

MEIKLE CAREWE WIND FARM COMMUNITY FUND



Community Fund Guidelines

RES has established a community fund which will see more than £20,500 available to support local community projects every year during the lifetime of the Meikle Carewe Wind Farm. The fund is administered by Kincardineshire Development Partnership (KDP) and managed by a Decision-Making Panel made up of members of the local community councils.

These Guidelines have been produced to assist those applying to the fund and for the Decision-Making Panel when considering applications.

AREA OF BENEFIT

The community fund is open to applications from groups and projects which benefit the communities living in the following community council areas:

- Crathes, Drumoak and Durris
- Newtonhill, Muchalls & Cammachmore
- North Kincardine Rural
- Portlethen and District
- Stonehaven and District

WHO CAN APPLY?

To apply for a grant community groups or organisations must be properly constituted. You do not need to be a registered charity to apply for a grant but you must be able to demonstrate community benefit. The fund welcomes applications from organisations that make a difference across a range of areas:

Community Buildings - projects which maintain and develop buildings being used and run by the community, especially projects which help ensure their sustainability for the future.

Community transport initiatives.

Conservation, wildlife and animal sanctuary projects - in particular those which improve communal land.

Education and skills development.

The elderly - projects focused on improving access to activities and services.

Energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.

Health and sport - projects that help provide access to services that aim to improve the health and well-being of the local community.

Heritage - projects that celebrate protect and promote local culture, history and heritage.

Regeneration - community projects that help to reduce crime levels, increase employment, housing or the physical environment.

Self-help groups - community groups that deliver basic services.

Vulnerable people - projects which enable increased access to services and facilities for people with disabilities, the homeless and those disadvantaged.

Young people - projects which focus on improving access to services where young people can play a key role in decision making.

WHAT WILL NOT BE FUNDED?

- Projects outside the defined area of benefit.
- Fundraising for national or regional charities unless the funds are going directly to a group operating in the area of benefit.
- Projects that are funded by local authority or other statutory bodies or that are deemed to be the statutory obligation of the Government, local authority or agencies thereof.
- Sponsorship.
- Improvements to land that is not open to the general public.
- Projects or activities promoting political or religious objectives/buildings.
- Deficit or retrospective funding (i.e. activities that have already taken place).
- Projects or activities which conflict with the interests of renewable energy in general, the Meikle Carewe Wind Farm, RES or any of its affiliates.
- Projects or activities which support an individual or individuals who are not acting on behalf of a group or organisation with the capacity to benefit the wider community.
- Projects and activities likely to cause community disharmony.
- Applications for projects made by individuals or agencies where commission or other payment is made to that individual or agency.
- Applications for projects made by individuals or agencies for re-distribution to other separate individuals or agencies.
- Salaries.
- Professional Fees.

WHAT LEVEL OF FUNDING IS AVAILABLE?

Each year the fund will make available £20,500 which is index linked. Whilst there is no limit on the level of funding that can be applied for, there is no guarantee that the full amount requested will be granted. No match funding is required for applications, although it may help your application if you are able to demonstrate that additional funding has been secured.

WHAT INFORMATION DO YOU NEED TO PROVIDE?

The aim of the fund is to ensure that there is a real benefit to the local community. In order to make a decision on your application you need to give us as much information as possible and you must demonstrate the following:

Need: Let us know about the clear need for the project and what support you have from the local community. If you have undertaken any research or consultation with those who will directly benefit - tell us about it!

Use: In order to assess the full benefit of your application, you need to tell us about the community use of your project.

Involvement: The most successful projects are usually those with an excited community willing and ready to be involved with the project.

Cost: You need to think about the cost of your project and make sure you have budgeted carefully. Do your homework, include realistic costs and provide a couple of quotes to back this up. You are advised to obtain 3 quotes if any element of your application costs over £5,000.00.

Legacy: We need to know if your project has a legacy or if it requires ongoing maintenance. If that is the case tell us about how you plan to sustain this.

THE DECISION-MAKING PANEL

One representative from each of the following organisations is eligible to sit on the Decision-Making Panel.

- RES
- KDP
- Crathes, Drumoak and Durriss Community Council
- Newtonhill, Muchalls & Cammachmore Community Council
- North Kincardine Rural Community Council
- Portlethen and District Community Council
- Stonehaven and District Community Council

Each organisation will be asked to elect a representative annually, and also a substitute who could attend if required. The chairperson for the panel will rotate annually in alphabetical order from the participating Community Councils. It is anticipated that there will be a requirement to meet only once a year.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Kincardineshire Development Partnership will invite applications once a year. Copies of the application form will be made available either in hard copy or online as requested. A suitable deadline will be given approximately three months after the fund is open. Within two months of the closing date, a meeting of the Decision-Making Panel will be held to consider applications and make decisions. All applicants will then be notified of the decision and, if successful, payment made to them. Successful applicants must report back to KDP within twelve months or whenever the project is complete, whichever is the soonest. An annual report on applications will be sent to RES and the members of the Decision-Making Panel.

The decision of the panel on applications will be final and no negotiations or appeals will be entered into with an applicant.

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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