Holme Valley Parish Council

The Civic, Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth HD9 3AS

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Grant Evaluation

- **The Parish Council likes to hear how community groups have used the money awarded to them**
- **As the money awarded is public money, we also need to make sure that the money has been spent appropriately and as agreed**

Name of Organisation	Environment Kirklees Ltd (EPIKS)
Amount of award	£748.50
Purpose for which the grant was awarded (Maximum 20 words)	Produce materials to encourage more people to travel sustainably by using local buses to access walking routes around the valley.

The Story of Your Project

- ***Tell us what you did with the money awarded to you (Maximum 500 words)***
- ***Attach a few photos***

We were awarded half of the funding originally requested, which meant we were only able to deliver four of the planned seven walks originally scoped by local volunteers. We focused our resources on producing the highest quality materials possible for the four routes taken forward, ensuring the project delivered meaningful benefits for the Holme Valley community.

The funding was used across several areas of activity. First, our staff checked and walked each of the four routes to verify the information gathered by

volunteers, updating details on terrain, stiles, gradients, and any barriers to access.

Each route was photographed to capture the scenery, points of interest and key waymarkers, ensuring the finished materials were visually appealing and practically useful. We also mapped each route accurately, combining this with bus stop information and service details so that walkers could plan a full journey from home to route and back entirely by public transport. Furthermore, we recorded each route as a GPX file on AllTrails so that users could follow the route on the AllTrails app if they desired.

Once the route information was confirmed, our Communications Officer developed a series of tri-fold leaflets for each walk. These included the route map, photographs, accessibility information, details of the relevant bus services, distance and estimated walking time, and highlights of local points of interest along the way. We produced printed copies of each leaflet, which have been distributed through local partners including HVPC, Riverholme Connections, Holmfirth Library and Honley Library.

The reduction in funding meant we had to decide which routes to prioritise. We focused on ensuring a spread of locations across the valley and the three routes that could not be completed remain scoped and we hope to secure further funding in the future to bring these to the same standard.

Overall, the money awarded was spent directly on staff time for route checking, photography and mapping, and on the design and printing of the leaflets and posters. The project has resulted in four high-quality, free walking resources that are now available to all residents and visitors in the Holme Valley, supporting active travel, public transport use, health and wellbeing, and a greater appreciation of the valley's natural environment. We are grateful to HVPC for their support and believe this project has laid a strong foundation for encouraging more people to leave the car at home and explore the valley on foot and by bus.

The Story of Your Project contd.

What you achieved	
What were the benefits of your project? (Maximum 500 words)	This project has provided local people and visitors with free, accessible information about four walking routes in the Holme Valley, all reachable by bus. The walks, covering areas including New Mill, Honley, Hepworth and Holme Village, are available both as printed leaflets and online, giving people the confidence to explore the valley without needing a car. The project has directly supported healthier lifestyles by encouraging walking whilst also promoting use of the local bus network — helping to reduce car journeys and carbon emissions. By combining attractive mapping, photography, bus information and points of interest, the leaflets lower the barriers that often prevent people — particularly those without a car, older residents, and those new to walking — from getting out and exploring. The routes have been distributed through local partners including HVPC and Holmfirth and Honley libraries, reaching a wide audience and helping more Holme Valley residents connect with their local environment, community and public transport network.
Who benefited from the project? (Maximum 200 words)	The project has been designed to benefit as wide a range of people as possible. All residents of and visitors to the Holme Valley are able to benefit from the four free walking routes, regardless of age, ability or income. People without access to a car benefit particularly, as all routes are linked to local bus services, opening up green spaces across the valley that might otherwise feel out of reach. This includes older residents, young people, and those on lower incomes who rely on public transport. Families with children, recreational walkers and visitors to the Holme Valley all benefit from having clear, attractive and reliable route information available both in print and online. Local businesses and the wider community also benefit indirectly,

	as the routes encourage more people to visit different parts of the valley, supporting local tourism and footfall. Ultimately, anyone who uses the routes contributes to reduced car use and improved health and wellbeing, benefiting the Holme Valley community as a whole.
How many people benefited ? **(Maximum 200 words)**	We printed 150 copies of each of the four walking route leaflets, giving a total print run of 600 leaflets, distributed through local partners including HVPC, River Holme Connections, the Honley show, Holmfirth Library, Honley Library and community noticeboards across the Holme Valley. As leaflets are often shared within households or walking groups, the number of people benefiting from the printed materials is likely to be considerably higher than 600. Beyond the printed copies, the routes have reached a much wider audience through multiple digital channels. All four walks are freely available to download on our WalkWheelRide website, along with GPX files allowing people to follow the routes on their phones. The routes can also be followed on AllTrails, a widely used walking app, making them accessible to both local residents and visitors to the valley planning walks in advance. The routes have also been shared through our social media channels, extending awareness across the Holme Valley community and beyond. Whilst we do not currently have download or app usage figures, the combination of printed distribution, website availability, GPX downloads, AllTrails and social media means the project has the potential to benefit many hundreds — and over time potentially thousands — of people, with reach continuing to grow as the resources remain freely available.
Was the project inclusive? **How were marginalised groups (elderly, disabled, young people**	Inclusivity was central to the project from the outset. All four walking routes and their accompanying leaflets are available completely free of charge, both in print and online, removing any financial barrier to participation. The routes vary in length and difficulty, meaning there is something suitable for a range of ages and abilities — from

etc) able to participate?	families with children to older walkers who may prefer a shorter, flatter route. By linking all walks to local bus services, the project also benefits those without access to a car, including young people, older residents and those on lower incomes, who might otherwise be unable to reach green spaces across the valley. Printed leaflets were distributed through community venues including libraries, noticeboards and event such as the Honley show ensuring the project reached people who may not be online. This was particularly important for reaching older residents who are less likely to access information digitally.
Reflecting on climate change, did the project address any aspects of the climate emergency? How?	This project was designed to make sustainable travel a more accessible and attractive choice for people living in and visiting the Holme Valley. Transport accounts for around 30% of UK carbon emissions, making the shift away from car dependency one of the most impactful actions individuals and communities can take. By combining walking routes with detailed local bus information, the project gives people a practical and enjoyable alternative to driving. Each of the four routes is designed to be completed entirely without a car — from boarding the bus to completing the walk and returning home. This removes one of the key barriers to sustainable travel, which is simply not knowing how to make it work in practice. The free availability of the routes — through printed leaflets, our WalkWheelRide website, GPX downloads and AllTrails — means as many people as possible are nudged towards greener travel choices. Every car journey replaced by a bus ride and a walk represents a direct reduction in carbon emissions. Beyond the immediate impact, the project encourages people to spend time in and appreciate their local natural environment, which we believe helps foster a longer-term commitment to living and travelling more sustainably within the Holme Valley community.
Did you achieve	Our original proposal set out to produce walking route materials for seven routes across the Holme Valley, however as we were

what you were trying to do? (Maximum 200 words)	awarded half of the funding requested, we were only able to deliver four routes. We are proud of what was achieved within the reduced budget and believe the project has still made a meaningful contribution to active and sustainable travel in the valley. For the four routes delivered, we achieved everything we set out to do. Each route was thoroughly checked, photographed and mapped. Accessible routes were verified by our wheelchair-using Active Travel Hub Officer. Attractive tri-fold leaflets were designed and 150 copies of each printed and distributed through local partners. The routes are freely available online via our WalkWheelRide website with GPX downloads, on AllTrails, and have been promoted through our social media channels. The foundations are now firmly in place and the remaining routes remain scoped and ready to develop. We hope to secure further funding to complete the full set of walks originally envisioned, building on the strong base this project has established.

Finance and Expenditure

We ask groups to retain their receipts and invoices, and to keep a record of what they've spent for auditing purposes

Grant awarded	£748.50

Date	Description of expenditure (use another sheet if necessary)	Amount
	Staff Time (copy, leaflet designs) Partially funded under Holme valley Hub	**£ 432**
	Staff Time (review of routes, GPX files, photographs)	**£ 350**
	Staff time (collection of materials, manage project) Funding by Holme Valley Hub	**£ 378**
		£
		£
		£

		£
		£
		£
		£
	Total expenditure	**£ 1,160**
	Amount of grant remaining (if any)	**£ 0**

Any amount of the award unspent may have to be returned to the Parish Council

Person completing this form		**Date**	**17/06/26**
Position in organisation	**Active Travel Manager**		

Send the completed application form, together with all supporting documentation, preferably in PDF format to: deputyclerk@holmevalleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Alternatively, you can send the paperwork to: Holme Valley Parish Council, The Civic, Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth, HD9 3AS.

Have you considered inviting a Member of the Parish Council to come and see your project and how your grant money has been spent? Why not give the Parish Council a ring and arrange a visit 01484 687460?