

* Hear about our
2016 Dragon's Den
style funding
competition,
Pitch to the Panel,
on page 3.

* Hear some good
news from the
Trust's **Spring 2016
Grant Round** on
pages 4 & 5.

* Announcing a new
fundraising website
on pages 6 & 7.

* Funding to help
prevent **Thatcham
flooding** on page 11.



New funding for sports facilities for local people

Greenham Common Trust is pleased to announce a new funding scheme - the Sports Activities Building Programme (SABP).

The Trust has set up SABP to support capital improvements to local community sporting facilities and children's play areas which have not previously received funding under the Trust's Community Buildings Improvement Programme (CBIP), which has given over £4 million to upgrade 111 local village and community amenities.

Applications for funding under SABP are invited via our fundraising website, www.findmeagrants.org and will be considered quarterly.

The Trust will also match fund on a 1 : 1 basis any other grants and public donations made to the project through [findmeagrants](http://findmeagrants.org), up to a maximum of 50% of the total project cost.

6 lucky venues have already been funded under the new scheme:

Aldermaston Cricket Club has been awarded **£50,000** to build a much needed new pavilion.

Hungerford Rugby Football Club has been granted **£13,000** towards new floodlighting for one of its three pitches.

Purley Sports & Social Club will receive **£10,000** towards refurbishing both the roof and interior.

Michael's Field Committee has been granted **£7,500** to help refurbish the cricket pavilion.

Mortimer West End Parish Council has been awarded **£20,000** to rebuild the children's playground to modern standards

The Downland Sports Centre will receive **£100,000** towards a complete refurbishment.

Garry Masters, Trustee and Vice Captain at Aldermaston Cricket Club, said: "Everyone at the club was delighted to receive the offer of a matched funding grant from Greenham Common Trust. This grant will be key in attracting further funding to allow our project to go ahead, which will invigorate the cricket club, give it a sustainable future and great new facilities for both the club and community."

Chris Boulton, the Trust's Chief Executive, said: "These facilities, once brought up to date, will continue to give pleasure and be an outlet for exercise for years to come."

"Over 14,000 local people will benefit from this round of SABP funding. These are worthwhile investments, as they bring the community together."

"Access to safe and up-to-date areas to play and exercise is essential in a modern age, and we look forward to seeing how these projects progress."



Photos:
All in need of an upgrade:

Above: Purley Sports &
Social Club

Right: Michael's Field
pavilion

Mortimer children's
playground

Downland Sports Centre

“Quite simply, the boathouse would not have been built without the grant and support of Greenham Common Trust.”

Hugh Baker Smith,
Goring Gap Boat Club

Goring Gap Boat Club receives **£65,000** from Greenham Common Trust

For 20 years, Goring Gap Boat Club has provided rowing enthusiasts with access to the river, giving them a chance to improve and perfect their technique.

The club has been raising funds for permanent facilities, as members have been reliant on temporary accommodation.

Greenham Common Trust has stepped in and given a grant of £65,000. This will go towards the full £240,000 cost for the new boathouse, which will be on the banks of the Thames, in Lower Basildon.

A contractor has been appointed and work is due to start in April, and the committee hopes it will be open by the summer.

The team behind the boat club has taught nearly 2,000 people to row. It has developed and grown the annual Goring and Streatley Regatta into a major local event, making GGBC one of the largest recreational rowing clubs in the UK.

The club's HQ is currently located in a field near Whitchurch-on-Thames, and members had feared the lack of a permanent home posed a threat to the long term future of the club.

Chris Boulton, Chief Executive of Greenham Common Trust, said: “The commitment behind the club is fantastic, and their application really came from the heart. Members have achieved incredible success in spite of

a lack of permanent facilities. To grow and sustain the club, it is clear GGBC needs a permanent home, as it has already established itself in the community it represents.

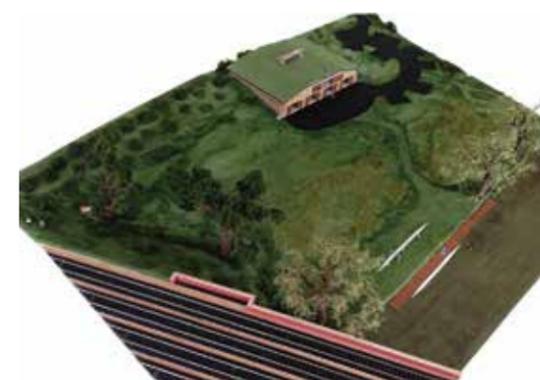
“A permanent home for GGBC will mean the club can continue to offer recreational access to the Thames to local people who are unable to fund their own boat. It will also mean the future of the Goring and Streatley Regatta is secured - an event that is a staple of the events calendar, and enjoyed by thousands of people.”

Hugh Baker-Smith, from the club, said: “GCT has been supportive of this community project from its very inception. Without this early funding commitment, it would not have been possible for GGBC to attract other sources of money and grants. Quite simply, the boathouse would not have been built without the grant and support of Greenham Common Trust.”

Other funds included £75,000 from Sport England, as well as private donations of £40,000. The remaining costs have been met by the club, thanks to proceeds from the annual regatta.

The new boathouse will have a grass roof, and be eco-friendly, reflecting the beautiful setting around it. It will be 600 sq m and will have space to store more than 30 boats of different sizes.

The building will be able to generate its own power, and will have safe storage for boats and equipment, as well as basic facilities for club members.



Photos:
Club members racing

Regatta Day

A Goring Gap Boat Club
crew at the Queen's
Jubilee pageant

Model of the proposed
new boathouse

A Gala evening this autumn

Help us choose who
will win **£100,000**



It will be a glittering night of celebration on 9th November at the Corn Exchange, Newbury, as local good causes take to the stage to pitch for a share of **£100,000** in the Trust's Dragons' Den style gala event, **Pitch to the Panel**.

All the projects will be for the benefit of local people, such as transport for the elderly, projects for kids, medical equipment for our local hospital or an arts or environment project.

You are invited to apply for **FREE** tickets and come along not only to cheer but also to vote by mobile phone for your favourite project (you can also vote before the event at www.pitchtothepanel.com).

The Trust will donate **£1** for every vote (restricted to 1 vote per person) made both online and on the night of **Pitch to the Panel**.

2015 **Pitch to the Panel** finalist, Andrew Sharp from West Berkshire Rapid Response Cars, said: "We were genuinely excited to be listed as finalists, and went in to this with no expectations. We are absolutely delighted to get all of our required funding. Without this, we would not have been able to supply winter protection kits for our responders."

Last year at **Pitch to the Panel** West Berkshire Therapy Centre also received the funds required to pay for 5 power assisted machines to help give patients a comprehensive range of bodily movements.

After the event, John Holt, from the charity, said: "We were all absolutely over the moon. It will allow us to do what we need to do and provide more capacity during 'disabled-friendly' hours. We were pitching on behalf of our clients and we were very pleased with the result we got for them."

Local good causes that need funding can apply for any part of the **Pitch to the Panel** pot via the Trust's fundraising website www.findmeagrant.org.

Find out if your project is eligible at www.pitchtothepanel.com.

Applications are invited from 1st June and the deadline is 5th September. The finalists will be announced on 13th October and online voting will open immediately and close 1 day before the live event on 9th November.

The Dragons, who will decide who gets the **£100,000** on the night, will be

- David Bailey, Director of Greenham Common Trust
- Anne Murdoch, Principal of Newbury College
- Andrew Mackenzie, Managing Director of the Vineyard Hotel
- Andy Murrill, Editor of the Newbury Weekly News.

"Pitch to the Panel is a good example of what the Trust is all about - finding out what local people want and then helping them to achieve it."

Chris Boulton
Greenham Common Trust



Photos:

Delighted 2015 winners - Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years, West Berks Rapid Response Cars, Five a Day Market Garden, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust, Berkshire Therapy Centre and The Trust for Sustainable Living

West Berkshire Rapid Response Cars

West Berkshire Therapy Centre's Gym

70 projects for local people awarded over **£135,000** in the Trust's spring grant round

33 local projects fully funded



Photos above:
Community Youth Project
holiday activities at Bishops
Green

Community Youth Project
activities at the Nightingales
Estate

The Kennet and Avon Canal
Trust boat Jubilee

Photos overleaf:
Five A Day Market Garden
children's session

Table Tennis at John O'Gaunt
School

Community Furniture Project
collection and delivery vehicle

Adventures at Ufton Court

£657 for equipment and new unit costs for 1st Hungerford Rainbows

£2,000 for fencing and site improvements for 1st Mortimer BP Cubs and Scouts HQ

£1,500 towards group development for 1st Ufton Nerve Scout Group

£4,000 to Alfred Palmer Memorial Field to help encourage youth football in Mortimer

£2,700 to All2gether (Minority Ethnic Forum) for CultureFest 2016

£928 to Axford Young Leaders for a training weekend

£151 to Basingstoke Consortium Limited for TeenTech Hampshire

£352 for costs for Hungerford members at the Berkshire MS Therapy Centre

£2,300 towards Berkshire Youth's Fit 4 YOUth project

£2,000 towards a cricket net for Chieveley Cricket Club

£1,140 for the TIM Friends Befriending Service run by Christians Together in Mission

£1,000 towards the Citizenship Foundation's Go-Givers Make a Difference Challenge

£475 for a Hitting Wall for Cold Ash Tennis Club

£3,749 to the Community Youth Project for Summer Holiday Activities at Bishops Green

£3,052 to the Community Youth Project for Summer Holiday Activities at the Nightingales Estate

£900 towards upgrading the Wilkins Centre - Compton's Village Hall

£2,500 to The Corn Exchange (Newbury) Trust towards schools travel bursaries for arts events and activities

£3,500 to Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres for the Stay and Learn Through Play Project

£607 for East Ilsley Local History Society to purchase new display boards

£2,000 for Education Business Partnership West Berkshire's Primary Science Challenge 2016

£4,825 towards access for the disabled to physical activity at Falkland Cricket Club

£2,168 for Five a Day Market Garden's Little Green Fingers project

£1,000 for new equipment for East Woodhay Play Area

£1,931 towards the Shefford Woodlands & Great Shefford Defibrillator Project

£900 towards website support for Greenham and Crookham Common Commission

£2,000 towards the community fruit & vegetable growing scheme at Hampstead Norreys Community Shop

£2,500 to Home-Start West Berkshire for the Teenage Parents project

£800 to renew changing room windows in the Bowls and Tennis sections of the Hungerford Club

£500 towards a qualified musical director for Hungerford Town Band for 2016

£4,000 towards Hungerford Youth and Community Centre

£743 for a rehearsal keyboard for Incantata Ladies Choir

£600 towards indoor table tennis tables and foldaway football goals for John O'Gaunt School

£1,250 to the Kennet & Avon Canal Trust to replace boat canvas canopies

£3,000 to refurbish the main toilets at The Fieldgate Centre, Kingsclere

£1,500 for running costs for Kintbury Volunteer Group

£1,140 for communication and language teaching resources for Ladybirds Pre-School

£2,000 towards Mortimer Fun Day 2016

£2,000 towards a non-turf cricket practice facility for Mortimer West End Cricket Club

£8,000 for Newbury and District Hackspace startup costs

£4,495 for a collection and delivery vehicle for The Community Furniture Project

£3,373 to Newbury Round Table for Crafty Craft 2016

£473 for a Concert at St Bartholomew's School with Newbury Symphony Orchestra

£6,500 to Newbury YMCA for the Waterside and Clayhill Youth Cafés

£2,496 to Parenting Special Children for the Can't Sleep project

£3,000 for a Digilab for Park House School

£439 to The PBC Foundation for 'The Bear Facts' information for patients project

£1,000 for tenor instruments for Phoenix Brass

£1,993 for a new digital scoreboard for Purley on Thames Cricket Club

£2,000 to Revitalise for respite holidays for disabled people and carers

£1,300 for Smart Works Reading

£1,177 for St Bartholomew's School's The Way We See 2016

£1,500 for St John's Church, Newbury's running costs

£1,828 for St Mary's Church, Shaw-cum-Donnington's Youth Work 2016

£2,000 for new lighting and to rewire St. Marys Church, Kingsclere

£1,028 for Stockfest 2016

£2,000 for wicket & outfield mowers for Thatcham Town Cricket Club

£62 for volunteering costs for Thatcham Town Harriers Football Club

£2,615 for Thatcham's Vision Youth Club for ages 8 - 12

£1,500 for 2016 venues for The Community of Hungerford Theatre Company

£1,082 for Theale Village Fete & Carnival 2016

£600 towards the Three Rivers Community Choir Music Fund

£2,880 for Time to Talk West Berkshire's office rental costs

£2,500 towards VCMe Supported Volunteering at Volunteer Centre West Berkshire

£2,688 for an Ufton Court residential trip and fun day for West Berkshire Foster Carers Association

£250 for cycling lessons for children with West Berkshire Foster Carers Association

£2,000 to upgrade a non turf cricket pitch and practice net at West Ilsley Cricket Club

£739 for Early Years Music Therapy Groups for parenting children with disabilities at Whole Step CIC

£1,000 for additional table tennis facilities at Woolton Hill Sports Club

£3,001 to Young People and Children 1st for care leavers & homeless young people lifeskills support



Fundraising for a local project?
Want both grants and donations?
Find out overleaf how easy it can be.

“An exciting opportunity for grant applicants, funders, donors and now fundraisers to support projects faster.”

Chris Boulton
Chief Executive
Greenham Common Trust

A new website with the potential to enhance charitable giving in this country

A new fundraising website which automatically matches charitable projects with grant funders and donors and introduces new opportunities for fundraisers is being launched soon by Greenham Common Trust.

The Good Exchange will replace the Trust's existing fundraising site, www.findmeagrants.org, which has distributed £10.5m in funding to 1,300 local good causes, including £2.3m in public donations by nearly 6,000 donors since it launched in 2011.

The Good Exchange will take the best bits of findmeagrants:

- a single application to access multiple funders and donors
- a single place to manage fundraising and share information
- an effective tool for funders to shortlist, administer and audit grants, and co-fund projects.

But The Good Exchange will add a powerful search engine and matching tool which automatically matches grant funders, donors and fundraisers with eligible charitable projects and helps applicants and funders communicate and share documents.

It will also be integrated with social media so you can share your project and funder profiles and help you target donors and fundraisers to support your projects more effectively. And when you have completed your fundraising it will help you create case studies to promote your organisation and project.

Greenham Common Trust Chief Executive Chris Boulton said:

“The Good Exchange is an exciting opportunity for grant applicants, funders, donors and now fundraisers to support projects faster and allows you to be part of making a difference in your local community.

“No other website in the market brings the grant funding application world together with online fundraising on a single crowd funding platform.

“The Good Exchange will start initially in West Berkshire and North Hampshire to give our existing applicants and local partners a chance to try it out first. But our aspiration is to scale up first regionally and then to operate across the whole of the UK - we believe The Good Exchange has the potential to enhance charitable giving in this country.”

Greenham Common Trust would like to thank everyone who has used findmeagrants to fund their projects. We are now migrating all findmeagrants projects over to the new site and applicants will soon be able log in and access organisation and project profiles. We will help with completing registrations before we go live.

If you are currently fundraising through www.findmeagrants.org don't worry, you can keep fundraising and we will automatically transfer your application to The Good Exchange when we are ready to launch and then we will close findmeagrants.

The Good Exchange will launch locally in the autumn and we plan to expand across Berkshire and surrounding counties soon afterwards

If you are an applicant, funder, donor or fundraiser and want to find out more about The Good Exchange or have any questions or queries please email hello@thegoodexchange.com.



the good exchange

Photos
Above: Mencap After School Club

Opening the new-look Woolton Hill Church Hall

Below: Teamwork activities with Berkshire Youth

Free lunches for the homeless provided by Loose Ends

Greenham
Business
Park
is West
Berkshire's
largest
strategic
employment
site.

over 170 new jobs for local people will be created by 5 new premises at Greenham Business Park

Greenham Common Trust is pleased to announce that development on Greenham Business Park, its principal asset, will bring 5 new businesses to the park in 2016, creating over 170 new local jobs.

3 new buildings have been built at a strategic location near the front of the park, as part of our design and build programme.

One of the buildings, a two storey office block, will allow an existing park occupier, FCS-Live, to expand into larger premises from their start up suite at the park's Enterprise Centre, which they have now outgrown.

Joining them in the other premises created by the new development, will be 3 international businesses new to the park, Greenham Kawasaki, Codelocks and Fuel Cell Systems.

Copart UK, the car salvage company, will also move into a new 19.7-acre facility in the north-east corner of the park, which will create up to 55 new jobs.



Top 20 Motor Retail Group, Ridgeway, has also just unveiled exciting plans for a new Jaguar Land Rover showroom on Greenham Business Park.

Ridgeway will invest £10m in the new development which will showcase both Jaguar and Land Rover brands operating side-by-side from the same location, serving customers across Berkshire and beyond.

This new facility will include a drive-in service reception, 16 car showroom, 18 bay workshop, rooftop parking, customer lounges and a Barista coffee bar. West Berkshire Council granted the scheme planning permission in March and the site is due to open for business at the end of December 2016.

John O'Hanlon, Ridgeway's Chief Executive, said: "This is our second Jaguar Land Rover development in the Thames Valley region and represents another step in our growth strategy for the Jaguar Land Rover brand. Both brands are in such a strong position and we are delighted to represent Jaguar Land Rover in a new territory that we know very well.

"Our new site will offer the true 21st Century Jaguar Land Rover customer experience across sales, service, parts and Fleet & Business.

"We are a major employer in the town and this new facility will create 90 additional jobs."

GREENHAM Kawasaki



Japanese giant Kawasaki began manufacturing motorcycle engines in 1953 and, over 60 years later, has sold well over 10 million vehicles worldwide.

Greenham Kawasaki, coming to the business park this year, is a new venture - a dealership owned directly by the manufacturer, operating independently of its parent company and just one amongst many Kawasaki dealerships throughout the world.

The new facility on Greenham Business Park will be a dedicated showroom offering sales and service on new and

used motorcycles from Kawasaki's range of 35 different Supersports, Sports, Adventurer and Commuter motorcycles.

Current FIM Superbike World Champion, Northern Ireland born Jonathan Rea, star of the Kawasaki Racing Team, is booked to attend the opening of the new showroom on Greenham Business Park.

Greenham Kawasaki will be recruiting locally to make up the 10 projected members of the newest Kawasaki team.

Codelocks, with subsidiary offices in North America and Australia, is expanding its UK operations to meet the increasing demand for its range of easy-to-use access control products.

As well as offering a better working environment for its existing employees, the new 5500 sq. ft. building on the business park will also enable the company to offer customers better facilities for support and training.

Managing Director, Grant Macdonald, said: "Thanks to the increasing popularity of our keyless digital locks, we needed to find bigger premises in the local area in order to better serve

our growing customer base both here in the UK and abroad.

On top of that are our plans to launch new product lines this year, so more office and warehouse space is essential.

The development opportunity at Greenham Business Park is perfect for our needs. Once settled in our new home we are looking to increase our teams in all areas of the business. The move will allow us to significantly ramp up our operations."

For more information about Codelocks visit www.codelocks.com
Tel: 01635 239645



FUEL CELL SYSTEMS®



Fuel Cell Systems uses fuel cell technology to create independent site-specific power sources. The company has been applying fuel cells to real-life tasks since 2003.

This has resulted in FCS being asked to consult on projects ranging from low power off-grid to multi-megawatt city wide local generation. Uses have included industry, CCTV, monitoring & measurement, telemetry, offshore power, atmospheric & environmental monitoring, and wildlife photography, as well as EU and GB funded projects.

Current projects include developing a hydrogen refueller for the Office of Low Emission Vehicle, upgrading diesel trains to fuel cell trains for the Rail Safety & Standards Board and consulting upon distributed power and heat systems with Oxford County Council.

FCS will move from their current Hungerford location to occupy the ground floor of the newly built office block at the top of Albury Way, the park's western entrance. As a result of this expansion FCS will be recruiting to bring the current team of 6 up to 18.

"We are delighted that 5 nationally and internationally renowned companies have chosen Greenham Business Park and welcome the new economic and employment opportunities that they will bring to local people."

Chris Boulton
Greenham Common Trust
Chief Executive

Photo: Minimum maintenance and reliable fuel cell technology can allow lighthouses to run without costly mains power installation

Photo: Freemages.com/Jason VanDorsten

£185,000 to help West Berkshire's young children make music

"My daughter will start the music lessons she has been desperate for many years tomorrow, these lessons are solely down to the funding GCT kindly provide. There is no way our house hold could afford the skills of a music teacher."

My daughter is very excited about the lessons and I am so very grateful to your team for this amazing opportunity."

(name withheld)

Greenham Common Trust set up a Music Bursary Fund to give more local 7 to 11 year old children the chance to learn to play a musical instrument.

Funding is already available for music for the most disadvantaged children, primarily from pupil premium funding. However there are many children who come from families where money for non-essentials is a problem although the family is not entitled to existing financial support. The Trust has set up the Music Bursary Fund to help these young people.

Recent research suggests that regularly playing an instrument can over time improve cognitive skills. It is believed regular playing can sharpen the memory, and even raise the IQ by several points.

The Music Bursary Fund covers both tuition and purchasing the stock of musical instruments required. The teaching programme is being delivered by Berkshire Maestros - the lead organisation for music provision in the Berkshire Music Hub, to pupils selected by head teachers of West Berkshire's primary schools.

The Fund is currently benefiting pupils in 32 primary schools - over half the primary schools across West Berkshire - and has already started changing children's lives for the better. Here are stories from just 5 of those schools.

- 8 pupils at Beedon Primary School are having singing lessons with Ella Foster.

- An individual violin student at Purley Primary is now able to carry on with his violin lessons thanks to the funding from GCT. He is on the 'register of exceptional ability' and his parents could no longer meet the financial demands of music lessons. The fund has also been used to help with the cost of attending a weekly string orchestra.

- 8 children from Year 3 and 4 at Streatley Primary are beginning cornet lessons with Sara Humphrey.

- A child from Englefield Primary applied for drum kit lessons. A drum kit was bought by the Music Bursary Fund for the school, which didn't have one, and the pupil is now having individual lessons with one of Berkshire Maestros' percussion teachers, Chris House.

- 4 children at St Finian's RC Primary have been able to start small group lessons on clarinet. They started at the beginning of the academic year in their school first access programme. The lessons are taught by Ben Copeman.

Chris Boulton, the Trust's chief executive, said: "This new bursary is a great example of the Trust's ethos, of how we can support talented children in our community, who might otherwise miss out on a life-enhancing experience."



"I just wanted to thank Greenham Common Trust...the support they have provided has enabled my son to continue with something that means so much to him. Our house is frequently filled with the sound of him playing his violin...it gives him immense pleasure." (name withheld)



£50,000 from the Trust has levered in further funding to help alleviate Thatcham's flooding danger



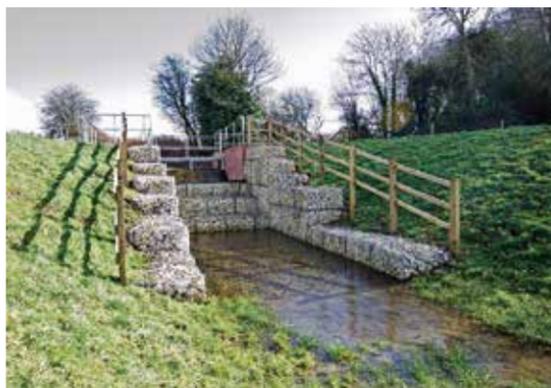
One group of townspeople is celebrating now that it is a step closer towards eradicating the threat of flooding in Thatcham, thanks in part to an initial donation from Greenham Common Trust.

The original matched funding grant of £50,000 from GCT helped underline the forum's commitment to reducing the risk of flooding to the town. This then paved the way for securing additional grants and support.



The large sum means they have been able to attract other money to help pay for the engineering works in key areas of Thatcham. Recognising this commitment, the EA has also stepped in to provide £4m and this forms part of the agency's six year flood defence works which go right across the Thames region.

Now, West Berks will be able to complete all the flood defence reservoirs which were originally proposed as part of Thatcham's Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP). The remaining reservoirs at Dunstan Park and south east Thatcham will be finished during 2017 and 2018.



Brian Woodham, Chairman of the SWMP Funding Committee, said GCT's support was crucial in attracting funding from the EA. He said: "Without the £50,000 grant from GCT, and the contributions of Berkshire Community Foundation and Scottish and Southern Electric Power Distribution, which totalled £30,000, we would not be in this position."

"I'm joined by Iain Dunn, the Chairman of Thatcham Flood Forum, in recognising that this is a phenomenal contribution which provided the impetus for the application to the EA."

"The scheme will reduce the number of homes which are at direct risk of flooding. The flood alleviation facilities will provide the capability to store excess surface water run-off in the event of lesser but still significant storms. We estimate that more than 3,000 people will benefit directly, or indirectly, from these works once finished."

Thatcham suffered badly in July 2007 when storms hit the town. The flood forum wants to avoid this happening in the future, and to put in place physical defences and emergency systems to reduce the impact on local residents, homes and business properties.

Chris Boulton, Chief Executive of Greenham Common Trust, said: "It's vitally important to do what we can to alleviate risk of flooding. This is an unusual project for us to be involved with, but it's a situation that cannot be ignored. We are in a position to help, and unlock necessary funding for the full project to be realised. We have seen the devastating affect floods can have, most recently in Cumbria and Carlisle. We are glad to be able to give this grant to help towards the forum's flood mitigation plans."

"We estimate that more than 3,000 people will benefit directly, or indirectly, from these works once finished."

Brian Woodham,
Chairman,
Thatcham's Surface Water
Management Plan Funding
Committee

Photos:
Flood plains, dykes
and drainage channels
form part of Thatcham's
flood alleviation plans

Photos courtesy of Thatcham Flood Forum



A **£30,000** Trust grant has enabled a state of the art Splash Park to be built in Victoria Park, Newbury

Don't miss
the new
Splash Park
Grand
Opening
- 12 noon
Friday 27 May



Children from the Victoria Park Nursery School and Robert Sandilands School will be the first to enjoy this exciting new play facility and will be joining the Mayor of Newbury, Cllr Julian Swift-Hook, at the grand opening in Victoria Park at noon on Friday 27th May.

The £30,000 in funding from Greenham Common Trust towards the Splash Park is mirrored by another Victoria Park project funded by the Trust - the skatepark, which was opened in 2011.

Chris Boulton, the Trust's Chief Executive, said: "We are delighted to be able to contribute towards this fun scheme for local children, and hope that they and future generations of children will enjoy the Splash Park and other amenities of Victoria Park."

Cllr Dave Goff, Leader of the Council added: "We are very excited to be able to offer this great new facility in the Park. Let's hope the weather this summer is kind to us so as many people as possible can enjoy it!"



The Splash Park will include a range of exciting features, including the 'Sneaky Soaker' three tipping buckets and 'Fun-Brella' overhead domed sprayer together with a host of innovative vertical, angled and arched ground sprayers! Children will be able to work together to cover up jets to create a bigger splash! The 'Bounce & Splash' puddle will allow children to bounce on the pad to receive the same sensation as jumping in a puddle!

Children and visitors to the Park have been getting really excited watching as the Splash Park neared completion.

The Splash Park, installed by Waterplay Solutions Ltd, will be open this summer for children to use free of charge between the hours of 10:30am and 5pm. In future it will be open each year from mid-May to mid-September.

Newbury Town Council and the Waterplay team thanked West Berkshire Council and Greenham Common Trust for their generous contribution towards the project, ensuring Victoria Park in Newbury remains a very popular destination for families to visit in 2016 and in years to come.

The water from the Splash Park, which is estimated will go through around 74 litres per minute at maximum use, will be recycled for use elsewhere in the park, such as on the plants or bowling greens and even in the toilets in the park.



Photos:

Artist's impression of the new Splash Park

The Splash Park nears completion

The new Splash Park area, adjacent to the boating lake

Testing the Splash Park

Below:
Victoria Park skatepark