Grants for parish church wildlife gardens

Your church can apply for a small grant to help look after your churchyard and make it better for wildlife, people and the local community.

We know that churchyards are special places. With a little support, they can be good for nature, useful for your community and part of your church's mission.

What this grant can help you do

You can apply for up to **£250**. The fund is made up of voluntary diocesan staff mileage contributions and supported by Gaia Energy. The money can be used for simple, practical ideas, such as:

- restoring overgrown or underused areas
- creating wildlife-friendly habitats for plants, insects, birds or animals
- putting up bird boxes, bug hotels or hedgehog access points
- making space for outdoor services or community events
- enabling outdoor worship or community activities
- working with a local school to engage with stewardship
- improving wellbeing for visitors and volunteers

If you have a different idea that helps people or wildlife, we're happy to consider it.

Who can apply

Any parish church in the Diocese of Gloucester may apply. You can apply once a year.

Priority will be given if you:

- have already begun working towards an EcoChurch Award, and
- can show how your project fits into a longer-term plan for sustainability.

What you need to know before you apply

There are rules about what you can and can't do in a churchyard. Most small projects like planting seeds or putting up bird boxes do not need permission**.** If you're not sure, the Gloucester DAC can give friendly advice before you start.

What's expected if you receive a grant

If your application is successful, you will be asked to:

- send a short write-up with before and after photos within six weeks of completing the project
- let us share your story to help other churches
- name one person who could answer simple questions from other parishes if needed
- aim to reach Bronze EcoChurch Award level within 12 months of completing the project.

How to apply

Your application should:

- explain what you want to do and why it matters
- include the name and email address of your treasurer, plus PCC bank details
- be approved by your PCC

Once ready, email your application to Sandra Millar (smillar@glosdioc.org.uk).

Applications are reviewed regularly by a small diocesan team.