

# Rother Environmental Group Environmental Project Competition 2018 Information for Potential Applicants

## Background

Rother Environmental Group (REG) has been in existence for 30 years and over that time has promoted a number of environmental projects within the Rother District Council area. In 2013 a competition was held to distribute £4,000 received as a gift from the producers of the Monuments Men film. Currently REG has surplus funds and the trustees have decided to hold a similar competition to distribute £2,500 to help environmental projects within Rother and Hastings.

## Rules of the Competition

Project bids are to be submitted to Nigel Jennings, Secretary, Rother Environmental Group, by email ([info@rotherenvironmental.org.uk](mailto:info@rotherenvironmental.org.uk)) by **5pm on Sunday 30 September 2018**. Entries must use the entry form available from Nigel Jennings by email to the above address.

Projects may seek any sum to a maximum of £1,000.

A judging panel will meet in early October and short-listed bidding groups will have 5 minutes to summarise their proposal then face questions from the panel. Then the panel will decide the winning projects and allocation of the funds, with the results being announced at the REG AGM on 27 November.

The proposed invitees to form the judging panel will be:

- Dominic Manning - Chair of REG (also Panel Chair)
- Four others to be drawn from the REG trustees and local environmentalists.

Nigel Jennings will act as secretary to the panel, and will advise on the projects from his interaction with the bidders during the preparation phase. He will not have a vote.

The panel will judge the projects against the criteria set out below. The panel's decision will be final, with no appeals process.

Project bids will be accepted from recognised organisations in the Rother and Hastings Council areas, or from a group intending to create a new organisation. The payments will only be made to the respective organisations' bank account, not to individuals. Payments will be made on receipt of appropriate documentation – receipts, quotations etc.

In the event that the panel are not satisfied that the submitted projects will add significant value to Rother and Hastings, they may decide to hold back some or all of the funds for a further allocation at a later date.



## Criteria

Projects must benefit the environment in the Rother and Hastings area (meaning areas covered by Rother District Council and Hastings Borough Council).

In this context environment covers any of the following:

- Nature and wildlife conservation, including green spaces
- Energy saving and low-carbon energy generation
- Reduction in waste and promotion of recycling and re-use
- Promotion of local and ethically-sourced food supplies
- Water saving, flood prevention, and reduction of pollution
- Sustainable transport (e.g. cycling, walking, public transport).

Projects bids must include clear and credible goals, timescales, and resource plans (specifically people and finance).

- Projects should plan to spend the allocated funds before the end of 2019, and deliver visible benefit within that timescale. However the key goal is to deliver lasting benefit, in the process effectively multiplying up the value of the initial funds, for example:
- Installing or creating something which is inherently long-lasting.
- Involving people, especially young people, in a way which has a lasting educational benefit.
- Starting up an organisation or activity which will then continue in a self-funded way (the self-funding will need to be explained in the bid).
- Using the funds to obtain match funds from other sources (evidence of the availability of the match funds will be required).
- Bringing social or economic benefit to the town in addition to the environmental benefit.

In general the funds will not be used to support work which, in the opinion of the panel, would or should have been done anyway by businesses, statutory authorities, or government.

