

Chelveston Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund

Trustees' Annual Report 2016-17

This report meets the requirements of *Section 11 Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2005*, and provides information on how the Charity aims to meet the public benefit test in line with *Section 4 Charities Act 2006*.

Background

The Chelveston Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund (aka "The Wind Farm Trust") was created on 31st March 2014 and is a community benefit delivery vehicle for the four parishes (Chelveston-cum-Caldecott, Dean and Shelton, Hargrave, and Melchbourne and Yelden) adjacent to the Chelveston Renewable Energy (CRE) Wind Farm. It is funded annually by CRE under two legally binding S106 agreements (one for each Local Planning Authority) and its purpose is to distribute grants to organisations within the four parishes that meet the Trust's criteria.

The four parishes each provide two Trustees who, once the Founding Trustees have completed their shorter terms, will all serve a 4 year term, with half the Trustees standing down every two years.

Activities undertaken in 2016-17.

A total of 10 grant applications were received, of which 9 were granted in full and one was withdrawn. Additionally there was a successful application to create a restricted reserve for a future application. One application, granted in the previous year, did not proceed and the funds (£2,500) were returned in full to the Trust.

The Trustees are required to consider the submitted applications against the charitable objectives of the trust, being

- *The conservation, protection and improvement of the built and natural environment within the four parishes.*
- *The provision of facilities for recreation, entertainment, arts, sporting activities, or other leisure time for the residents of the four parishes or the public at large.*
- *The advancement of the education of the residents of the four parishes or the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the built and natural environment and heritage awareness of same.*
- *The advancement of the education of the residents of the four parishes or the public about all aspects of renewable energy generation and sustainability.*
- *The promotion of sustainable development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs by preservation, conservation and protection of the environment and the prudent use of resources.*
- *The promotion of rural regeneration in the areas served by the four Parish Councils by the maintenance, improvement or provision of public amenities and/or the preservation of buildings or sites of historical or architectural importance.*

The two most common objectives used were –

- *The provision of facilities for recreation, entertainment, arts, sporting activities, or other leisure time for the residents of the four parishes or the public at large, and*
- *The promotion of rural regeneration in the areas served by the four Parish Councils by the maintenance, improvement or provision of public amenities and/or the preservation of buildings or sites of historical or architectural importance.*

The Trustees also had to ensure that each parish received a nominal 25% share of the funds distributed, but this is over a five year period, not in every year.

Applications received ranged from the creation, repairs and improvements of or to community facilities (including village halls, churches and allotments), to providing defibrillators and storage cabinets.

However, the Trustees were also mindful that any grant applications needed to be sound in respect of the benefits that would be gained through the award of the Trust's funds. To this end a number of awards were made subject to conditions (e.g. the gaining of planning permission) and others required additional information to support the original applications.

The amount awarded in year was £18,289.08 and was split amongst the four parishes as follows –

Parish:	Grants awarded:	Share of grants in year	Share of grants all years
Chelveston-cum-Caldecott	£7,964.81	28.05%	18.19%
Dean & Shelton	£4,428.00	15.59%	26.25%
Hargrave	£999.00	3.52%	5.36%
Melchbourne & Yelden	£4,897.27	17.24%	18.02%

In addition to the grants awarded above, a £6,100 restricted reserve was created for Hargrave parish, to provide funds for a future land purchase.

Whilst the allocations of all but one parish are less than the 25% share (in year), the Trustees are mindful that grants can only be made in accordance with the Trust's criteria and that any unspent allocations are carried over to the next year. This accounts for the percentages above not totalling 100%.

Whilst the allocation to one parish was less than the 25% share (all years), the Trustees note the creation of a reserve for a future community land purchase will eventually redress this.

Accounts for 2016-17.

Summary :

Income	Expenditure
£37,719.08 C/F	£7,500.00 Prior year
£28,163.87 Capital	£18,289.28 Grants
£9.46 Interest	£96.68 Admin
£2,500.00 Misc	£41.00 Governance
	<u>£25,926.96</u>
	Excess Receipts over
	£42,465.45 Payments
<u>£68,392.41</u>	<u>£68,392.41</u>

Income:

The Expendable Capital (i.e. capital receipts that can be spent) consisted of the S106 payment from Oct 16, which enjoyed an RPI uplift in accordance with the S106 agreements.

The only earned income was the £9.46 bank interest, which reflects the low rates currently available. A previous year's grant of £2,500 was returned to the Trust.

Expenditure:

The bulk of the expenditure was the grants, as would be expected. The largest administration item was for bank charges at £54.00. Governance is the room hire charges for the Trustee meetings (where charged) and the auditor's fee.

Excess Income:

Excess Receipts represented by	
£14,000.00	Carry over to H1 next FY
£15,000.00	Chelveston restricted reserve
£6,100.00	Hargrave restricted reserve
£4,010.72	Unused grants
£2,500.00	Refunded grant
£463.87	Additional Capital (uplift)
£311.54	Uncommitted
£79.32	Unused Admin & Governance
£42,465.45	

The excess income includes an annual carry over amount, currently set at £14,000, to fund the Trust for the first 6 months of the next FY, until the next Expendable Grant payment is received in October, and two restricted reserves totalling £21,100.00.

The Admin & Governance underspend was partly due to the bank charges only being introduced part way through the year and partly due to a number of the meeting venues being provided free to the Trust.

Any excess income is carried over to the next year to form the budget.

Audit:

The accounts were audited by Kathy Ayre Book Keeping of Wymington, Beds, who is independent of the Trust.

The audited accounts and the Trustees Annual Report (this document) were adopted by the Trustees at the Annual Meeting held on 19th June 2017.

Mark Hunter
Clerk to the Trustees
19th June 2017