



Community Buildings

WREN is a not for profit business that awards grants to community and environmental projects across the UK. Funds are donated to WREN by Waste Recycling Group (WRG) as part of a Government scheme called the Landfill Communities Fund. Since 1998, WREN has granted over £141m to more than 5,300 projects which benefit people living within 10 miles of a WRG landfill site.

What WREN looks for – Community Buildings

WREN receives over 600 applications each year and over a third of these request funding towards work at community buildings such as village halls and community centres. These buildings may be very different but we look for the same things when reviewing their applications:

1. Why does the applicant want to do the work, who have they spoken to and how have the views of the community been incorporated into the project?
2. How well used is the facility and how much support is there for the proposed project? Will the project meet the needs of the community now and in the future?
3. How is the facility currently managed? How will the facility be managed and maintained in the future?
4. Has the applicant considered green technologies and recycled materials, not only to reduce the environmental impact of a project but also to help reduce long term running costs?
5. Does the project offer value for money and has the applicant considered how to get the most out of the funding available? Is any of the work being carried out or managed by volunteers?
6. How much funding has the applicant raised themselves? How much match funding has been applied for? Has the project received financial support from a local authority or Parish Council? How much has been confirmed and is there a shortfall still to find?
7. Is it clear what difference the project will make and how the community will benefit?

WREN can fund community buildings run by not for profit groups that are available for use by the general public for leisure or entertainment purposes. We can help with the refurbishment and improvements of an existing facility and the internal fittings and finishes of a new build. WREN's Grant Team is happy to discuss your project with you, or you can find more information on our website.

View project online >>



Gotham, Memorial Hall Refurbishment, Nottinghamshire

In 1922 a small hall was donated to the village as a memorial. Over the years the hall has been rebuilt and extended to include self contained rooms and a youth centre. The hall was outdated and tired, with lettings being lost due to it being dark, cold and unattractive. A Parish plan identified the need for the hall to be refurbished and the Trustees carried out several surveys to see what the community wanted from the facility.

The completed project has transformed the village's former youth centre into a comfortable, modern, environmentally friendly centre for use by the whole community, day and night, throughout the year. It features a resource and educational area and part-time library, a medium sized meeting room, a community cafe with a new kitchen, and an upgraded room for indoor sports/keep fit. The new entrance provides all users with a wide and level access to the whole complex.

All the building's toilet facilities have been upgraded so that they use less water and are accessible to all. New suspended ceilings and energy efficient insulation have also been installed. Finally, the plumbing, heating and lighting systems have been improved to cut running costs, create a pleasant ambience and reduce the building's environmental impact. 'Sun Pipes' now light rooms with sunlight and a natural ventilation system provides an energy-efficient alternative to traditional mechanical systems.

This is an excellent demonstration of what local fundraising and partnership funding can achieve. WREN was only one of 19 funders, which included charities, local businesses, the Council and other grant providers. The Trustees carried out, and continue to carry out, fundraising activities and events regularly as part of an ongoing process to maintain and improve the facilities they offer.

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Waste Recycling Group Limited, a leading UK waste management and energy recovery company, is part of FCC, the international environmental services, infrastructure and energy group. Focused on delivering integrated waste management and energy recovery solutions to meet national, regional and local needs, WRG operates facilities for the reception, recycling, recovery and disposal of waste, including a network of waste transfer and recycling centres and regional network of landfill sites.
www.wrg.co.uk www.fcc.es