



Knabs Ridge Wind Farm Community Fund Annual Report Spring 2021

Overview

Detailing the grants made from the Knabs Ridge Wind Farm Fund, this report covers the period 1st April 2020 to 1st April 2021. The Fund was set up by RWE Renewables UK Ltd and is administered by Two Ridings Community Foundation to provide grants that enhance life for residents in the communities around the wind farm.

Grants are available of up to £2500 for a wide variety of purposes supporting charitable activities that:-

- Enhance quality of life for local residents
- Contribute to vibrant, healthy, successful and sustainable communities
- Promote community spirit and encourage community activity

Micro grants of up to £500 are available throughout the year (subject to available funding). Larger grants of up to £2500 are made following decisions by a panel made up of local residents.

This year's approach

Of course, this year has been an unusual one for so many. The Fund was originally opened for applications before the first lock down was announced. With that in mind, the panel undertook their first meeting as usual, and then decided to reopen the Fund for a round which included encouraging applications from groups affected by or responding to the pandemic. Overall, twelve micro grants (grants of £500 or under) were awarded, totalling £5120. Larger grants totalled £20,456; ten in all. In total, eighteen groups were funded with a total of £25,576. Some groups received more than one award.

In a normal year we would be pleased to include photographs of the community activities, venues, and events supported by the Fund. However, due to the pandemic, very few grantees have had the opportunity to get together safely and take photographs as usual. We

hope that the next report reflects better circumstances and more opportunities for groups to get together.

Pandemic Related Activities

Support during Covid was visibly a key theme this year. Washburn Heritage Centre was awarded £500 for Coronavirus risk mitigation materials such as PPE and sneeze screens (*pictured*) to allow locals and volunteers to continue to safely enjoy the local meeting-spot. The Heritage Centre is a shining example of a community run space with social inclusion at its heart. Christ Church Community Centre was awarded £2500 towards a ventilation system which would make indoor use of the venue safer, in line with government guidelines where windows cannot be opened. The new ventilation system would also improve the heating for the centre, regardless of the pandemic status. Many people have commented on how good the system is.



Other Covid-related spending included an afternoon tea for vulnerable village members in Hampsthwaite, where they could enjoy a community activity in their own home (£420). Dancing for Wellbeing was awarded £1,804, as they continued to offer music and movement session to elderly and vulnerable people. Due to Covid safety and reducing the number of members in one place at any given time, their session costs had risen while income had stayed level. Their member's safety was paramount, and they were always very sensitive to pandemic safety, whilst balancing needs due to isolation and loneliness. Early in the first lockdown of the pandemic, Darley Church Committee for Darley Community Support Group applied for funding to keep supporting the village. Like so many other organisations in lockdown, they faced growing costs while their income was reduced. They kept their village connected through newsletters and by supporting shielding residents with shopping, errands and dog walking, and were awarded £1,444.

Paused Projects

Sadly, some activities that were organised for early 2020 had to be cancelled or postponed. Projects that had already applied for a micro grant were, for example, day trips for elderly residents and VE celebrations. However, as Two Ridings was very mindful of the difficulties of fund raising and the extra challenges facing rural communities during the pandemic, grant holders kept their grants. They either repurposed them or will run trips when it is safe and expedient to do so.

Normal Service is (Mostly) Resumed

Encouragingly, many activities were able to go ahead, and the usual community-centred applications reflect that. Birstwith benefitted from some outdoor improvements, as the Play Area Group repaired their footpath to ensure access (£500), and Birstwith in Bloom improved the blank canvas of a grass field with raised beds (£2,000). While these are the kinds of project that we would expect to see apply to the Knabs Ridge Community Fund, activities outside were particularly important in the summer of the pandemic.

Improvements to community venues and facilities was something of a theme this year. Both Kettlesing Millennium Village Hall and Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall requested funds to improve heating and/or lighting. Forward looking projects, they improved vital community spaces in the rurally isolated area, made income more likely through rents, and made both their utility bills and carbon footprints lower. This makes these organisations more sustainable, in several senses of the word. Darley Playing Field Association made a small but vital change to their facilities with £1,288 by adding a non-slip surface to their decking. Residents who have extra mobility needs can now use the village community shop and facilities in all weathers, without needing to check if it has rained.

Residents' needs were also attended to by further groups. Nidderdale Plus used funds to help set up a community hub for residents, and Darley Methodist Church created a much-needed financial support group.

Some unusual items

Lastly, community spirit was reflected in applications for museum materials (£500) to spread the history of Nidderdale, an E flat bass for Summerbridge and Dacre Silver band, and £235 for a simple blue tooth connection to enhance road safety measures. And among the more unusual things ever funded by the scheme was a reconditioned organ blower! Bought to replace an older version beyond economic repair in St Andrew's, Blubberhouses, it was a small grant, but of benefit to those who use the church for the many public music events.

Accounting Period: 20 February 2020 to 01 April 2021

Statement

	Date	Credit	Debit
Opening Balance	20/02/2020		£26,296.83
Payment to Hampsthwaite Village Society	13/03/2020		£250.00
Payment to Hampsthwaite Gardening Club	13/03/2020		£390.00
Payment to Hampsthwaite Wednesday Group	13/03/2020		£325.00
Payment to Fewston & Blubberhouses PCC	13/03/2020		£500.00
Payment to Darley Church Committee for Darley Community Support Group	31/03/2020		£1,444.00
Payment to Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall	01/04/2020		£500.00
Payment to Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall	07/05/2020		£420.00
Payment to Darley Playing Field Association (DPFA)	07/07/2020		£1,288.00
Payment to Summerbridge and Dacre Silver Band	07/07/2020		£2,500.00
Payment to Nidderdale Museum Society	07/07/2020		£500.00
Payment to Birstwith Play Area Group	07/07/2020		£500.00
Payment to Birstwith in Bloom	07/07/2020		£2,000.00
Payment to Nidderdale Plus Partnership	07/07/2020		£2,500.00
Payment to Dancing for Well Being	07/07/2020		£1,804.00
Payment to Fewston & Blubberhouses PCC	29/10/2020		£500.00
Payment to Darley Methodist Church	29/10/2020		£2,236.00
Payment to Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall	29/10/2020		£2,500.00
Payment to Kettlesing Millennium Village Hall	29/10/2020		£1,684.00
Payment to Haverah Park with Beckwithshaw Parish Council	29/10/2020		£235.00
Payment to Christ Church Community Centre	29/10/2020		£2,500.00
Payment to Washburn Heritage Centre	29/10/2020		£500.00
Payment to Fewston & Blubberhouses PCC	29/10/2020		£500.00
Donation from Innogy Renewables UK Limited	16/02/2021	£21,710.61	
TOTAL		£21,710.61	£25,576.00
Balance			£22,431.44

Statement of Grant Payments

20 February 2020 to 01 April 2021

Date	Applicant	Amount
13/03/2020	Hampsthwaite Wednesday Group	£325.00
Funding for annual trip for senior citizens .		
13/03/2020	Hampsthwaite Gardening Club	£390.00
Funding for coach for a day trip including some elderly and isolated members .		
13/03/2020	Hampsthwaite Village Society	£250.00
Funding to buy bunting and flags for a VE 75th anniversary celebration .		
13/03/2020	Fewston & Blubberhouses PCC	£500.00
Funding to go towards replacing a damaged organ blower .		
31/03/2020	Darley Church Committee for Darley Community Support Group	£1,444.00
Funding to distribute newsletters to support the village, and for admin and contingency costs while the group has lost income .		
01/04/2020	Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall	£500.00
Funding to cover venue hire cost and dance tutor cost for the 2020 May Bank Village street party event to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of V.E. Day 1945. The event is free, and the 1940's Dance Party is aimed at older residents .		
07/05/2020	Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall	£420.00
Funding will provide afternoon tea to 70 vulnerable individuals, delivered to them in the safety of their own home .		
07/07/2020	Nidderdale Museum Society	£500.00
Funding for permanent display boards outlining the history of Nidderdale and the surrounding area. These boards will be displayed at The Nidderdale Museum and The Nidderdale Show .		
07/07/2020	Birstwith Play Area Group	£500.00
Funding to repair playground path to ensure access for pushchairs, and people with mobility needs .		
07/07/2020	Birstwith in Bloom	£2,000.00
Funding will purchase planters and sleepers to make a raised bed in the village play area which can be used as a learning environment for children, a relaxing space for adults and improve the aesthetics of a plain grassy area .		
07/07/2020	Nidderdale Plus Partnership	£2,500.00
Funding for staff member to help set up a community hub, where residents can receive information about activities and services, and potentially access social prescribing .		
07/07/2020	Dancing for Well Being	£1,804.00
Harrogate dance group for the elderly, focusing on inclusive movement-based activities & opportunities to socialise. Funding would go towards venue costs		

for the weekly Hampsthwaite group and on the costs of having an Assistant Leader at the group. The group may have to practice safe distancing & restrict numbers at sessions impacting their future income.

07/07/2020	Darley Playing Field Association (DPFA)	£1,288.00
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This group provide and maintain a **playing field, children's playground, sports pavilion and other recreational facilities for the benefit of residents of Darley and surrounding communities. Funding would pay for the purchase and installation of non slip decking strips to the pavilion which currently slippery in wet weather.**

07/07/2020	Summerbridge and Dacre Silver Band	£2,500.00
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Funding is sought to **purchase an E flat Bass. Additionally a portion of funding (£700) will be used to cover running costs which were covered by events revenue but due to the pandemic all events are cancelled so that source of income is gone.**

29/10/2020	Fewston & Blubberhouses PCC	£500.00
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Funding for **home cooking and lunches, with contact as appropriate, for elderly isolated residents.**

29/10/2020	Fewston & Blubberhouses PCC	£500.00
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Funding towards installation of **under-pew heating for parishioners and concert-goers.**

29/10/2020	Washburn Heritage Centre	£500.00
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Funding for PPE to allow the **tea rooms to reopen safely.**

29/10/2020	Christ Church Community Centre	£2,500.00
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Funding for extractor fans to increase **ventilation to make the community space more Covid-safe.**

29/10/2020	Haverah Park with Beckwithshaw Parish Council	£235.00
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Funding for Bluetooth device for reactive **road sign, in order to collate and analyse traffic speed data.**

29/10/2020	Kettlesing Millennium Village Hall	£1,684.00
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Funding will be used to **replace the current lighting and heating system with new eco-friendly, energy saving equipment to reduce the carbon footprint and save cost.**

29/10/2020	Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall	£2,500.00
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Funding will **replace ageing filament stage lights with remotely controllable LED lights which will save energy, reduce running costs, and make the facility more accessible to a wider public.**

29/10/2020	Darley Methodist Church	£2,236.00
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Funding for **equipment, internet access, and stationery for a financial inclusion project for people in a rurally isolated area.**

22 grants given to the value of £25,576.00