

Chelveston Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Trust

Trustees' Annual Report 2018-19

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 Trust (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 all serve a 4 year term, with half the Trustees standing down every two years.

Activities undertaken in 2018-19.

A long-term aim of the Founding Trustees was achieved when the Trust was finally registered by the Charity Commission. In the process, the Trust Deed was updated to change the charitable objectives and amend the powers of the four Parish Councils with respect to dissolution. All the changes were agreed by the current Trustees, the four Parish Councils and CRE.

One Trustee resigned during the year, and her replacement will serve the remainder of her term to 2021. A total of 11 enquires were received, resulting in 8 grant applications, of which all were granted in full.

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

The object of the charity is the promotion of any charitable purposes for the benefit of the community in the civil parishes of Chelveston-cum-Caldecott in the county of Northamptonshire, Dean and Shelton in unitary district of Bedford Borough, Hargrave in the county of Northamptonshire, and Melchbourne and Yelden in the unitary district of Bedford Borough as the Trustees see fit

The most commonly used charitable purposes used were –

The provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom they are intended, and public works and services and the provision of public amenities.

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 repairs and improvements of or to community facilities (including village halls and churches), to providing vehicle activated signs to help address speeding issues in rural parishes.

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 and others required additional information to support the original applications.

The amount awarded in year was £33,946.53. In addition, £5,671 was added to the restricted reserve for Hargrave parish, to provide funds for a future land purchase.

The funds were split amongst the four parishes as follows –

Parish:	Grants awarded in year:	Share of grants in year	Share of grants all years
Chelveston-cum-Caldecott	£6,898.00	19.16%	29.21%
Dean & Shelton	£8,493.53	23.59%	26.94%
Hargrave	£3,163.00	8.79%	9.54%
Melchbourne & Yelden	£15,392.00	42.76%	32.64%

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 further contribution to the reserve for a future community land purchase will eventually redress this.

Accounts for 2018-19.

Summary:

Income	Expenditure
£59,459.22 B/F	£33,697.53 Grants
£30,272.97 Capital	£112.00 Admin
£46.70 Interest	£25.00 Governance
	<u>£33,834.53</u>
	Excess Receipts over
	<u>£55,944.36</u> Payments
	£89,778.89
£89,778.89	

Income:

The Expendable Capital (i.e. capital receipts that can be spent) consisted of the S106 payment from Oct 17, which enjoyed an RPI uplift in accordance with the S106 agreements.

The only earned income was the £46.70 bank interest, which reflects the slightly improving, but still low rates currently available.

Expenditure:

The bulk of the expenditure was the grants, as would be expected. The largest administration item was for bank charges at £72.00. Governance is the room hire charges for the Trustee meetings (where charged) and the auditor's fee.

Excess Receipts represented by	
£14,000.00	Carry over to H1 next FY
£15,000.00	Chelveston restricted reserve
£17,418.00	Hargrave restricted reserve
£9,525.49	Environmental project restricted reserve
£0.87	Unused

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 three restricted reserves totalling £41,943.49.

The unused represents the grant funds available but not taken up.

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 14th May 2019.

Mark Hunter
Clerk to the Trustees
14th May 2019