

Chelveston Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Trust

Trustees' Annual Report 2019-20

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 2019-20.

Four Trustees completed their term in 2019 and one Trustee was replaced by her parish, the other three being re-appointed or re-elected in accordance with their respective parish processes. All four will serve till 2023.

A total of 13 enquires were received, resulting in 12 grant applications, of which 7 were granted in full, two were part-granted, two were declined and one was carried over to the next year, due to Covid-19 impacting the ability of the Trustees to meet.

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 flood defences and framing a centenary banner.

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 £32,328.40. Since this exceeded the original budget, £1,699.89 was transferred from the reserves to cover the in-year grants. The largest single grant (both in-year and to-date) was £10,000.00, as part funding of the organ replacement in All Hallows church, Hargrave. This allowed the new organ to be installed just in time for their Christmas services.

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	£800.00	2.47%	23.85%
Dean & Shelton	£249.00	0.77%	21.83%
Hargrave	£10,339.00	32.17%	14.45%
Melchbourne & Yelden	£20,880.40	64.59%	39.87%

Two parishes received significantly more funding in year than the others, though the all years percentage shows the two that did not are closer to the 25% target. The Trustees are mindful that grants can only be made in accordance with the Trust's criteria and that the percentages are influenced by the applications being made to Trust.

Whilst the allocation to one parish was less than the 25% share (all years), the Trustees note the gap has reduced due to this year's successful grants.

Accounts for 2019-20.

Summary:

Income	Expenditure
£55,944.36 B/F	£32,328.40 Grants
£31,071.86 Capital	£470.93 Admin
£56.62 Interest	£30.00 Governance
	<u>£32,829.33</u>
	Excess Receipts over
	<u>£54,243.51</u> Payments
£87,072.84	£87,072.84

Income:

The Expendable Capital (i.e. capital receipts that can be spent) consisted of the S106 payment from Oct 19, which enjoyed an RPI uplift in accordance with the S106 agreements.

The only earned income was the £56.62 bank interest, which reflects the low rates currently available.

Expenditure:

The bulk of the expenditure was the grants, as would be expected. The largest administration item was for a laptop and (charity discounted) software for the Trust at £358.93. 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
-£1,699.98	Transfer from Reserves to fund additional grants

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.

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, which was held later than normal due to Covid-19, on 21st September 2020.

Mark Hunter
Clerk to the Trustees
21st September 2020