



# Town Council Grant

## Activities Monitoring Form

1. Contact Details	
Organisation name:	Vale Allotments Association
Address:	c/o Peter Lane, Chair of Trustees, [REDACTED] Email [REDACTED] Telephone [REDACTED]

2. Grant Information			
Grant Reference Number:	Not provided by CTC		
Total project cost:	£38,358.40	Comprised purchase price of £35,966 plus legal costs of £2768.40 minus apportionment of rent £376 already received by vendor	

Receipts Attached? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Receipt Amount:	
Please list receipts below:  <i>Myers and Co Solicitors Completion Statement for purchase of land West of Moody Street, Congleton dated 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025</i>		

3. Project Information			
When did the project commence?		VAA by 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2023 had raised sufficient funds to purchase the allotment site (the project's objective) and was able to make an offer. On 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 the Chair of Congleton Sustainability Group (then owners of the site) confirmed acceptance of the offer. Solicitors were then instructed by both sides by mid-December 2023. The purchase of the site has now been completed – on 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	
Did you make a profit from the project? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

*The purchase has been completed. VAA has expressly only raised funds for the purchase of the land (and the associated legal costs), and with the achievement of its target stopped all fundraising, so it has not made any "profit" or surplus from the fund-raising exercise. The land has been purchased, subject to restrictive covenants including one requiring it to be used only for allotment purposes, by VAA, which is registered charity with a specific object of the provision of allotments.*

Please explain what difference the project has made to your organisation/local people:

*The objectives/purposes of the Vale Allotments Association, a registered charity, are:*

***"To benefit the residents of Congleton and the surrounding area without distinction of gender, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by providing allotment facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreational leisure time occupation with the objective of improving life for the residents".***

*The VAA also places great importance on promoting for the benefit of the public the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in, and bordering the allotments, in particular through the improvement of wildlife diversity and providing opportunities for learning about sustainable horticulture.*

*The VAA has as landlord taken steps, since acquiring the site, to ensure that a restrictive covenant on the land is fulfilled - to allocate at least two of the allotment plots for the use of those with learning difficulties and other special needs, young offenders and others in society who may benefit from the experience of working on an allotment, and to ensure that there are concessionary rates for disadvantaged members of the community including those on low income (defined as those in receipt of Universal Credit).*

*Two full plots are also currently set aside as a community orchard, the produce of which will be offered to the Old Sawmill (or its replacement), Congleton Foodbank, or other similar organisations.*

*VAA is very grateful for the critical support it has received from the Town Council.*

#### 4. Promotion

Please send an electronic photograph of your project/activity. Is this attached? Yes  No

Do you give permission for these photographs to be used on the Council's web site and in newsletters? (Please ensure that you seek permission for anybody photographed). Yes  No

Was the grant funding from Congleton Town Council acknowledged in any way? Yes  No

Please state how (i.e. on your website, event programme, tickets, etc)  
*Press release now issued makes reference to the grant funding received from Congleton Town Council. VAA's website is in the process of being revised following the acquisition of the site and the grant funding provided by Congleton Town Council in November 2023, and that of other bodies, and donations from various individuals, will be acknowledged on the VAA's website. VAGA (the tenants' group) has already agreed to participate in the 2025 Food and Drink Festival and has entered for the 2025 RHS It's Your Neighbourhood Award, both of which should provide a further opportunity to acknowledge the funding provided*

#### 5. Feedback

What is your experience of using the Town Council Grant Scheme? Are there any comments or suggestions for improvements that you would like to make?

*We have no further comments to add to those that we made in response to this question in April 2024*

How did you apply?    Online     Email     Post

Do you feel that you understood the process?    Yes     No

Please rate the following elements:

	Excellent	Good	OK	Poor
Completing the application form		X		
Relevance of guidelines		X		
Length of the process from submitting an application to receiving notification			X	
Advice given from the Town Council Grants Team (if applicable)		X		







