

**THE NINEVEH CHARITABLE TRUST
PARK FARM
FRITTENEDEN ROAD
BIDDENDEN
ASHFORD
KENT TN27 8LG**

Registered No. 256025

Tel: 01580 291531

Questionnaire

Please note if you would prefer to write a report on your project with photos that is also acceptable.

Tell us about yourselves (Charity Name, Donation Amount and Date of Donation)

Urban Green Newcastle(UGN) is a charity (Reg No: 1182534) managing 33 parks and 66 allotment sites across Newcastle upon Tyne. We were awarded £5,000 towards the salary of a Community Gardener on 6th August 2021.

Tell us about the Funds

- Has the project we helped to fund been completed? If so, how is it maintained?

Yes the project has been completed and we are currently looking for further funding towards this post. Currently we are using some budget savings to support the Community Gardener post.

- If not completed yet, why not? Are plans in place to finalise the project?

N/A

- Did the funds provided by us prove adequate, or was there an over- or under-spend?

Yes the funds were spend in accordance with our application and are now fully expended.

- How were any surplus funds used, or was further funding made available?

N/A

Tell us about the project

- Has the project been successful and well received by the beneficiaries?

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Through supporting this post we have recruited over 20 volunteers, 4 of whom have gained formal qualifications in the use of petrol driven machinery. All have gained knowledge and skills in horticulture and gardening for wildlife. In addition they have gained confidence and social skills whilst having fun and engaging in the benefits of outdoor activity.

The project has achieved 183 volunteering sessions totaling 537.5 volunteering hours. The Community Gardener also developed 10 community engagement days across 4 of our parks.

Theodore and the volunteers have enhanced horticultural presentation standards within 5 key parks. Theodore has introduced planting schemes, re-established borders, planted bulbs and trees and developed wildflower areas.



We have also engaged with corporate groups, the probation service, Friends of the parks groups, schools and local community groups. Without the Community Gardener we would not have been able to meet all of the wonderful people in our community that we have. In turn many of them continue to volunteer with us and all of them use the parks much more than they did.

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Are you satisfied with the outcome, or, with hindsight, would some modifications have been appropriate?

We are more than happy with the outcome. Covid 19 restrictions made many people wary of joining in group activities. Our Community Gardener was able to provide a variety of activities safely in the open air where volunteers felt safe and valued.

- Was funding for this project made available from any other sources?

Some funding came from voluntary donations and some from budgetary savings.

Feedback about us

- How did you find our own process of selection and payment?

My colleague completed the form and found the process really simple. Communication with the Trust was easy and timely.

- Have you considered providing us with an update on the activities for which our Trust provided the funding?

We are always happy to provide updates. We would consider it rude not to tell the Trust how much their support has meant to us and to all of those who have taken part in the activities provided by the Community Gardener.

- Would you welcome a visit by our Trustees?

Always!

- Have you any other comments?

New charities are usually given time to build up their workload and reputation. UGN never had that luxury as it took on parks and allotments which had suffered from spending cuts over a long period of time. The community has high expectations and UGN strives to meet and exceed them with limited resources.

Having been registered just before Covid struck, our parks and allotments were never more needed. The benefits of having our Community Gardener cannot be measured in times like that. The parks looked better and the volunteers felt engaged and appreciated not only by UGN but also by the community. We hear about the mental wellbeing benefits through this activity, and through building support circles in the groups, all the time. Because of your funding we have seen them in action.

Thank you so much for your support, we really do appreciate it.

This questionnaire is part of our due diligence, obtaining feedback to help us, and we are grateful for your input – please return the questionnaire as soon as possible. Please email all questionnaires and/or reports to sally@ninevehtrust.org.uk

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