

Kent Downs AONB Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme

Summary of Approved Applications

4th July 2022

Application number	Business Name	Location	Description	FiPL Grant Awarded	Total Project Cost	Start Date	End Date
KD-002-PP	Vineyard Farms Ltd	Luddesdown	To establish 3,223 metres of species rich hedgerows and tree wind breaks across a vineyard and to protect 20,800 native species tree whips using cardboard biodegradable guards. The sustainable protection minimises the impact on the environment caused by plastic guards whilst the hedgerows increase habitat connectivity and minimise water run off. Interpretation signs informing the public about the importance of hedgerows have also been installed in areas adjacent to public rights of way.	£18,196	£49,498	25/10/2021	11/02/2022
KD-004-TO	Elmsted Court Farm	Elmsted	To purchase a biological applicator, which will be used to prime the soil with beneficial microbes. This will reduce synthetic inputs and will help regenerate the landscape and increase biodiversity whilst maintaining or increasing current yields and increasing net margins on cereal crops.	£12,400	£15,500	04/11/2021	25/03/2022
KD-006-IS	Kent Wildlife Trust	Darent Valley – Horton Kirby to Chevening	To assess the habitat, land use and natural capital value of the mid Darent Valley Catchment area, (approximately 2000 ha). The assessment will make recommendations on opportunities for the Darent Valley Farm Cluster, partners and other landowners to deliver habitat and biodiversity improvements and other public benefits, through future environmental land management projects for local nature and landscape recovery.	£16,883	£19,883	26/10/2021	23/03/2022
KD-007-PP	New Barns Farm	Ospringe	To plant hedges in order to link the woodland and fill in the gaps in the existing hedges enabling greater connectivity for wildlife and an increase in biodiversity. Restoration and enhancement of existing hedges and addition of 175m of hedging trees and 305m of hedging.	£5,568	£5,568	19/12/2021	15/02/2022
KD-011-RB	The Quadrangle Trust	Shoreham	To pilot a series of residential and non-residential workshops for healthcare professionals looking at the benefits of nature, green social prescribing, 'forest bathing' and other nature connection practices within healthcare.	£11000	£13,550	15/12/2021	28/03/2022

			<p>This is in response to the mental health and wellbeing impact of the ongoing Covid and healthcare crisis and the growing awareness of how an individual's health relates to ecological health and access to nature.</p> <p>The participating healthcare professionals will explore the relationship between soil health, biodiversity, farming and physical, nutritional, and emotional health, with a particular focus on the microbiome and gut related illnesses, obesity and heart disease and the beneficial impact of access to nature on stress and anxiety.</p>				
KD-012-SE	Kent Country Parks	Lullingstone Country Park, Shorne Country Park, Trosley Country Park, Brockhill Country Park	This project seeks to make four Country Parks in the Kent Downs AONB 'Gateways' to the AONB landscape, enabling a wider and growing audience to better access the sites and to explore and learn about the protected landscape – how it is farmed and its significance for biodiversity and cultural heritage. Across these four parks, new infrastructure will be developed and contributions will be made to the Lullingstone Discovery Trail, Shorne Woods Sculpture Trail and the Access for All Trail. There will be wider AONB interpretation panels at all four parks, promoting access to the Kent Downs AONB landscape. Two new Changing Spaces facilities will be installed at two of the parks, enabling visits from an even wider audience. The project will be delivered over three years.	£161,467	£253,488	15/11/2021	28/02/2024
KD-013-TO	Farming and Wildlife Advisory Groupv South East	Ashford	To provide capacity to establish new farm cluster groups across the Kent Downs AONB within areas identified in previous FWAG/AONB/NE engagement work.	£19,738	£19,738	26/11/2021	11//03/2022
KD-014-IS	ShivaNova Equatory Festival	Tenterden	A celebration of nature with the Nepalese Udhauli Festival (winter festival). By locating the festival at Samphire Hoe the local Nepalese community will be able to engage with the AONB. The festival will consist of music, dance, stalls and food and well as walks along the cliffs. Though many Nepalese live in Folkestone and Dover, the community generally does not visit country parks and the families, especially the elders, tend to stay within their residential areas. They do however have a great respect for nature and celebrate it in these types of festivals and so for them to celebrate this in a natural setting with outstanding views would result in the White Cliffs having a special significance for them, especially if they are able to return every year to celebrate this annual festival.	£4918	£6,118	10/12/2021	20/03/2022
KD-015-TO	Big Coombe Farm	Ashford	To undertake habitat improvement work in an area of scrub/woodland in order to create a suitable breeding habitat for the Duke of Burgundy butterfly. This project is part of a long term programme of habitat enhancement works in the core Duke of	£2,016	£2,016	27/01/2022	12/03/2022

			Burgundy colony in Kent. A sighting of the butterfly in May 2020 is likely to represent the start of a new colony establishing on the site and these works will expand the area of suitable breeding habitat to give the colony the optimum chance of successful establishment.				
KD-016-RB	Darent Valley Landscape Partnership Scheme	Darent Valley	<p>To deliver a landscape and nature-based response to flood risk within the upper Darent catchment and reduce likelihood of flooding in the Chevening and Chipstead area. This project has been developed in partnership with organisations from elsewhere in the UK, and Belgium and the Netherlands, as a pilot to demonstrate how effective natural flood management (NFM) techniques can be implemented that respect landscape character (particularly in a protected landscape).</p> <p>These NFM interventions will work with one another to slow the flow of water in the area and release it slowly back into the watercourses in Chevening and Chipstead area during periods of high rainfall which have contributed to flooding of these areas several times in the recent past.</p>	£65,892	£131,805	27/01/2022	31/03/2022
KD-018-PP	Rickards Farm	Old Wives Lees	To enhance biodiversity through planting a 470m hedgerow around the field margin. A gate will be installed and the hedge will be bordered with a ditch to deter off roaders, who chase hares, pheasants and partridges and generally cause harm to the landscape.	£2,117	£5,617	07/01/2022	18/03/2022
KD-019-PP	Sheldwich, Badlemere and Leaveland Parish Council	Badlesmere, Faversham	To plant an avenue of 70 small leaved lime (<i>Tilia cordata</i>) trees to commemorate the Queen's platinum Jubilee. Planting the avenue will enhance and reinforce the quality and character of the landscape and will bring the parkland landscape together linking the heritage of the once Badlesmere Castle, which was sited within the parkland landscape. The planting will create a wildlife corridor, increasing biodiversity and linking the wildlife in the church yard with the wooded shaw at the other end of the road. Small leaved lime trees are of great benefit to the bee population, and they will also store carbon, this will help both with biodiversity and climate change.	£7701	£9,001	07/02/2022	26/02/2022
KD-022-PP	Old Chalk New Downs	Cobham	To contract a Deer Audit expert to establish the extent of deer range, species composition, activity and habitat impact level across the project area.	£6748	£6748	07/02/2022	16/03/2022
KD-023-SE	Rebel Farmer	Brook	To fund the purchase of specialist hand tools to enable the year-round growing of produce without the use of large machinery. This will continue to build biodiversity, sequester carbon and share knowledge whilst expanding on a successful example of no-till market gardening with tried and tested tools in the art regenerative agriculture.	£5763	£11,284	24/02/2022	30/03/2022

