward Councillor Fund.
4.6 Provide a breakdown of the efforts of volunteers in supporting this project. Please include number of hours, types of volunteers, geographical reach, if known.	100 hours
4.7 Please specify any other additional funds which have already been agreed:	£1,000
4.8 Please specify any funds which have been applied for but are awaiting a decision:	Members will be asked to provide up to £5,000 if CIL grant is successful.