

Sounds like a good plan!

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The benches will improve the outdoor areas of both the primary and secondary schools at The Gordon Schools, with up to £6330 being devoted solely to the project.

Mr Gaiter says the benches will be an important addition to the school facilities.

He said: "There is very limited social space in our school, so we're keen to expand the range of places where young people can socialise.

"We would certainly envisage teachers using the benches for outdoor lessons during the better weather and these sit nicely with our new gazebo and garden areas.

"We would like to thank the committee very much for their grant as it will make a positive difference to the life of the school and shows our young people that their learning and health and wellbeing are being valued!"

Plans by Deveron Projects to open the garden at the Square Deal building to the public also received funding.

The £2000 awarded for the project will go towards creating a "welcoming open garden space for use by the community".

Featured in the garden will be a handmade picnic table and benches, and accessible planters to encourage growing local veg and herbs.

The project follows Deveron Projects' previous, successful public garden at the organisation's former headquarters across the street in the Brander Building.

Digital community information screens will also be installed in the centre of town, by the Huntly Development Trust, which will receive £3613 to go towards this project.

These will be installed in street-facing windows, showing upcoming community events, visitor information and local business promotions organised by the Huntly Business Association.

Stewart Hall in the town will also benefit from the grants, with Huntly Community Council receiving £5547.60 to fund the delivery, as well as installation, of portable video conferencing equipment.