

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

(1a) Organisation/group name:

Carr Gomm

(1b) Project name:

Craigmillar Community Grows – green activities for everyone

(2) Tell us about your organisation / group (what do you do?) (150 words maximum)

We work with local people, running cooking groups, walking, gardening and environmental art. These groups are based on consultation with the community so are what local people tell us are needed. We then fundraise to meet the running costs of the activities in order to make them accessible to everyone in the community.

Our activities are open to everyone and we advertise locally and through social media. We find that word of mouth is also powerful in terms of getting new people along. However we also target vulnerable groups for our activities, e.g. we invite people with disabilities with their carers to our cook club; work with ESOL groups so they feel they have a safe space and then join other groups; take referrals from GPs/Community Link Workers for people with mental health issues who need to get out and about.

(3a) Please select the fund criteria which your project relates to (Select all that apply)

- Create opportunities for community leadership and learning on climate change
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions within communities and contribute to the net-zero target for Edinburgh
- Generate sustainable projects for the benefit of local people to build resilience or adapt to climate change within communities
- Build relationships between neighbourhoods of different socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds to work together on just, equitable and accessible climate and resilience activities contributing to the cities net zero agenda, also ensuring that activities work towards reducing or removing barriers for disabled people in the transition to net zero.

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

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(3b) Tell us about the project you would use the money for. (500 words maximum)

This project would have several aspects to it. We would:

Work with primary school children to introduce them to gardening, ideas around greening, the environment and net zero. Whilst teaching basic skills we would also tie this into curriculum areas including maths and basic biology (reproduction of plants/ how seeds grow/lifecycle of a plant etc).

Continue our cook club, engaging with vulnerable members of society, alongside the community, encouraging integration whilst teaching cooking from scratch. This clearly reduces waste, helps to lower our carbon footprint and starts to encourage good habits such as composting. It also introduces concepts such as batch cooking and safe freezing. The cook club is also a key place for the development of volunteers. We have a number of people, particularly from the BAME community who started off attending the group who now take on leadership roles because they were able to start volunteering with the group. They now act as role models for others in the community, showing what can be achieved in a relatively short period of time.

Re-establish our walking group with people with disabilities, some of whom are in wheelchairs, walking / wheeling on accessible routes and ending up at a café for a brew and a blether. This would encourage socialisation and break down social isolation as well as giving much needed exercise in a healthy environment which improves mental and physical health. It would also give the opportunity to discuss the environmental issues we'd seen en-route – plants, birds etc and learn more about their habitats and backgrounds. This is in partnership with Places for People's Daycare service.

Continue our community walking group which engages with a wide range of people, including people referred by Community Link Workers with diagnosed mental health conditions, people who are socially isolated and ordinary members of the community. All are encouraged to get out and discover new green spaces on their doorstep, and also do other activities such as foraging or developing home-made maps of the area as they go.

Support our Men's Shed group as they work together, supporting each other, and recycling and reclaiming old wood and other materials. This includes things like pallets, floorboards and building materials from building sites locally. They then turn them into items such as garden planters, raised beds and bird boxes which local people and organisations want. This part of the project is extremely environmentally friendly as it engages isolated men in recycling/upcycling, preventing a huge amount of waste and also encouraging local people to garden and to buy planters and bird boxes locally, thus cutting their carbon footprint.

Run more seed workshops to continue our seed library which has just been established. Based at Craigmillar Library, this project supports local people to save seeds, store them in our bespoke library drawers in specially made envelopes, and then in the spring, come and take seeds from the library and plant them. There will be a mapping exercise showing where seeds from the library have been planted.

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(4) Describe your project in no more than 30 words (this will be used for publicity)

We will run a range of green and climate-friendly community activities in Craigmillar (cooking, gardening, walking, DIY) targeting the whole community, but accessible and led by groups with specific needs.

(5a) Who do you hope will benefit from this project?

The following people will benefit:

Local school children through the gardening project

Adults with a wide range of ethnicities, abilities/disabilities/with mental health issues who attend the cook club (some are referred/attend with support)

Adults with disabilities and their carers / volunteers will attend the specialist walking / wheeling group

Adults as above who attend the community walking group

Adults and children will attend the seed workshops

Men (adults), many with mental health issues or who are socially isolated will attend the men's shed

Members of the community – as we are open to everyone

(5b) Is your group open to all?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

(5c) Will the project have a positive impact on any of the following protected characteristics?

Disability

Marriage

Pregnancy

Race

or civil
partnership

and
maternity

Sex

Age

Sexual
orientation

Religion or
belief

Gender
reassignment

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(6) Where will the project be delivered?

The project will be delivered at Sandy's Community Centre, and in the immediate vicinity (e.g. the walking group is in the locality around and about)

(7) Project start date: 1/4/2023
Project end date: 31/3/2023

(8) How many people do you hope will benefit from your project?
Approx. 100

(9) Is anyone else working with you on the project?

Yes

No

If yes, please tell us about this:

We have a formal partnership with Sandy's Community Centre which has been in place for several years. Our managers work together strategically to our mutual benefit, putting in joint funding applications and working together to maximise the use of the Centre. We also consult with the community together.

Most of the staff at Sandy's are local people which helps us at Carr Gomm to have a closer connection with the community. We've been running our community projects in Craigmillar for nearly 15 years, and so are a trusted organisation, but our partnership with Sandy's has really helped us to ground our work and ensure we are doing what the community needs in one of the most deprived parts of the neighbourhood. Conversely, we give Sandy's access to additional resources which they wouldn't otherwise have, so it is a mutually beneficial relationship.

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(10) Do you require permission from anyone or any additional insurance to carry out your project?

Yes

No

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(11) Please outline a breakdown of the cost of delivering this project (including VAT).		(12) Do you have additional funding or income from charges which will contribute to this project? If yes, please detail below	
Goods/Equipment/Time etc	£	Source	£
Volunteer's expenses	1,200	No funding in place for these activities	
Refreshments for walking group	400		
Tools for shed	500		
Food for Cook Club	800		
Seed library workshops	900		
Total Expenditure	3,800	Total income	

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