

# Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme

## High Weald AONB Partnership Grant Awards: 1 September 2021 to 31 March 2022



Business name	Location	Items and activities supported	Agreement Start Date	Agreement End Date	Grant award
Ashburnham Place	Ashburnham, East Sussex	The purchase of cut and collect equipment to improve the management of 11.79ha of grassland and woodland rides within a registered park and garden. Expert environmental monitoring to build estate staff's understanding of how to care for the site and assess management success.	28/10/2021	31/03/2022	£13,321
Ashdown Forest Conservators	Ashdown Forest, East Sussex	Drone survey of Ashdown Forest to determine wild deer distribution, numbers and age. The resulting images and data will inform deer management operations and help with communication about the threats from rising deer numbers to wildlife, crops and people.	19/10/2021	31/07/2023	£4,800
Beech Estate	Battle, East Sussex	Reinstatement of lost historic hedges (827m), creation of 3 acres of wood pasture and 8 acres of nectar strips, improved management of wildflower grassland and maintenance of a 1km permissive path.	26/11/2021	31/08/2022	£39,134
Bellhurst Farm	Etchingham, East Sussex	Stock fencing (214m) and gates (3) to rejuvenate an ancient hedge and recreate medieval field pattern. Survey to inform restoration of traditional c19 cattle sheds.	22/11/2021	28/02/2022	£3,819
Brickpits Organic Farm	Uckfield, East Sussex	Coppicing and laying of hedges (125m) to increase the diversity of hedgerow structure across the farm, maintain traditional hedge management skills and improve the landscape experience of Sussex Border Path users.	06/05/2022	31/03/2023	£2,473
Burgham Farm	Etchingham, East Sussex	Installation of a permanent electric fence (1450m) and water pipes (2020m) to enable mob grazing and the development of trees as an integral part of the farming system.	23/02/2022	31/03/2024	£12,458

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Fontmills Farm	Hellingly, East Sussex	Enhancement of 3ha of semi-improved grassland with Weald Native Origin Wildflower Seed to create a donor site for further grassland enhancement; connect high value grassland within a 'B-line'; and improve the landscape experience for public footpath and campsite users.	28/02/2023	31/06/2022	£10,565
Fresh Meadows Farms	Dallington, East Sussex	Attendance of a 12-day Holistic Management course (accredited by the Savory Institute) to enable regenerative farm practices across a 69ha holding.	21/12/2021	31/01/2023	£1,950
Green Oak Farm	Robertsbridge, East Sussex	Habitat improvements through laying 100m hedge and creation of 200m organic poultry operation; delivery of 3 free workshops on smallholding setup and best practice. Dead hedge (200m) for habitat and to reduce deer entry.	08/07/2022	31/10/2023	£4,788
Hancox Estate	Whatlington, East Sussex	Development of a more nature friendly, climate resilient and profitable farm system on a 50ha holding through installation of a mobile planned grazing system with 600m of electric fencing and 9 drinking troughs.	21/04/2022	28/02/2023	£14,010
Hastings Borough Council	Hastings, East Sussex	Restoration of threatened clifftop grassland and heathland habitat through erection of 942m of perimeter fencing with associated pedestrian and vehicular gates to allow conservation grazing of a 59.79ha area within the Country Park.	20/01/2022	31/03/2022	£13,031
Hodore Farm	Hartfield, East Sussex	Hedge restoration through planting (340m) to connect existing woodlands and habitat survey/soil tests to inform a new farm management plan.	13/04/2022	31/03/2023	£9,333
Pasture-Fed Livestock Association	Locations across the AONB	A mentoring initiative to help livestock farmers transition to high nature value farming methods through peer-to-peer sharing of knowledge and expertise in high nature value farming methods. The project will support 4 mentors, 24 mentees and a further 72 farmers and will involve individuals and group farm visits, advisory sessions and the production of practical educational materials.	08/07/2022	31/03/2023	£94,167
Perch Hill Farm	Robertsbridge, East Sussex	Baseline surveys to understand the carbon footprint, soil conditions and wildlife of a 36ha pastoral farm with practical recommendations and guidelines for improvement.	26/04/2022	31/12/2022	£4,424

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Quoins Farm	Dallington, East Sussex	Fencing to (679m) to protect ancient hedges and woods from livestock grazing and electric fencing to enable mobile planned grazing of 9ha.	06/05/2022	31/03/2022	£6,104
RSPB	Crowhurst, East Sussex	Improved management of 5360m of ancient woodland rides and a 3.9ha of wildflower meadow through purchase of a cut and collect mower. Facilitation of a hedge planting project to enhance community greenspace.	27/05/2022	31/12/2023	£14,331
Sheffield Park Ltd	Scaynes Hill, West Sussex	Production of a management plan for a 15ha estate to guide restoration of a Grade 1 historic parkland whilst maximising the estate's environmental credentials.	28/02/2022	31/12/2022	£2,633
Strawberry Hill Farm	Robertsbridge, East Sussex	Planting of 345m of new double row hedge to improve habitat extent with restoration of 333m of hedges to improve habitat quality. Pasture improvements through 1,356m of new fencing and 5 gates to allow implementation of planned rotational grazing system.	04/03/2022	31/07/2022	£18,843
Tablehurst Farm	Forest Row, East Sussex	Employment of a part-time facilitator to build community engagement in a biodynamic farm through an events and volunteering programme. The facilitator will also produce signage and interpretation material to improve the visitor welcome, orientation around, and understanding of the farm.	04/03/2022	31/03/2022	£20,000
The Neville Estate	Eridge, East Sussex	Introduction of a grazing management regime to 102ha area of designated wood pasture and parkland using highland cattle, virtual fencing technology and solar water pumps.	22/04/2022	31/03/2023	£8,937
Trottenden Farm	Goudhurst, Kent	Restoration of historic hedge (357m), purchase of a small log wood processor to enable management of woodland (8ha) and purchase of a solar water pump (to reduce the impact of cattle drinking on the River Teise).	14/03/2022	31/03/2023	£8,277
Vexour Farm	Chiddingstone, Kent	Production of a costed business plan to enable regenerative farming and environmental management.	20/05/2022	31/03/2024	£2,100

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Vexour Farm	Chiddingstone, Kent	Development of a more nature-friendly, climate resilient and profitable farm system on a 24ha holding through installation of a mobile planned grazing system and creation of 1ha of floodplain woodland.	22/04/2022	31/12/2022	£13,652

**23 projects with a total grant award of £323,150**