

## Central Warwickshire Villages LEADER Programme

### Call For Applications – Allotment and Garden Projects

**£100,000 AVAILABLE FOR PROJECTS**

**Closing date of call 20 January 2010**

The aim of the Central Warwickshire Villages LEADER programmes is to create a strong sense of place within the rural areas of central Warwickshire. The programme aims to bring people together across the rural areas of Warwick District and Rugby Borough by creating sustainable and creative communities that create, celebrate and redefine their rural culture and heritage.

The programme will support projects under three main themes:

- Community Growing Projects
- Community Arts Projects and Events
- Linking Communities to Land Based Rural Industries

The programme aims to deliver a variety of outputs detailed in the Local Development Strategy (LDS) under each theme outlined. The funding will be delivered through a series of calls for applications. More information on the programme and the themes can be found in the LDS which is downloadable from the LEADER website [www.warwickshireleader.net](http://www.warwickshireleader.net)

#### Allotment and Garden Projects

This is an open call for organisations or groups to deliver a community based allotment or gardening project within the rural communities of the Central Warwickshire. The project aims to deliver the objectives within 'Theme 1 – Community Growing Projects'. Projects should be based around one or more of the following:

- Training and supporting communities to develop local food production through community growing projects, possibly in areas of unused land, in allotments or in gardens.
- Production of food to improve consumption of fresh produce (5-a-day) for families or food that can be distributed within the community, in local schools, or in luncheon clubs for the elderly.
- The use of traditional Warwickshire varieties of fruit and vegetables.
- Encouraging the production of produce for sale at farmers markets, through other rural markets, or through local farm or village shops.
- Encouraging people to reconnect with their food by growing some of it.
- Providing opportunities for older people to share their skills with younger generations.
- Providing healthier, fresh, organic food to the local community.

Applicants are also encouraged to come forward with their own ideas that fit with this general call.

#### What activity can be supported?

A wide range of activities can be supported under the Allotments and Gardens call. Examples of acceptable activities include;

- Purchase of trees and bushes
- Training and capacity building for the community
- Purchase or hire of tools or equipment

- Swap clubs for produce or seeds
- Renovation or clearing of land or sites

Applications might involve capital spend on, for example, renovation of allotment sites, but is not envisaged that we will support large capital outlays, for example, the purchase of land. However the rental value of land given or loaned to the community can be included as a match funding contribution for your project.

### Specific requirements

Funding is open to any community group or organisation whose project will directly benefit the communities of Central Warwickshire (for map of funding area please visit [www.warwickshireleader.net](http://www.warwickshireleader.net)). All applications should meet the requirements outlined in the LDS. We are looking for either individual, stand alone projects or larger scale support projects that will deliver and support a range of activities with a number of communities in response to their individual needs. All applications should be for £5000 or more. Projects that cost less than £5000 should still contact the programme team who will help them to access resources and/or training that will help them achieve their goals. More detailed explanation of the types of projects that are likely to be funded can be found in the 'Programme Summary' and 'Calls for Projects' documents available on our website. In summary:

- Applications should encourage community cohesion and a sense of place for communities living in them
- Applications must be developed in partnership/ collaboration with the local community and meet the individual communities needs.
- Applications should consider the target groups outlined in the LDS and ensure the end beneficiaries of the proposed projects have been consulted and engaged with.
- Applications need to ensure capacity building and skills transfer to ensure longevity of any project undertaken and legacy after the lifetime of the funding (2013).
- Applications will be prioritised that demonstrate innovative ways of working, offer greater value for money and improve the quality of outcomes .

### What will the grant pay for?

All grant funding must be spent directly by the applicant. Support projects therefore cannot pass money on to an individual community group or project – that support must be indirect e.g. by purchasing goods, services, materials or training to deliver the project. As support projects are expected to deliver projects to a range of community groups a reasonable administrative cost can be included in the application.. All applicants, if approved, will be expected to comply with the required claim, inspection and monitoring regimes stipulated under programme operating procedures.

### How do I apply?

Applicants will need to follow the application procedures detailed on the website which involves a two stage process; 1) Expression of Interest and 2) Full Application. All applicants are required to complete an Expression of Interest form. You will hear within 20 days of the closing date of this call, whether your expression has been approved or not. If it has you will be invited to complete a full application form, which will then be considered by an appraisal panel. Applicants will need to outline in their Expression of Interest (EoI) details of what they intend to deliver and where they intend to deliver it. Applications will also need to include any specific groups who will benefit and why they believe the project is needed. If the EoI is approved the Full Application must evidence the need and provide full details of costings, a risk log and a sustainability and impact assessment.

The LAG will appraise applications in both cases for alignment with the LDS and value for money. You are advised to talk to the programme team about your idea or proposal before you fill in the expression of interest form. They will be able to advise you on your application and whether your project idea is eligible/ likely to be supported by this funding stream and/or the current calls. They can also give you more details about the process and the requirements once the funding has been granted. If they feel your idea does not suit LEADER, they may be able to signpost you to alternative funding sources.

Before further discussion with the programme team you should think about the following questions, as this will help them give you advice;

- What is the project activity?
- Where is the project likely to take place?
- What will your project achieve, what are the benefits in terms of LDS delivery?
- What is the total number of communities to be supported?
- What is the evidence of the need or demand for this?
- Why is this project innovative or exciting?
- Who would deliver this project?
- What is the approximate cost?
- Have you any other (match) funding for the project?

### **How much funding is available?**

A total of £1.2m is available across the three themes of the Central Warwickshire LEADER programme over the next 3 years, these are Community Growing, Community Arts & Events and Linking Communities to Rural Land Based Industries. This current call for applications is for £100,000. Applicants can apply for the full cost of their projects or part of the costs but the outputs that they will be expected to deliver will be proportional to the funding amount secured. The minimum amount that can be applied for is £5,000.

### **Further Information**

For further information about this programme visit our website [www.warwickshireleader.net](http://www.warwickshireleader.net) or to discuss your idea in more detail informally please contact the programme team:

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