



News Release

Suffolk Allotments Association awarded funding

Beccles Allotments and Gardens Association has received a £500 funding boost from the Bernard Matthews Fund, which is administered by the Norfolk Community Foundation.

The grant has been awarded to help the association adapt an allotment for the use of older people and those with reduced mobility.

“We wish to develop an allotment for the use of older people and people with reduced mobility,” says Joan Cupples from the association. “This would involve the construction of raised beds for people who cannot bend or who need to sit down to garden. We’re also in need of a shed, safe wheelchair-accessible turfed paths between the beds, a work table and a grassed sitting area for activities such as potting, planting and socialising.”

“The Beccles Allotments and Gardens Association is an integral part of community life in the town providing healthy and sociable gardening opportunities for children and retired people throughout the area. Via The Growing Together project, which has been jointly developed with Beccles U3A, people are able to take on a manageable share of an allotment in a safe and mutually supportive environment.”

Five grants totalling £6,631 were made in the latest round of awards since the Fund was launched in October 2009. The Fund is designed to help a wide range of rural charities and initiatives and has awarded grants totalling nearly £80,000 to date.

Andrew Sherwood, Human Resources Director at Bernard Matthews, commented: “Supporting groups located in the heart of our communities has always been important to Bernard Matthews and the fund is just one aspect of our commitment to corporate responsibility.

“The fund aims to give at a truly local level and make a real difference to community support projects such as the Beccles Allotments and Gardens Association. This is a worthy project fulfilling a vital role within Suffolk.”

The Bernard Matthews Fund awards grants of up to £2,000 to support community groups working in Norfolk, North Suffolk, and Lincolnshire. To find out more information about the fund or how to apply for grants, visit www.norfolkfoundation.com/funds/bernard-matthews-fund.

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Notes for editors

- Details of the Bernard Matthews Fund can be found on The Norfolk Community Foundation website at: www.norfolkfoundation.com/funds/bernard-matthews-fund