

## What environmental improvements are eligible for grant aid?

To qualify for grant aid an environmental improvement scheme should contribute to preserving and enhancing the character of Faringdon. Eligible works may include the enhancement of open spaces, by for example, tree and shrub planting, restoration of features of interest such as war memorials, walls and railings and the provision of special street furniture.

- To qualify for an environmental improvement grant schemes should be on land that is accessible to the public.
- Grants can be made to voluntary organisations as well as private owners. It is unlikely that grants will be offered to private commercial concerns with large resources.
- Grants will not normally exceed 20% of the total cost of the works eligible for grant aid, or £1,500 whichever is the lesser sum.

## How to Apply

It is advisable to discuss your proposal with an Officer of the Trust, in order to establish whether it is likely to be eligible for grant assistance.

An application form will be sent to you if Officers are satisfied that the works are likely to be eligible.

Applications will need to be accompanied by at least two estimates for the cost of the proposed work.

Additional details, specifications or schedules of work may be required in support of your application. It will also be helpful if photographs of the building are submitted with your application.

If you require any further information on any of the Trust's grant schemes, please write to:

**The Clerk to Faringdon Trust**  
Vale of White Horse District Council  
Abbey House  
Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 3JN

or telephone (01235) 520202

or contact at  
[environmental.trusts@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:environmental.trusts@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)



# Faringdon

## Joint Environmental Trust



# The Joint Environmental Trust for Faringdon



The Trust is a Joint Committee which operates within the town of Faringdon, financed with grants from the Vale of White Horse District Council and Faringdon Town Council. Its meetings, which are open to the public, are held in Faringdon four times a year.

The purpose of the Trust is to help preserve the best of the physical appearance of Faringdon and to help improve its environment. It can do this in several ways by offering financial help to individuals or voluntary organisations towards the cost of restoring their historic buildings, improving their shop fronts or carrying out environmental improvements. The Trust is also able to initiate and implement its own improvement schemes.



## Historic Building Grants

To qualify for a historic building grant the following criteria should be met:-

- The building should be listed as a Building of Special Architectural or Historic Interest.
- The building should be within the Faringdon Conservation Area, or if not, it should be part of a well defined architectural or historic group
- The type of works eligible for grant aid should be major structural repairs such as repairs to the roof, stonework, brickwork or timbers

- Owners should have lived in their property for at least three years prior to the submission of a grant application.

Grants are not available for internal work, repairs and the maintenance or conversion, adaptation or modernisation of a building. The level of grant aid offered will not normally exceed 20% of the total cost of the works eligible for grant aid, and in any event will not exceed £1,500.

## Shop Fronts

The shop fronts grant scheme was set up to help reintroduce traditional shop fronts where they have been lost and to improve the appearance of existing traditional shop fronts.

To qualify for financial help a shop front should normally:-

- Form part of a listed building
- Be within the Faringdon Conservation Area or if not part of a well defined group of traditional buildings.

Two types of shop front grants are available:

- Comprehensive restoration grants for the removal of an inappropriate shop front and its replacement by a traditional shop front, or the comprehensive restoration of an existing historic shop front. Grants will normally be limited to 33% of the total cost of the eligible works up to a maximum of £1,500.

- Minor works grants for the removal of unsightly features such as advertisements or blinds, or the painting of the shopfront in traditional colours. Grants will normally be limited to 50% of the total cost up to a maximum of £500.

Neither historic buildings or shop front grants can be offered for repairs which are the subject of an insurance claim, or for works that have been started at the time of the application. Large commercial concerns will also not normally be considered under the scheme.