

Fund Report

RWE Innogy Lochelbank Community Fund

Years 1-3

This report covers operation of the Fund from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2014.



Introduction

The RWE Innogy Lochelbank Community Fund is provided by RWE Innogy UK, the developer of the Lochelbank wind farm. It benefits the areas covered by the community councils of Glenfarg and Bridge of Earn in Perth & Kinross.

The Fund makes grants of between £250 and £2,500. The maximum grant award was increased from £2,000 to £2,500 in 2014. Applications above £2,500 will be considered on a case by case basis where significant and wider community benefit can be demonstrated.

The Fund provides grants to support 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.

Requests to support a wide range of costs and activities can be considered for such things as: equipment costs; running costs for local groups; staff or sessional workers costs; consultations; maintenance or refurbishment of community facilities, etc.

The RWE Innogy Lochelbank Community Fund Panel makes decisions on grant awards from the Fund, on Fund strategy, and promotes the Fund locally. The Panel comprises up to six volunteer representatives, made up of one community councillor from each of the two community council areas and two representatives from the wider community in each area.

The year one donation to the Fund from RWE Innogy UK (then RWE npower) was £20,000. Donations are index linked (Retail Price Index) and therefore by year four the annual donation had risen to £21,073.67.

NB: While the Lochelbank Wind Farm was operational from 2011 and donations to the Fund are backdated to that year, the first donation was received on 12th January 2012 and grant making began that same year. This report therefore covers four years of donations from RWE Innogy UK disbursed over three years of grant making.

Financial Statement

Statement Period: 01 January 2012 to 31 December 2014

Opening Balance **£0.00**

Income

Year 1 - RWE Innogy UK Ltd	12/01/2012	£20,000.00
Year 2 - RWE Innogy UK Ltd	25/05/2012	£20,116.96
Year 2 - Interest Receipt	31/12/2012	£20.53
Year 3 - RWE Innogy UK Ltd	31/05/2013	£20,776.96
Year 3 - Interest Receipt	31/12/2013	£20.09
Year 4 - RWE Innogy UK Ltd	23/05/2014	£21,073.67
Year 4 - Interest Receipt	31/12/2014	£26.92
	Sub Total	£82,035.13

Expenditure

Grants released in period		£58,832.00
Grants to be released		£4,000.00
	Sub Total	£62,832.00

Fund Expenses

Fund Expenses	14/01/2013	£12.00
Fund Expenses	14/01/2013	£14.00
Fund Expenses	16/08/2013	£14.00
	Sub Total	£40.00

Total funds available as at 31/12/2014 **£19,163.13**

Fund Overview

In the period from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2014, a total of 41 grant applications were received over nine rounds. This gives an average of 4.5 applications per round.

The Panel made 35 awards to 22 organisations to deliver 27 projects. This gives a conversion rate from application to award of 85% over the report period.

In total five applications were rejected; two of these were ineligible while the Panel felt there was insufficient information included with the applications to make an informed decision on the remaining three. One application was withdrawn.

The above figures do not include micro-grant awards to the two community councils. These enable the two groups to provide small grants of up to £250 to individuals and un-constituted groups in their area towards charitable activity. Each community council received four payments, totalling £3,000 each, over the report period.

In total £62,832 (77% of Fund income) was awarded to projects and 0.05% (£40) was used for Panel expenses, all in relation to venue hire.

The average award was £1,619.75. The lowest award was £432 (made to Forteviot Village Hall in 2012) and the highest was £2,000 (amount awarded 15 times during the report period).

The total value of projects funded (all funding sources) was £435,382.20, giving a leverage ratio of 86%; for every £0.14 awarded from the Fund, a further £0.86 was raised from elsewhere.

Projects in the Glenfarg area were awarded £33,186 (53% of all funds awarded), while those in the Bridge of Earn area received £29,646 (47% of funds awarded).

The balance carried forward to 2015 was £19,163.13 compared with £-1,978.08 at the end of 2013 and £-22,715.04 at end of 2012. The Fund is therefore underspent compared to previous years.

What Difference is the Fund Making?

The 35 awards made over the three years were used to support a variety of activities as shown in Appendix A. The Fund has supported projects that impact on many different aspects of community life, from the development of community facilities, open spaces and running of events to volunteering opportunities, community newsletters and sports or recreational groups.

Completion reports are required to be submitted by awardees. Generally awards are for projects that are planned to complete within 12 months of receiving an award. Foundation Scotland allows three

months from this completion date for the return of reports, before writing to awardees to chase outstanding reports. At the time of writing (March 2015) 4 completion reports (12.5%) were outstanding, from a total of 35 awards over the life of the Fund to-date.

Below are two case studies that demonstrate how the Fund is making a difference.

Glenfarg Village Hall

Glenfarg Village Hall was gifted to the local community in Trust in the late 1930s and has since become a registered charity. A full programme of activities takes place in the Hall, ranging from toddler groups, Brownies, Badminton, Soup and a chat, to community council meetings and private functions.

In 2012 and again in 2013 the group received a grant of £2,000 from the RWE Innogy Lochelbank Community Fund to help develop the derelict land adjacent to the Hall, improving access to the hall and linking it with Glenfarg Green transforming it from a hall into a well-used community asset.

With the Committee having secured an initial £4,000 from the fund, they were then able to leverage a further £55,907 towards project costs, from various sources, including Awards for All, Entrust, Perth & Kinross Council and Glenfarg Community Council.

Drainage work carried out on the land has made a huge difference to the garden and footpath, which were prone to flooding but can now be used year-round. Lighting has been upgraded and access added to Glenfarg Green, linking the two spaces.

Carparking has been improved, with safer off street parking as well as improved access for disabled users. In 2014, the Hall received a third grant of £1,038 from the Fund in order to install a sign to the carpark and fencing along the river Farg to improve safety at the site.

By improving links with other village facilities and adding an outdoor area to its assets, the work has underpinned the future value and utility of the hall. The Committee have already seen bookings increase as a result of the work undertaken and the improved outdoor space is now well used by the local scouts and playgroup.

Cedric Wilkins, Chair of the Glenfarg Village Hall Committee, said that the funding received from the RWE Innogy Lochelbank Community Fund *"was a crucial part of the funding package, as it helped the Committee prepare the design for the work and achieve the necessary consents to carry it out... [The grant] has under-pinned the future viability of the hall as the centre of the Glenfarg community."*

Bridge of Earn in Bloom (Brig in Bloom)

Brig in Bloom is a volunteer-led community group which has been active in Bridge of Earn for seventeen years. It encourages educational and environmental initiatives as well as maintaining the flower displays throughout the village.

In 2012, the group received £2,000 from the RWE Innogy Lochelbank Community Fund to support the development and expansion of its local pre-school gardening club, Little Blooms, and a community garden.

Little Blooms offers parents with toddlers the chance to participate in a weekly gardening group, the opportunity to plant and grow vegetables and flowers and learn in a fun way about the growing cycle. The children involved in Little Blooms have fun learning to grow their own food alongside their parents and carers. The club is now well-established with sufficient resources and tools to carry out a variety of activities, many of which families repeat with their children in their own gardens or using one of the raised beds.

With permission from a local landowner, Brig in Bloom have located their gardening equipment and polytunnels to a nearby small field, which it also uses for community gardening initiatives. The funding allowed the group to create 10 more raised beds, plant a mini-orchard and install a bird feeding station in the community garden, as well as purchasing some essential gardening equipment. The community garden now provides a valuable resource for local people seeking to grow their own food.

Brig in Bloom received two subsequent grants from the Fund: £2,000 later in 2012 to purchase additional tools and equipment for maintaining the green areas around the town, and £1,981 in 2013 to purchase additional planters.

George Smith, chair of Brig in Bloom, said: *"Brig in Bloom have four six-tier planters, called fall towers, which are self-watering. This means they require less watering and save the group time. This purchase was only possible through grant funding from RWE Innogy Lochelbank Community Fund. The new planters are a great addition to the village displays and helped us gain silver gilt in Keep Scotland Beautiful and Take a Pride in Perthshire awards."*

Marketing and Communications

Foundation Scotland has worked alongside the Fund Panel to raise the profile of the Fund and celebrate the projects it has enabled through a variety of channels, as set out in the table overleaf.

Activity	Date/frequency	Notes/impact
Press release on awards made	July 2012	"and it's party time for Dunbarney pupils", published in Perthshire Advertiser 20 th July 2012
Press release on awards made	Jan 2013	N/A
Press release on Glenfarg Conversation	April 2013	Glenfarg Conversation in Perthshire Advertiser, 26 th April 2013
Press release on awards made	Aug 2013	N/A
Press release on awards made	Dec 2013	N/A
Press release on awards made	April 2014	N/A
Press release on Panel vacancy	July 2014	"Vacancy Appeal for Earn Council" published in Perthshire Advertiser 11 th July 2014, local newsletters; vacancy filled.
Press release on awards made	Sept 2014	"Glenfarg Cinema Makes a Sound Investment Thanks to Wind Farm", published in Perth & Kinross Courier 13 th September
Press release on awards made	Dec 2014	N/A
Posters promoting the Fund deadlines	Annually	Distributed via local noticeboards, halls, shops, and in newsletters, websites etc: Earn newsletter; Parish Voice Magazine; Glenfarg newsletter; Glenfarg.org website.
Summary of awards made after each Panel meeting to Glenfarg and Bridge of Earn Community Councils and RWE	After each awarding Panel meeting in 2014	For CCs to share as they wish, also: Earn newsletter, bi-annually; Parish Voice Magazine; Glenfarg newsletter, bi-monthly; Glenfarg.org website.

Panel Overview

Provision exists for one Panel Member to be nominated from each of the two community councils, and two representatives from the wider community in each area. Wider community representatives are appointed through an open and transparent process.

Panel members serve for a period between one and three years, such that the retirement of members will be staggered. Three members are due to stand down in 2015 (although members may stand for re-election).

The Panel has had a full complement of six members for most of the reporting period, and attendance at meetings has been consistently good.

The Panel has been fairly stable in terms of membership since 2012, with turnover averaging less than one member per year. This has resulted in a well-formed group with plenty of experience in making what are sometimes difficult decisions.

Glenfarg Members were instrumental in initiating 'The Glenfarg Conversation' during 2013. This process sought to identify local needs and priorities of the area. The results can be found at <http://www.glenfarg.org>

Panel members at 31 December 2014 were:

Bridge of Earn

James Thomson
Janice Sloan (Earn Community Council)
Stewart Donaldson

Glenfarg

Colin Campbell
David Aird
Margaret Ponton (Glenfarg Community Council)

Foundation Scotland

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Appendix A: Summary of Awards 2012 – 2014

Bridge of Earn (21 awards)

Ref.	Applicant Name	Amount Awarded	Project Cost	Leverage (%)	Grant Summary
A176015	Brig in Bloom	£2,000.00	£2,275.00	12%	To contribute towards the cost of providing necessary tools, equipment and a shed for a pre-school gardening club and a community garden. Both projects are primarily for growing food.
A176017	Bridge Earn Netball Club	£1,500.00	unknown	unknown	To support the costs of purchasing 2 sets of uniforms for competitions, new netballs, pumps and netball stands.
A176018	Bridge Earn Institute	£1,830.00	unknown	unknown	To undertake a 5 year refurbishment programme ion the hall which will improve the hall by providing double glazing and new boiler.
A176522	Forgandenny Village Hall	£2,000.00	£2,508.00	20%	To fund the upgrade of the Village Hall kitchen.
A176662	Earn Community Council	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Earn in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A177349	Earn Community Council	£558.00	£558.00	0%	To re-signwrite the historical information board in Bridge of Earn.
A177411	Forteviot Village Hall	£432.00	£432.00	0%	To cover costs of the construction and installation of a glass fronted, lockable noticeboard for the village.
A177500	Bridge of Earn Playgroup	£1,100.00	£1,100.00	0%	To develop a safe outdoor play area for the children by replacing the outdoor fencing and gate. Outdoor play equipment will be set up on a daily basis for use by the children. There are 24 children using the playgroup on a weekly basis.
A177501	Brig in Bloom	£2,000.00	£9,594.00	79%	To purchase equipment and tools for gardening and regenerating the local area.
A177591	Bridge of Earn Bowling Club	£2,000.00	£6,000.00	67%	To part fund the purchase of a new mower to maintain the greens to a standard suitable for the playing of lawn bowling.
A178501	Earn Community Council	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Earn in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.

A179081	Forgandenny Village Hall	£1,740.00	£1,740.00	0%	To cover costs of completing the kitchen upgrade in the Village Hall.
A179088	14th Perthshire Scout Group	£2,000.00	£3,217.00	38%	To contribute to costs of upgrading the kitchen.
A180099	Bridge of Earn Tennis Club	£750.00	£2,000.00	62%	To contribute to the cost of a permanent notice board.
A180479	Bridge Earn Institute	£1,570.00	£3,750.00	58%	To bring external windows up to insulation standard for heat loss and fuel saving.
A182949	Forteviot Bowling Club	£1,285.00	£1,285.00	0%	To provide an end of season maintenance program for the green to bring it back to a good playing surface.
A253807	Earn Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Earn in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes for the period 30 Aug 2013 to 30 Aug 2014.
A254334	Bridge of Earn in Bloom	£1,981.00	£1,981.20	0%	To contribute to the purchase of four new planters - two 6-basket trees and two 3-basket trees.
A320550	Bridge of Earn Bowling Club	£1,900.00	£1,900.00	0%	To fund materials and work to renew the bowling green edging and turf, thus making the green safer and more usable for club members and visitors.
A346590	Dunbarney and Forgandenny Parish Church	£2,000.00	£2,360.00	15%	To purchase a storage shed and equipment for the local Mother & Toddler group and Carpet Bowls group, which both meet in the church hall.
A347858	Earn Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Earn in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes for the period 1 Aug 2014 to 31 Aug 2015.

Total awarded to Bridge of Earn: £29,646 (47% of funds awarded)

Glenfarg (22 awards)

Ref.	Applicant Name	Amount Awarded	Project Cost	Leverage (%)	Grant Summary
A176008	Glenfarg Village Folk Club	£1,000.00	£7,950.00	87%	To contribute towards the running costs of the annual Folk Fest in April 2012.

A176016	Glenfarg Tennis Club	£2,000.00	£45,000.00	96%	To contribute towards the cost of developing a tennis clubhouse which will provide decent toilets for tennis players and park users and also provide a changing and meeting room.
A176316	Glenfarg Brownies and Rainbows	£1,413.00	unknown	unknown	To purchase equipment and pay for hall hire which will allow the group to extend the range of activities on offer to the girls over the next year.
A176661	Glenfarg Community Council	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Glenfarg in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A177118	Glenfarg Village Hall	£2,000.00	£5,000.00	60%	To contribute to the costs of design and planning consents; towards the redevelopment of the site adjacent to the Glenfarg Village Hall.
A177584	Glenfarg Bowling Club	£2,000.00	£5,328.00	62%	To assist with the purchase of a lawnmower power unit and verti cutter cartridge which will be used to maintain the bowling green.
A178660	Glenfarg Community Council	£500.00	£500.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Glenfarg in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A179082	Glenfarg Village Hall	£2,000.00	£55,907.00	96%	To contribute to costs of developing the land adjacent to the Hall to improve access and community use.
A179083	77th Perthshire Glenfarg Scout Group	£1,500.00	£1,810.00	17%	To contribute to annual hall rental.
A180091	Glenfarg Fete	£500.00	£3,000.00	83%	To help towards renting tented accommodation for both stalls and acts for our annual village fete.
A180201	Glenfarg Community Council	£2,000.00	£8,859.00	77%	To purchase Christmas lighting for the village main street.
A231917	Glenfarg Tennis Club	£2,000.00	£90,000.00	98%	To help pay for the quantity surveyor's detailed estimates and the engineer's structural design calculations for the new clubhouse.
A233729	Glenfarg Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Glenfarg in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A253839	Glenfarg and Duncricie in Bloom	£2,000.00	£24,333.40	92%	To contribute to the purchase a ride-on mower with mulch plug.
A319864	Glenfarg Tennis Club	£2,000.00	£90,000.00	98%	To equip and furnish the Tennis Club's new clubhouse.
A321450	Glenfarg Fete Committee	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0%	To purchase gazebos, which would provide cover for stall-holders and the public, allowing the Glenfarg Fete to go ahead whatever the weather.

A332760	Glenfarg Village Hall	£1,038.00	£1,402.00	26%	To install a sign to the carpark and fencing along the river Farg.
A336913	Glenfarg Community Cinema	£1,968.00	£9,569.40	79%	To purchase and install cinema equipment: speakers, handheld wireless mic system, and offsite wiring of equipment cabinet.
A337445	Glenfarg and Duncricvie in Bloom	£2,000.00	£24,333.40	92%	To contribute to the cost of buying and erecting a shed, including foundations and access road.
A340489	Glenfarg Tennis Club	£2,000.00	£4,500.00	56%	To carry out routine maintenance of the courts by lifting the carpet, vacuum out the existing sand, disinfect, and reapply sand.
A347122	Glenfarg Community Council	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0%	To provide a fund for distribution to groups and individuals in Glenfarg in the form of micro grants up to a maximum of £250 for general charitable purposes.
A352246	Glenfarg Community Cinema	£767.00	£9,689.80	92%	To purchase and install equipment.

Total awarded to Glenfarg area: £33,186 (53% of funds awarded)

Grand Totals

Amount Awarded	Project Costs	Leverage (%)
£62,832.00	£435,382.20	86%