AUTUMN EDITION - SEPTEMBER 2026



Photo credit: Parley Pre School

WELCOME

Welcome to the Autumn edition of our newsletter

As summer draws to a close, I am delighted to share our latest newsletter and celebrate the many ways our communities continue to come together.

Over recent months, we have continued to support local charities and community groups through our grants programmes, while also delivering a wide range of activities that bring people closer to the places and communities around them. From events in our woodland spaces and exciting community projects, to volunteering opportunities and conservation work across the estate, there is plenty happening as we look ahead to the coming months.

This edition includes details of our upcoming Autumn Storytelling event, opportunities to get involved in the Talbot Village Mural Project, updates on the development of the Heathland Support Area, and news from our dedicated volunteers who help care for these special places. As always, we remain grateful to our partners, volunteers, grant recipients and local residents whose support makes this work possible.

Best wishes,

Ian Cheung, CEO

GRANTS UPDATE

Following the success of our Capital Autumn 2026 Programme, Talbot Village Trust is pleased to announce that applications are now open for our Capital Spring 2027 funding round.

We are continuing our commitment to supporting voluntary and community organisations across Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole, East Dorset and Purbeck, with funding for projects that create clear community benefit, lasting value and positive local impact.

Applications for the Capital Grants Programme are open until **29 November 2026**, with shortlisting taking place in December 2026 and funding decisions expected in May 2027.

We’re also pleased to offer our Small Grants Programme on a rolling basis, meaning eligible organisations with annual income under £250,000 can apply for grants of up to £5,000.

Find out more about both funding opportunities below, including eligibility, what we can fund and how to apply.

Capital Grants Programme - Spring 2027

Project types:

- Purchase, refurbishment, or repair of buildings and physical spaces, or major equipment over £10,000

Grant details:

- Requests for **capital costs over £10,000**. As applicants are required to provide a minimum of 25% match funding, the **total project cost must be at least £13,333** for an application to be eligible.
- Open to organisations with at least **one year of signed accounts**
- Projects must show that the capital expenditure is strategic and planned
- At least **25% matched funding** must be secured before funds can be drawn down
- We cannot fund work already completed or stages of projects that have started before the Trustees' decision - but later phases or new activities may be included
- The majority of the Capital Grant awards in 2025 and 2026 averaged £12,500

Application process:

- Apply online via our website **by 29th November 2026** (11:59pm); you will receive a confirmation email along with a copy of your application. Application form supports attachments, images, and other media
- Shortlisting results in **December 2026** (on average, around one third of applicants are shortlisted to progress to the later stage)
- Assessment calls or visits to follow in **January - March 2027**
- Decisions made in **May 2027**
- Grantees will need to submit an end-of-project report

APPLICATION POLICY **APPLY NOW**

Small Grants Programme - Ongoing

We are delighted to announce that the Talbot Village Trust Small Grants Programme accepts applications on a monthly rolling basis to enable faster distribution of funds to local charities and grassroots organisations.

As a result, there are **no application deadlines**, and submissions are welcome at any time.

We particularly welcome applications from smaller, grassroots organisations delivering vital work within Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole, East Dorset and Purbeck, as well as first-time applicants and organisations that have not received funding from us under the Small Grants Programme within the last 18 months.

Whether you are seeking support for core costs, a community project, equipment, or a small capital improvement, we encourage you to explore the programme and get in touch if you would like to discuss your eligibility before applying.

Please read our Application Policy below.

Project types:

- Core/operating costs, project costs, small capital items (e.g., equipment, minor repairs).

Grant details:

- Grants **up to £5,000**
- Open to organisations with an **annual income under £250,000**
- No matched funding required
- The majority of the Small Grant awards in 2025 averaged £3,000
- We prioritise grassroots, locally based charities and community groups operating within our area of benefit.
- We do not usually fund national charities but we may consider applications from local branches of national organisations if they:
    - Manage their own finances and are not fundraising for the national body
    - Are run locally, delivering services within our area of benefit
    - Have their own board, or a clear agreement from the national office giving them authority to manage local funds and activities
    - Can show that the grant will be used solely for work in the local area
- We cannot fund work already completed or stages of projects that have started before the Trustees' decision - but later phases or new activities may be included

Application process:

- Apply online via our website; you will receive a confirmation email along with a copy of your application. The application form supports attachments, images, and other media
- Shortlisting results: **usually within 2-3 weeks** of the submission date
- Assessment calls or site visits may follow where appropriate
- Decision: **usually within 5-6 weeks** of the submission date

- Once an award has been approved, funds can be drawn down as soon as they are required, subject to any conditions outlined in the offer letter being met. Please allow 3–5 weeks for funds to reach your bank account following a drawdown request.
- Successful applicants will be required to submit an end-of-project report

APPLICATION POLICY **APPLY NOW**

Support and FAQs

We know how much effort goes into preparing an application, so we've created a detailed FAQ page to help.

You'll find clear guidance on eligibility, what we fund, how to apply, and tips for strengthening your submission.

READ NOW

Other Funding Sources

We hope the following external funding resources will be helpful in identifying other potential funders who may be able to support your work.

External funding resources:

- BCP Council Fund Finder (website and email alerts) and What Funds email newsletter
- BCP Council free funding advice and support service available via email: funding@bcpcouncil.gov.uk
- CAN100 - website and email newsletter (free membership)
- Dorset Council Fund Finder (website and email alerts)
- Volunteer Centre Dorset email newsletter - Additionally: Thriving Communities Team announced funding and support available for projects supporting older people (Purbeck based organisations only) - 01305 269214 or email support@volunteeringdorset.org.uk
- Dorset Chamber's Build: Not-for-Profit Growth Programme
- BIG GIVE
- Get Grants
- Energy Resilience Fund
- Capital Funding / Loan Options for Charities Relating to Energy (DOWNLOAD)

- Action Funder
- Active Dorset Funding Finder
- Cornerstone - Church of England

EVENTS

Autumn storytelling in the woods



Come and join us for an afternoon of creativity and stories in the woods on Saturday 19th September.

Our **family craft session** at 2.30pm will be making faerie puppets, ready to join in the woodland storytelling at 4pm on the same afternoon. The craft session costs **£4 per person**.

The **storytelling is free** - simply meet us outside the Slades Park Pavilion Cafe at 4pm, joining the procession into the woods where we will find our storytellers in a shaded glade. The event closes at 5pm.

Due to the recent risk of wildfires, we might not be able to have our customary fire and marshmallows. However, do bring snacks and cool drinks - you're very welcome to linger in the beautiful space afterwards.

BOOK CRAFT SESSION





History Group



Our friends at Talbot Village History Group have enjoyed a busy summer sharing their research on local history. We jointly held a stall at St Mark's TalbotFest event on 18th July, sharing the group's fascinating research, and meeting lots of new people.

Email the History Group to find out more about their research and meetings.

CONTACT HISTORY GROUP





Heathland Support Area Citizens' Assembly



Over the coming months we will be continuing to prepare the Heathland Support Area for opening in early 2027. This will include making accessible and mown paths, installing fences and creating new grassland habitats. In the colder months we'll be planting new trees and hedges too. In the meantime, please continue to stay off the site, allowing our contractors to work safely.

The management of the Heathland Support Area will be overseen by a Liaison Group - an advisory body made up of members of BCP Council staff, Councillors and two

local residents. Those local residents will be chosen by the upcoming Citizens' Assembly – a randomly selected group of neighbours to Talbot Heath, who will be invited to take part in two immersive sessions finding out more about the Heathland ecology, and inviting those residents to contribute to the recommendations to be made into the management of the new space.

Martha Searle, our Community and Engagement Lead, will be knocking on the doors of those randomly selected, inviting each personally to encourage participation.

FIND OUT MORE

COMMUNITY NEWS

Talbot Village Mural Project

We're delighted to support the Talbot Village Mural Project, which is inviting people of all ages to help shape a new community mural by sharing drawings, photographs, stories, memories and ideas celebrating the area's heritage, nature, people and future.

Contributions are welcome **until the end of September 2026** and can be sent to talbotvillagemural@gmail.com.

All are also welcome to come and visit ***Voices on the Horizon*** at the BCP Green Hub in the Lower Gardens on 26 September 2026, as part of this year's Arts by the Sea Festival, and add your voice to Bournemouth's future.





ESTATE

Autumn and Winter Conservation Volunteering Starts

As September nears, we draw to a close a summer of habitat building, surveying and fantastic children's events. This summer has left us with a wholesome certainty that our local community feels more welcome in, and educated about our woods and heathland.

With bird nesting season ending, we re-centre our focus on managing our natural spaces through practical, hands on work such as felling invasive species. The main, key activities involve clearing laurel and holly in our woodland, as well as gorse on our heathland. There'll be plenty of other bits and bobs to keep us busy, like putting up bird boxes ready for next season, pulling saplings on Talbot Heath, and of course path clearance and litter picking to keep these spaces accessible for everyone!

Volunteer Coordinator Charlie Marchant will be working with volunteers on **Tuesdays and Fridays** over this period. Tuesdays will be focused on working with local schools such as Longspee Academy, getting stuck in with woodland management and learning how we manage these essential spaces through different seasons.

Fridays will be **open to the wider community - we will be working on Talbot Heath, 10am-3pm**, cutting gorse, managing paths, and removing undesirable species such as pine. Volunteers are welcome to come for as little or as long as they

like on these days. Whilst we do not provide lunch, we will have plenty of snacks and hot drinks to keep us going.

These sessions are a great way to learn new practical skills, enjoy some exercise in the fresh air, and meet new, like-minded people, all whilst maintaining the heathland habitat.

If you are interested, or have any questions, get in touch with Charlie on 07832 248465 or via email.

EMAIL CHARLIE

It’s been a long hot summer!





This summer's prolonged dry weather has left its mark across the Talbot Village Trust estate. Grassland areas have browned off earlier than usual, pond levels have dropped, and many trees and shrubs have shown signs of stress as they cope with the lack of rainfall. While these conditions can make the landscape appear tired, they also provide an opportunity to observe the remarkable resilience of our local wildlife.

Many of our native species have evolved to withstand periods of drought, and there have been encouraging signs across the estate. Butterfly numbers have remained strong in several areas, taking advantage of the warm, sunny conditions. We have also recorded good nightjar activity on the heath, a reminder of the importance of these special habitats for some of our most iconic and elusive wildlife.

As we move into autumn, our focus will turn towards a programme of significant heathland management works and the continued development of the Heathland

Support Area. These activities are designed to maintain and enhance this internationally important habitat, keeping it open and diverse for the benefit of species such as nightjar, reptiles, invertebrates and a wide range of heathland plants. While some of this work may appear dramatic at first glance, it plays a vital role in securing the long-term health of the heath.

We hope you continue to enjoy the estate as the seasons begin to change, and we look forward to sharing updates on these important conservation projects in the months ahead.

We have recently moved our email communications to Mailchimp. Our updated Privacy Notice is available on our website.

Thank you once again for all the amazing work you do. We look forward to keeping in touch and supporting your efforts wherever we can!





THANK YOU!

Facebook Instagram LinkedIn

Talbot Village Trust

Copyright (C) 2026 Talbot Village Trust. All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

Talbot Village Trust White Farm Talbot Village Bournemouth, Dorset BH10 4JA United Kingdom

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can update your preferences or unsubscribe