

## **Sustainable Development Fund (Dedham Vale AONB) – 2015-16 grants**

13 projects were awarded funding to the total of £23,968

In total 17 projects were considered.

- 1. Suffolk Ornithologist Group - Suffolk Community Barn Owl Project** **£2,000**  
Since 2005 1,700 nest boxes have been put up in Suffolk and the national trend now records a thriving population of breeding pairs. Project will undertake full survey, then repair or replace nest boxes to ensure the sustainability of the project for future years
- 2. Leavenheath Parish Council - Leavenheath Circular Walks** **£1,500**  
Develop four circular walks in Leavenheath, including enhancement of access (replacement of stiles by gates, improved signage and designation, mapping and publicity for Circular Walks) into the AONB
- 3. Hadleigh Community Transport Group - Dedham Vale Hopper 2015** **£6,000**  
The Dedham Vale Hopper bus provides 'hop on hop off' transport from Manningtree Station to the Dedham Vale area, enabling residents and visitors access to tourist attractions and local services without using a car.
- 4. Anglia Adventures Ltd - Stour canoeing for families and schools** **£2,000**  
Purchase of open canoes, associated safety equipment, training costs to recruit canoe instructor and advertising to promote school canoe trips on the river Stour for participation in sport and education on environmental issues.
- 5. Dedham Vale AONB - Scattered Orchard Project** **£2,450**  
Planting local and traditional trees of fruit and nut varieties on publicly accessible land in each parish in the Dedham Vale AONB. Volunteers to be trained to survey sites and undertake activity.
- 6. Dedham Vale AONB - Constable Country Rangers Pilot** **£640**  
A pilot volunteer ranger/ambassador scheme in 'Constable Country' that will enhance the visitor experience to the area.
- 7. Dedham Parish Council - Dedham Mill Pond Improvement Scheme** **£1,900**  
Enhancing the environment of Dedham Mill Pond for visitors by removing invasive and dead vegetation to improve its biodiversity for the benefit of all.
- 8. Autism and Nature - Alex & Rosie book** **£1,242**  
A children's book based on the Suffolk Guide produced in 2014/15. Publish a story book to help younger children with autism to visualise and understand the countryside
- 9. Stoke By Nayland Parish Council - Improvements to circular village walk** **£500**  
Replace footpath stiles with two new gates for better access
- 10. Outdoor Hire Centres Ltd - River Stour Explorer Adventures** **£2,000**  
Scale up canoe/kayak hire provision on the River Stour currently being repackaged as 'Explorer Adventures' following a successful trial season in 2014.
- 11. Suffolk Wildlife Trust - New landscape development** **£2,336**  
Help to purchase a compact tractor to support creation of 153 acres of open habitats on new land at Arger Fen & Spouses Vale nature reserve
- 12. Dan Wheals/ Stratford St Mary School - After School Nature Club** **£700**  
Start-up kit for club aimed at gardening, learning maths and connecting pupils with the AONB.
- 13. Apricot Centre & Transition Stour Valley - Digging & Delving in the Dedham Vale** **£700**  
A series of four blocks of creative and sustainable evening sessions for 11-16 year olds to engage with issues of sustainability, local people, craft skills, and the history of the Dedham Vale area.