



The Bythams Woodland Trust has bagged a share of a £11.5 million carrier bag charge fund

We are delighted to announce we have bagged £8,000 from the Tesco Bags of Help initiative.

The supermarket teamed up with Groundwork to launch its Bags of Help initiative, which saw grants of £12,000, £10,000 and £8,000 – all raised from the 5p bag levy – being awarded to environmental and greenspace projects.

Eight million shoppers voted in stores up and down the country. And it can now be revealed that The Bythams Woodland Trust has been awarded £8,000.

The results have been announced and we will now begin work on bringing our project to life.

Since it opened in 2003 as a special place for children and adults to come and play, have fun, run wild in the woods, build dens, make campfires, walk the dogs or just chill out, The Spinney has been visited by thousands of people who just love getting back to nature.

We will be using the Bags of Help funding to make some much needed improvements to the driveway and car park and to renew some items of play equipment.

Dr Patrick Candler, Chairman of The Bythams Woodland Trust said: “Bags of Help will provide some much needed funding to help us do some important new works on the site. We now have so many visitors each week, which we need to make sure that The Spinney is kept in good condition. We are so pleased with the support we have had from TESCO shoppers- thanks to everyone who voted for us”.

Caroline Silke, Head of Community at Tesco, said: “Bags of Help has been a fantastic success.

“We have been overwhelmed by the response of our customers and the feedback has been brilliant.

“We can’t wait to see the money being put to use bringing these projects to life.

“Nominations for the next round of the initiative will open in April and we look forward to helping a further round of groups and projects bag their share of the bag charge fund.”

Voting ran in store from 27 February until 6 March – with customers choosing which group they’d like to get the top award using a token given to them at the check-out in store.

Tesco estimated that around eight million votes were cast in stores across the UK.

Groundwork’s national chief executive, Graham Duxbury, said: “We have been delighted to have been involved in the Bags of Help project.

“It has been wonderful to follow the projects through the application process to the final announcement.”

“This is money which will go directly back into the communities up and down the country creating places to meet people, be active, play or simply relax. This initiative is really putting something back into the local environment, transforming greenspaces and helping the community at a grass-roots level.”

Nominations and applications for the next round of Bags of Help funding will open on April 18. As well as applying direct, suggestions for projects can also be nominated by people living locally.

For further information please contact:

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

- 1170 organisations in from each of Tesco’s 390 regions up and down the UK received a share of the Bags of Help fund.
- The initiative is supported by money from the five pence charge levied on single-use carrier bags.
- Over 4,500 groups up and down the country applied for grants from the scheme. These were whittled down to three in each of Tesco’s regions.
- For more information please visit: <http://www.tesco.com/carrier-bags/>