Bees United

Community Fund

Application Pack 2026

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the Bees United Community Fund 2026.

This pack gives you information about Bees United (BU), what our Community Fund sets out to deliver, and how you can apply for funding for your project, group or event.

Who we are

At a time when football supporters often feel clubs are out of touch with their fans and some communities have seen their clubs disappear, Bees United has fought for a unique role in ensuring that Brentford remains a club which we, the fans, can call our own.

BU is unique as the only fan group in the Premier League with a seat on the main board of its club. We also have a Protective Rights Deed meaning Bees United retain a veto over the sale of the Gtech Community Stadium unless certain criteria are in place as regards a replacement stadium and also sets out our right to have an independent director on the board of the club. We are also represented on the Brentford FC Fan Advisory Board which we Co-Chair.

BU earned these rights by saving the club from financial disaster back in 2006 and then beginning the partnership with Matthew Benham which led to him becoming Brentford's owner.

We are proud of our club and its progress to the Premier League, and we are confident about Brentford FC's future under the ownership model we helped create.

Our Vision is :

To promote and protect the history and heritage of the Club.

Our Mission is that :

Bees United exists to safeguard Brentford Football Club (BFC) so that it has a stable and sustainable future as a professional football club. Our role is to represent our members, the supporters of BFC and the local community to ensure that BFC remains a club we can all call our own.

We want fans to know and understand where we have come from as a club We want to cherish the history and heritage of a club which has formed part of its local community since 1889, and how that heritage has contributed to the culture and values that the Club has today.

BU is committed to strengthening the bonds between the Club and the community which it serves. Furthermore, Bees United represents the interests of this community in the running of the Club.

The Bees United Community Fund has been established to support our work in celebrating the history and heritage of the club and the local community.

We look forward to receiving your application!

Purpose of the Bees United Community Fund
The Bees United Community Fund has been set up to distribute at least 5% of BU income from donations annually to projects, groups or events in support of Bees United's core aims.

We expect the BU Community Fund to distribute at least £1000 in 2026 and are seeking applications to support projects, groups or events that :

- Promote and protect the history and heritage of the club; and/or
- Support Bees United in representing the interests of our members, the wider supporter group of BFC and the local community.

Funding Criteria
To be eligible for funding your project, group or event must demonstrate that it will :

- Contribute to at least one of the core purposes of the Fund (History & heritage and/or Bees United fan and community engagement);
- Support projects and events within the London Boroughs of Hounslow, Richmond and Ealing;
- Have an established timescale for when the funding will be spent;
- Be clear about who will be involved and the activities the funding will support. Please note, Bees United members should not profit from the activities;
- Have robust audit arrangements to ensure the funding is spent as agreed; and
- Set clear outcomes that will be reported back to BU.

Application Process
To apply for funding please complete the attached Application Form and return it to Sharon Wright, Deputy Chair of Bees United at : sharon.wright@beesunited.org.uk If you have any questions about the application process you can also drop Sharon an email and she will be happy to respond.

Your application should include :

- details of the group/project/event to be funded;
- how much funding is being requested and the proposed activities it will deliver; and
- key outcomes including how the funding contributes to Bees United core objectives.

The deadline for applications is **31 March 2026**. There will be a further call for applications later in 2026 if all funds are not allocated in the first round.

Applications will be reviewed by at least two Bees United Board Members who will make recommendations to :

- approve the application in full; or
- approve the application in part by offering a smaller amount than is being requested; or
- seek further information about the application; or
- reject the application.

Where funding is approved the timescales, auditing arrangements and format for deliverables will be agreed with the successful applicant.

If your application is successful, we will ask you to agree to BU publicising your involvement in the Community Fund through our social media channels, website and monthly newsletter as appropriate

Bees United will carry out an annual review of the Community Fund initiative and will use information about successfully funded projects as part of that process.

Bees United Community Fund 2026

Application Form

Name of key contact :

Email address :

Telephone number :

Name of organisation (if applicable) :

Amount of funding requested :

Will the funding :

Cover all costs involved in the project/event?	Yes/ No
Are there other sources of funding for this event/project?	Yes/ No (If yes, please provide details below)

Details of project/event to be funded. Please provide as much information as possible including timescales, what the BU Community Fund will be used for, and the key outcomes :

How will the project/event support the BU Vision and Mission :

- *To Promote and protect the history and heritage of Brentford Football Club; and/or*
- *To represent our members, the supporters of Brentford Football Club and the local community*

Please return your completed application form by **31 March 2026** to :
sharon.wright@beesunited.org.uk