

Funding Application to South Trumpington Parish Meeting

Community Grounds Maintenance Support for Trumpington Meadows Open Spaces

Applicant

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Funding Request

We are seeking funding support from the South Trumpington Parish Meeting to commission an annual specialist lawn treatment and restoration programme for neglected public green spaces within the southern part of Trumpington Meadows.

The proposed programme would include **four visits annually** to each of the following areas:

- Upper Piper Green
- Lower Piper Green
- Railway Green
- Shepherd's Green

Annual Costs per Area

- Upper & Lower Piper Green – £[insert amount] per year
- Railway Green – £[insert amount] per year
- Shepherd's Green – £[insert amount] per year

Total Annual Cost: £[insert total]

Background

Trumpington Meadows is a relatively new residential development of approximately 1,200 homes in South Cambridge. As a high-density housing community, accessible and well-maintained open green spaces are especially important for residents' wellbeing, recreation, biodiversity, and community pride.

Unfortunately, continual cutbacks in council maintenance services have led to a visible decline in the condition of several communal grassed areas. In many locations, grass is only cut intermittently, with little or no broader grounds care. This has resulted in weed-heavy, thistle-filled spaces that are unattractive, difficult to use, and increasingly costly to restore if left untreated.

Community Effort to Date

Over the last 18 months, local gardening volunteers have worked hard to improve and maintain parts of the estate wherever possible. While this volunteer effort has been valuable, the scale of the larger grassed areas is beyond what residents can realistically manage through unpaid labour alone.

To prevent further deterioration, volunteers have independently funded specialist treatment through the **Food Van Community Funds** for both Upper and Lower Piper Green, which sit at the heart of the community and local centre.

The results have been clear and significant, with healthier grass cover, reduced invasive weeds, and a much more welcoming environment for residents.

This improvement has also been recognised by the current maintenance contractor, Cox's, who continue to mow some areas under contract from BDW until handover. Their representative George commented:

"I wish we did this treatment as a company because the difference it makes is unbelievable!"

Proposal

We would like to extend this proven approach by employing the same specialist contractor fully Government licensed, Treat Your Lawns—already familiar with maintaining some Encore-managed community spaces in the Vista area—to restore and treat all of the southern larger neglected spaces:

- Railway Green
- Shepherd's Green (currently the most neglected and in greatest need of urgent treatment)
- Upper Piper Green
- Lower Piper Green

Why Funding is Needed

Professional treatment would provide:

- Weed and thistle control
- Grass recovery and strengthening through fertiliser treatment
- Improved appearance of key communal areas
- Safer and more usable spaces for families and children
- Enhanced wellbeing for residents in a high-density housing area
- Better long-term value by addressing deterioration now before more costly intervention is needed later



Community Benefit

These spaces are used by a wide cross-section of the community, including families, walkers, children, older residents, and dog owners. Investment in their restoration would directly benefit a large proportion of the 1,200-home development and demonstrate support for community-led stewardship of local public spaces.

Request

We respectfully ask the South Trumpton Parish Meeting to consider providing funding assistance for specialist treatment of Railway Green, Shepherd's Green, and the continued maintenance of Upper and Lower Piper Green, so these important community spaces can be restored and maintained to a high standard.

Available Community Funds from the Food Van project will continue to be directed toward supporting the City-managed green spaces of **Greenway Park** and **Church Green**, both of which are currently in poor condition.

Closing Statement

Residents have shown their willingness to volunteer time and resources where possible. However, some tasks require professional intervention. With support from the Parish Meeting, these neglected spaces can once again become attractive, healthy, and valued assets for the whole community.

Thank you for your consideration.



Above - This image clearly shows the treated area on the LHS & on the RHS an untreated area of Greenway Park at the end of Consort Road.

Below - Shepherd's Green



Railway Green

