



South Oxfordshire
District Council

New Nature and Climate Action Fund

Interested in applying?

Take a look at some fantastic projects previously funded in the Vale - all with the same aims of tackling climate change and supporting nature recovery.

Here are just a few of the successful applicants to the Vale Fund, which range from preschools to parish councils. **All delivering local projects to help protect the planet.**

Solar Panel Installation



Little Pippins in Harwell installed 20 solar panels onto the roof of the preschool building.

"Within days of installation we were fully connected and able to sell any excess energy back to the national grid. It will save the pre-school around £1,400 a year in energy bills and save around 3,000kg in carbon emissions."

Repair Cafe

Community group Green Appleton set up a quarterly repair cafe in the local village hall. Volunteers - with various skills - repair broken items to reduce waste and promote repair and reuse.

February's repair cafe statistics:





Community Allotments

East Hendred Bowling Alley Allotments Association set up a growing hub for local people. As well as creating a community plot at the allotments, they set up a tool bank so people could borrow tools they needed. There were also seed swaps, and a range of gardening workshops.

Sustainable Community Hub

Sustainable Shriveham have created The Hub community centre, helping local people to be more sustainable.

Climate Action Fund grants have supported the Hub with a plastic free communities campaign and enabled them to increase their offering, for example running clothes swaps and sustainable gardening workshops.

Creative Climate Workshops

The Bullpen outreach and engagement group hosted creative workshops for children and young people, families and adults to explore the themes of climate change.

These were led by artists and scientists together, and the resulting artworks were displayed in public exhibitions.

Energy Audit Report

Vale Community Impact used funding to make an energy audit of the building they use so they could identify how to manage energy to cut carbon emissions and save money. An energy audit is a great starting point when making plans to improve energy efficiency in any building.





Community Planting

The Radley Lakes Trust transformed an empty space alongside a parking area into a biodiverse area with wildflowers and trees. Several local groups and businesses came together to prepare the ground and carry out the sowing and planting.

Water Butt Supply Scheme

Watchfield Parish Council purchased water butts for residents to install in their gardens to store rainwater. Collecting rainwater reduces water waste, helps stop drains overflowing and offers a plentiful supply of water for plants instead of using tap water. Using water from water butts also helps keep plants alive during periods of drought.

Messy Church Goes Wild

The Bible Reading Fellowship, based in Abingdon, ran a workshop for local church leaders on the principles of 'Messy Church Goes Wild' and helping them to replicate this in their churches. Messy Church Goes Wild sessions help families learn about nature, foster a love of the natural world, and be more eco-aware for the good of the planet.

Feeling inspired?

Apply to the new South Oxfordshire Nature and Climate Action Fund!

Opening **28 September 2026**, the Fund will be open for applications for eight weeks until the end of November. *Please check our Grants webpage for updates on the 2026/27 round:*



Local 'not for profit' organisations and town and parish councils will be able to apply for a share of the **£100,000 fund**.

If you have any questions about the scheme and/or your project, please contact the Climate and Biodiversity Team at

climateaction@southandvale.gov.uk



We look forward to hearing from you!