

5 July 2023

Brent Cross Town opens public vote as winners of its £50,000 Community Fund revealed

Brent Cross Town, the 180-acre new park town in north London being delivered in partnership between Related Argent and Barnet Council, is pleased to announce that it has awarded 10 local charities and initiatives with funding as part of this year's £50,000 Brent Cross Town Community Fund. A valued source of local funding the Fund has reached further into the community this year, receiving 78 applications compared with 37 received in 2022.

To celebrate being in its fifth consecutive year, the Community Fund is today opening its special 'people's project' awards, with local residents and members of the community invited now to vote for their favourite group or project from the eligible winning applicants. The four initiatives with the most votes will receive an additional £2,500 of funding. The community will be able to vote online or in person at the BXT Visitor Pavilion from today, 5th July through to 12th July when voting closes. The winners of 'people's project' awards will be announced on 15th July as part of a celebratory event to be held in Claremont Park.

Focused on supporting initiatives and activities that enable improved local health and wellness and an inclusive and socially connected community, the successful applicants feature a wide range of projects. This year there was a clear requirement for support in helping the community to get outside and be active, bringing back to life some of the local green spaces, funding to help local refugee projects and initiatives specifically related to youth work.

All the successful applications and their projects are as follows:

- **Our Yard – Nature activities at Clitterhouse Farm**

Funding awarded to this project will enable nature activities to be offered, including forest schools and nature play for disadvantaged children and gardening workshops for adults, and the community garden to be made accessible for all to encourage more people to spend time outdoors.

- **Cricklewood Millennium Green – Local vegetable and flower garden**

An organisation embedded in the local community, Cricklewood Millennium Green works closely with local schools and youth groups to provide outside space for children and young people to grow flowers and vegetables. The funding will ensure the project continues to have the equipment and resources to maintain the garden, and so to remain a hub for the community and a valued green space.

- **Yaran Club**

A non-profit club that supports and brings together Farsi-speaking women to enjoy yoga and meditation, take part in English lessons and learning computing. Many of these women are refugees or asylum seekers, struggle with poor mental health or experience isolation and/or domestic violence.
- **Keep Rolling Project**

A group that runs skateboarding and art workshops to inspire and empower under-represented groups aged 8-18 to get more active and confident. Funding awarded will support additional workshops to help ensure its members feel safe and confident in the space they're able to be active in.
- **Screen Share UK**

This organisation supports local refugees that face digital exclusion and therefore struggle to access employment and education. Funding will help the organisation to provide more computers which will have a direct impact on the refugees' ability to integrate into the community, secure employment and have better overall wellbeing.
- **F.U.S.E - West Hendon Youth Club**

F.U.S.E Youth Project is collaborating with West Hendon Youth Club, a local community group dedicated to working with children and young people living in low-income families, to support multi-sports sessions. The funding will enable a 38-week programme to run during term time with the aim of giving young people the opportunity to feel part of a collective, develop social skills and encourage pro-social behaviour through participating in physical activities and sports.
- **Childs Hill Primary School – Greener Travel Plan**

Childs Hill's Greener School Action Plan is working to facilitate and encourage more children to cycle to school. Funding will provide bicycles, helmets, and high-visibility safety jackets for the children to take part in cycling proficiency classes to give them the confidence and skills to cycle to and from school - reducing traffic congestion and promoting cleaner air in the local area.
- **Claremont Primary School – Community Garden Kitchen**

The school has a large number of children and that do not have access to a garden or outside space to be able to grow herbs, fruit or vegetables, and there continues to be high demand for the school-run food bank. The new Community Garden the funding will enable aims to allow children and their families to get involved in growing their own food and providing advice on how they can use the produce in their family meals.
- **Railway Terraces Community Association**

This local group applied for funding to replace its community meeting shed which has been a focal point for the organisation since 1991. Popular with the local community for

activities including yoga, councillor surgeries and Santa's Grotto the funding the group will receive will purchase a new shed.

- **Friends of Mapledown – educational support for students with special needs and disabilities**

Due to budget constraints Mapledown School has limited capacity to procure additional resources needed to enhance the learning experience of its students. The Funding received will give students the chance to have iPads.

The winners of the 2023 Community Fund were selected by a panel of judges comprising: Janet Matthewson, CEO, Young Barnet Foundation; Gussy Bodur, Owner, Gussy's Ice Cream Parlour; Cllr Alan Schneiderman, Cricklewood Ward Councillor and Cabinet Member for Environment & Climate Change, Barnet Council; Dan Hawkins, Executive Headteacher, Childs Hill and Claremont Federation; and Morwenna Hall, Partner, and Carolina Correia, Senior Social Value Manager from Related Argent.

Further information on the winning applicants and how to vote as part of the people's project awards can be found at <https://www.brentcrosstown.co.uk/community-fund-2023-public-vote>

Morwenna Hall, Partner of Related Argent, commented: "We thoroughly enjoyed reviewing all of the fantastic applications the Fund received this year and were encouraged to see it continue to build recognition as a meaningful and valued source of local funding. The 10 initiatives chosen by the judging panel provide a fantastic range of opportunities that are well aligned with our focus of wanting to promote better wellbeing and active and healthy lifestyles. We're keen to see as many people as possible get involved in the public vote to help further support their favourite projects."

Councillor Alan Schneiderman, Cricklewood Ward Member, and Cabinet Member for Environment & Climate Change said: "The Brent Cross Town Community Fund is a valued source of grant funding for local projects, with dozens of groups benefiting so far and having a real impact in their communities. With nearly double the applications to this year's fund it was a tough judging process, but huge congratulations must go to the successful applicants - it's wonderful to see such an inspirational mix of initiatives continue to come forward."

Moses Seitler, Screen Share UK, added: "We are delighted to be selected for the Brent Cross Town Fund. In just under a couple of years, our volunteer-led project has become the primary provider of technology to refugees in the UK. We have North West London in our bones, being launched out of a bedroom in Cricklewood and growing across the city. We were delighted when a laptop recipient sent us a link to this grant which he found using his Screen Share laptop!"

Rachael Sherlock, Keep Rolling Project, commented: "We are over the moon to be selected for the Brent Cross Town Community Fund! This fund is very personal to us, and it would be an

honour to be selected to support our local community to grow, by ensuring healthy and inclusive spaces for all.”



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Notes to Editors

1. About Brent Cross Town

Brent Cross Town is the neighbourhood at the heart of the Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration programme. It is a joint venture between Related Argent and Barnet Council to develop a large-scale mixed-use development including new homes, retail and office space, as well as improved schools and greenspaces in the area. Early work started on site in early 2020 and construction is also underway on the new Brent Cross West station which is expected to open in autumn 2023. Building on the strengths of this diverse part of the city, Brent Cross Town will draw inspiration from the best of London’s long-established neighbourhoods with all their complexity and character.

At its heart, will be a focus on sport, play, health and well-being. The new neighbourhood will provide 6,700 homes, state-of-the-art workspace for over 25,000 people, and pedestrian friendly streets and squares with local shops and restaurants that will complement the offer at Brent Cross Shopping Centre. The community will be supported by first-class public transport infrastructure, a new and improved network of walking and cycle routes and a series of new parks and other amenities. www.brentcrosstown.co.uk @brentcrosstown

Related Argent is making four significant pledges for Brent Cross Town:

- To create the place in London to participate in sport and play: with indoor facilities and 50 acres of parks, Brent Cross Town will provide the best of both traditional and emerging sports, working with leading sports organisations, governing bodies and hero ambassadors to help drive female participation and champion diversity and inclusion.
- To make a new North London town where all can flourish. Brent Cross Town will launch a Flourishing Index which will pioneer the measurement of how individuals and communities flourish in a town centre. Partnering with Manchester University and Buro Happold, this approach represents a landmark moment in designing a development for mental health and wellbeing and demonstrates that Brent Cross Town is at the forefront of people-centred design.
- To be a net zero carbon town by 2030. This will be achieved by driving down the embodied carbon in buildings and infrastructure, the carbon used in energy supply and offsetting the remainder. Partnering with Vattenfall, Brent Cross Town will deliver reliable and affordable zero carbon heating to homes, shops and businesses.
- To strengthen existing connections, both locally and into Central London; connecting businesses, customers, friends and family. Brent Cross Town is in an enviable location – 12 minutes to Central London, immediate access to the M1 and 5 major airports within one hour. Locally, new pedestrian and cycle routes will integrate Brent Cross Town with its surrounding communities.

2. About Related Argent

In 2015, Argent and Related joined forces to create an unrivalled UK property business and urban regeneration specialist. The company brings together the expertise and track record of Argent – the developer behind some of Britain’s most successful mixed-use places, and Related – one of the most



innovative and prolific real estate companies in the US. The combined experience delivering ground breaking projects such as King's Cross in London, Hudson Yards and Deutsche Bank Center in New York, Brindleyplace in Birmingham, The Square in West Palm Beach, Florida and The Grand LA in Los Angeles is brought to bear on each of the projects.

Related Argent operates across a range of property sectors including residential, workspace, education, shopping, hospitality and leisure. Its work goes beyond bricks and mortar development. It also specialises in the services, facilities and experiences that are so important to urban life – art, culture, events, schools, skills & training programmes and renewable energy networks.

Related Argent is one of the UK's leading developer-owner-operators and, since its inception eight years ago, has rapidly grown a £9Bn+, 12m sq ft mixed-use development pipeline. This includes major regeneration projects in London, at Brent Cross Town and Tottenham Hale, as well as a Build-to-Rent (BtR) scheme at King's Cross, known as 'Author King's Cross'. It's accessing global capital markets to deliver major new projects across the UK and is seeking to expand its BtR housing portfolio. On 1 May 2024, Argent will transfer all employees, projects and assets to Related Argent Limited.

Related Argent's vision is to be a great city builder – for people, planet, and prosperity and its purpose is to improve urban life for all, everyday. This means developing for the long term - astutely, sustainably and with a sense of social purpose. Related Argent is delivering the places, homes, workspace, public space, arts, culture, events and services that our UK cities and town centres need. www.argentllp.co.uk

About ActionFunder

ActionFunder connects businesses with local non-profits to drive impact. Organisations use our online giving tool or get in touch with our team of experts to engage with local communities, boost grassroots action and make change happen.

For more information about ActionFunder go to actionfunder.org