

Vattenfall Clashindarroch Wind Farm Community Fund

Fund report - Year 2

This report covers the operation of the Fund from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017

Introduction

The Vattenfall Clashindarroch Wind Farm Community Fund is provided by Vattenfall AB, the owner of the Clashindarroch wind farm in Aberdeenshire. The Year Two donation to the Fund from Vattenfall was £187,359. Donations are index linked (Retail Price Index) and in Year Three will be £194,221.

The area of benefit for the Fund comprises the areas covered by the community councils of Huntly, Strathbogie, and Tap o' Noth in Aberdeenshire, and Cabrach Community Association in Moray.

The Fund makes grants of over £500 with no upper grant limit, although applications for over £25,000 have to go through a two stage process before approval.

The Fund provides grants to support charitable activities which will support positive change and strategic impact in the area of benefit. In particular the Fund will support projects which:

- improve community services and facilities
- increase participation in and access to contemporary culture, events and recreational activity
- preserve and enhance the natural environment for residents and visitors

- promote rural regeneration
- celebrate the area's cultural, historic and archaeological heritage.

In the reporting period funding has been awarded across all these priority areas.

The **Clashindarroch Community Fund Panel** makes decisions on how the Fund is spent, and promotes the Fund locally. The Panel comprises two nominees from each of Huntly, Strathbogie and Tap o' Noth Community Councils, and from Cabrach Community Association, who are joined by a community representative for each area.

Panel members at 30 June 2017 were:

Huntly:	Michael Cowie Tony Gill* Hazel McIntosh*
Strathbogie:	Ian Angus George Wordie* Bob Yuill*
Tap o' Noth:	Peter Johnston* Jim Matthew* David Nicholls
Cabrach:	Margaret Lee Patti Nelson* Peter Thompson*

**Appointed by the Community Council/Association*

Statement Period: 01 July 2016 to 30 June 2017

Opening Balance		£72,619.71
Income		
Vattenfall Wind Power – 2016-2017 Payment	18/08/2016	£187,359.00
Interest to 31/12/2016	31/12/2016	£182.87
	Sub Total	£187,541.87
Expenditure		
Grants released in period		£113,993.96
Grants to be released		£125,184.56
	Sub Total	£239,178.52
Fund Expenses		
Venue hire for Panel meeting on 5.9.2016	18/10/2016	£39.60
Venue hire for Panel meeting on 28.11.2016	17/01/2017	£35.00
Venue hire for Panel meeting on 19.6.2017	23/06/2017	£45.00
	Sub Total	£119.60
Total funds available as at 30/6/2017		£20,863.46

Fund Overview

In the period from 1 June 2016 to 30 June 2017, a total of 26 (29 in 2015-16) applications to the Fund were received over four (three) rounds. This gives an average of 6.5 (9.7) applications per round. 1 (1) application was withdrawn before it went to the Panel, as the application was not eligible.

The Panel made 20 (22) awards to 20 (21) organisations to deliver 20 (22) projects. This gives a conversion rate from application to award of 77% (76%) over the report period. One award was subsequently withdrawn as the applicant was unable to proceed with the project, and one award for a lesser amount than requested was declined as match funding could not be raised. In total three (four) applications were rejected.

The Panel can make multi-year awards and in Years 1 and 2 of the Fund £41,094 was awarded to be paid from Year 3 of the Fund to projects, and £945 from Year 4 of the Fund. In Year 2 £119.60 (0.06% of the Fund income) has been used for Panel expenses.

For the first few years, £85,000 (index linked) of the annual fund payment has been set aside for legacy or capital projects. For Year 2 £95,717.80 (£40,790.98) was awarded from the legacy part of the Fund, and £139,583.72 (£83,677.26) from the rest of the Fund.

The average award over the report period was £9,346 (£10,009). The lowest award was £1,197 (£1,500) and the highest award was £47,259 (£60,000). The total value of projects funded for all years to date (all funding sources and excluding the withdrawn award) was £246,922.45 (£341,440) giving a leverage ratio of 29.4% (50.1%); for every £70.60 awarded from the Fund, a further £29.40 was raised from elsewhere.

For Year 2 projects in the Huntly area were awarded 14.9% (32.5%) of all funds awarded, those in the Strathbogie area received 13.8% (32.1%), those in the Tap o' Noth area received 37.2% (26.4%), those in the Cabrach area received 14.6% (7.4%), and those benefitting all four areas received 19.4% (1.5%) of all funds awarded.

	Amount Awarded	Project Costs	Leverage (%)
2016-17	£188,068.76	£266,107.27	29.3%
2015-16	£170,218.24	£341,440.83	50.1%

Leverage achieved over the reporting was lower than the previous year as per the table above but still significant and a valuable insight into the wider investment into the area that the Fund is contributing to and at times catalyzing.

The balance carried forward from 2016-2017 to 2017-18 was £72,619.71 (£14,787.71).

Note: awards are made and paid out in different Fund years, and sometimes across several years, so the reconciliation of figures in this report may not be immediately apparent.

Summary of Awards 2016 – 2017

The twenty awards made over the second year were used to support a variety of activities as shown below. The Fund has supported projects that impact on many different aspects of community life, from the improvement of village halls to an economic regeneration project, from support for a sensory garden to assistance to improve school outdoor areas. *Please note that some projects fulfil more than one Fund priority. These have been allocated to the single priority which the project best helps fulfil.*

Fund Priority: Contemporary culture, events and recreational activity (6 awards)

Ref.	Applicant Name	Amount Awarded	Project Cost	Leverage (%)	Grant Summary
A415547	Huntly and District Pipe Band	£9,500.00 (over two years)	£13,500.00	29.6%	To facilitate a 2-year coaching/mentoring programme for the Band's new Pipe Major and Leading Drummer.
A423115	Gartly School Partnership	£1,197.00	£2,197.00	45.5%	To replace the rear stage curtains in Gartly school's hall.
A423840	Drumblade School Parent Council	£3,568.00	£5,000.00	28.6%	To install an outdoor play shelter and install new fencing around the existing greenhouse.
A434543	Strathbogie Riding for the Disabled	£2,835.00 (over three years)	£5,670.00	50.0%	To provide transport for schoolchildren in Huntly and the surrounding areas to attend the group's sessions in Oyne over three years.
A435879	Rhynie Gala	£6,000.00	£7,574.40	20.8%	To purchase a portable stage to be used during the Gala weekend.
A445660	Huntly Fire Station	£5,000.00	£10,000.00	50.0%	To purchase a bouncy castle to be used at the annual open day.

Total awarded to Contemporary culture, events and recreational activity: £28,100.00 (£47,532.00) (14.9% of funds awarded)

Fund Priority: Improve community services and facilities (6 awards)

Ref.	Applicant Name	Amount Awarded	Project Cost	Leverage (%)	Grant Summary
A386530	Huntly Football Club	£9,480.00	£10,000.00	5.2%	To contribute to the preparatory work of building a 3G facility for the community.
A415593	Gordon Rural Action	£24,000.00 (over two years)	£45,045.00	46.7%	To meet the costs and to facilitate the transition by Gordon Rural Action of its General Advice Service to a volunteer-led service.
A427190	Huntly Community Sensory Garden	£1,608.00	£10,000.00	83.9%	To purchase movement-activated message speakers for a sensory garden in Huntly.
A434323	Rannes Hall Management Committee	£47,259.00	£54,759.29	13.7%	To carry out improvements to Rannes Hall, including providing additional storage facilities, accessible toilets, external stonework pointing/repairs, and internal decorating.
A435890	Scott Hall	£23,458.80	£29,458.80	20.4%	To carry out repairs to Scott Hall.
A444647	Clatt Primary School PTA	£3,645.00	£3,645.60	0%	To purchase staging and associated storage shuttle.

Total awarded to Improve community services and facilities: £109,450.80 (£79,286.24) (58.2% of funds awarded)

Fund Priority: Promote rural regeneration (6 awards)

Ref.	Applicant Name	Amount Awarded	Project Cost	Leverage (%)	Grant Summary
A419143	Huntly Community Council	£2,341.99	£2,341.99	0%	To provide a micro-grant scheme for the local community.
A421218	Strathbogie Community Council	£2,341.99	£2,341.99	0%	To provide a micro-grant scheme for the local community.
A421223	Tap O' Noth Community Council	£2,341.99	£2,341.99	0%	To provide a micro-grant scheme for the local community.
A421227	Cabrach Community Association	£2,341.99	£2,341.99	0%	To provide a micro-grant scheme for the local community.
A423539	Cabrach Trust	£25,000.00	£31,580.00	20.8%	As a contribution to the general costs of the Trust in order to help it achieve certain outputs and milestones towards the redevelopment of Inverharroch Farm, and the community asset transfer of the Acorn Centre.

A437331	Huntly Floral Fund	£2,000.00	£3,120.00	35.9%	To purchase a trailer which will enable the group to more easily and efficiently water Huntly's floral tubs and planters.
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Total awarded to Promote rural regeneration: £36,367.96 (£34,250.00) (19.3% of funds awarded)

Fund Priority: Cultural, historic and archaeological heritage (1 award)

Ref.	Applicant Name	Amount Awarded	Project Cost	Leverage (%)	Grant Summary
A435791	Rhynie Woman*	£9,150.00	£19,650.00	53.4%	To fund database, website design, equipment, digital technology and content development, workshops, travel/accommodation, and marketing costs associated with the creation of a digital archive for Rhynie.

** An award of £9,150 was made for the same project in 2015-2016, conditional on obtaining match funding. This was not obtained within the required timescale, so the grant offer was withdrawn. When match funding was finally obtained, a fresh application was submitted, and a new award made by the Panel.*

Total awarded to Cultural, historic and archaeological heritage: £9,150.00 (£9,150.00) (4.9% of funds awarded)

Fund Priority: Preserve and enhance the natural environment for residents and visitors (0 awards)

Ref.	Applicant Name	Amount Awarded	Project Cost	Leverage (%)	Grant Summary
A444846	Deveron Projects	£5,000.00	£5,539.22	9.7%	To purchase fruit trees, seeds and plants, tools, and other gardening equipment as part of the group's "garden city" project.

Total awarded to Preserve and enhance the natural environment for residents and visitors: £5,000.00 (£9,150.00) (2.7% of funds awarded)

What difference is the Fund making?

Monitoring is carried out in a variety of ways – through assessing further applications, through occasional project visits and also by submission of completion reports by the grantee. 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. By 30 October 2017 sixteen completion reports have been received.

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

Case Study 1 – The Cabrach Trust

The Cabrach is a remote area in Moray, which over the decades has suffered severe depopulation. The Cabrach Trust was established in response to a need to preserve the rich cultural heritage of The Cabrach and its remote communities, and to attempt to attract business to the area and support people to set up businesses. In 2013 a donation from the William Grant & Sons whisky families enabled the Trust to buy Inverharroch Farm and its 170 acres of land. The Trust is now leading a local regeneration project to develop a historic craft distillery that will produce whisky as it would have been produced in 1820 and a heritage centre at the Inverharroch site, and refurbish the cluster of buildings of the Old Cabrach Hall, The Acorn Centre and the Old School House (the former Cabrach Primary School), to provide a community facility, accommodation and a training hub that can be used by the community or let out for educational and training courses. The Trust is a social enterprise and any profits from the distillery and heritage centre once they are up and running will be used to further the Trust's social aims of providing jobs, housing, and services to regenerate the area.



Local residents share memories of a past Cabrach in a heritage open day

The Trust appointed an Executive Director to drive the project forward, then developed a business plan for the project. A design team produced fully costed outline plans, while a fundraising consultant presented a strategy for raising the estimated £5million plus required to fund the project. In tandem discussions began with the Moray Council with a view to acquiring the Acorn Centre and related buildings and land. The Trust has engaged in thorough community engagement with Cabrach residents, residents in neighbouring communities and with key stakeholders. There are currently 110 members of the Trust, which now include most of the residents of Upper and Lower Cabrach.

The Trust applied to the Fund for financial assistance to engage a development worker to:

- Work with the community to ensure community outcomes from the projects are met
- Liaise with project architects to progress conversion plans
- Work with project architects to achieve planning consent
- Prepare project documents such as works and tender specifications
- Source potential suppliers and manage supplier relationships
- Assist with research into the historic nature of the site

- Liaise with other professionals such as archaeologists, conservationists and landscape managers



Artist's impression of the proposed Cabrach Distillery and Visitor Centre

The Fund Panel agreed to make an award of £25,000 over 12 months from March 2017, conditional on certain milestones being achieved by the Trust. To date the milestones achieved have included:

- An application for a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of the Acorn Centre has been approved by Moray Council;
- Historical research into illicit distilling in the Cabrach has been carried out and a report produced;
- A landscape design scheme has been prepared;
- A feasibility study into onsite energy generation is being carried out with the benefit of a CARES grant;
- A first-round application to the Heritage Lottery Fund has been submitted;
- A training programme for volunteers, trainees, interns and graduate placements has been developed;
- Partnership agreements to deliver a community heritage project have been developed with three key organisations;
- Full planning consent for the distillery and heritage centre has been obtained;
- The Trust has worked with community volunteers to document the history and heritage of Inverharroch, its land and buildings.

The Fund is playing a key role in the early stages of this significant regeneration project. Sue Savege, Executive Director of the Trust commented: "The financial support provided by the Vattenfall Clashindarroch Community Fund has allowed the Trust to accelerate its programme of works and achieve many of its key objectives for the year. The increased capacity of the Trust as a result of this support has undoubtedly helped us to attract further investment from other funders into the project and as we go in to our next phase of work we are very grateful for the continuing support of the fund and the valuable advice of its funding officers."

Case Study 2 - Friends of Inch Hospital and Community



Friends of Inch Hospital and Community was awarded a grant of £4,380 in June 2015 to pay for venue hire and sessional staff costs to set up a range of new activities with preventative health benefits not currently available in the area. These activities were to be based at the hall Fourteen in Rhynie. There was an initial problem in that the person identified to deliver nutrition/healthy eating sessions left her post in August 2015 and someone else had to be found. Permission was given to extend the duration of the grant award and the sessions finally started in March 2016.

The specific activities planned were:

- Twice weekly health walks – two groups for differing abilities.
- Weight management & healthy eating course for 20 weeks, combining advice on diet and healthy eating with practical elements in cooking well balanced meals.
- Two taster sessions of stretch & relax, which focuses on keeping joints supple and keeping a good range of movement.
- Introduction to I.T. - drop in sessions for people aged 50 + so, and thereafter a series of more structured classes covering the basics of I.T.
- Monthly event in Rhynie for 10 months, as an opportunity for people to socialise, whilst offering nutritionally balanced home cooked food with entertainment. Open to anyone in Rhynie and the surrounding communities of any age, encouraging a natural mixing of generations.

The grant fully funded the project cost, and the applicant estimates that overall 75 people benefited. Most participants were retired, but the community events attracted people of all ages, including children from Rhynie Primary School and residents at the local sheltered housing complex. Participants for the healthy eating sessions were identified by linking with the practice nurse at the local GP surgery in Rhynie. The members of the walking group have expanded to form a second group which meets fortnightly and undertakes longer, more challenging walks. Monthly community events are still taking place, with many of the volunteer organisers having attended training so they have the skills and confidence to ensure this activity is sustainable. Existing groups have been strengthened and had the opportunity to expand; links with other local groups have been made; and new activities have been introduced in the community. Attendees see themselves as part of an established group and are taking ownership and responsibility to continue the events and activities.



The grant from the Fund delivered start-up and taster costs and once the grant came to an end much of the activity has continued while being run by local people.

Case Study 3 – Clatt Village Hall

The community hall in the small village of Clatt is a valuable local facility, run by a local management committee. Its car park had deteriorated over the last few years and was full of large holes, and when it rained these became large puddles and in the winter these puddles became frozen. In daylight it was possible to see the holes and avoid them but at night they were dangerous and the committee was worried that an accident would occur. The hall committee applied to the Fund for assistance to resurface the car park and and renew the surface drains.



This project formed part of larger long-term plans to upgrade the hall as funds permit. The outside walls have been painted by volunteers with paint donated, and a grant enabled the committee to buy LED bulbs and replace the freezer with an energy efficient one. The committee would like in future to:



• install photovoltaic roof panels to provide heating/electricity for the hall;
 • upgrade the kitchen - a new dishwasher and oven would be useful for larger events like weddings;
 • the plastic rhones and downpipes need to be replaced with cast iron ones;
 • replacement windows are needed in the main hall and outlying buildings;
 • the perimeter timber fence needs replaced.

- install photovoltaic roof panels to provide heating/electricity for the hall;
- upgrade the kitchen - a new dishwasher and oven would be useful for larger events like weddings;
- the plastic rhones and downpipes need to be replaced with cast iron ones;
- replacement windows are needed in the main hall and outlying buildings;
- the perimeter timber fence needs replaced.

The hall committee contributed £1,500 to this project from its reserves and the Panel agreed to fund the balance, which came to £17,050. The work involved resetting surface drains, mechanically sweeping the existing car park, cutting existing tar, laying kerbs, supplying and laying screed and top coat, and sealing all edges to tie into the existing tar at the entrance roadway. The hall committee obtained three quotes from local contractors to ensure value for money was obtained for the Fund, and the work was completed in the early summer of 2017.



The applicant estimates that some 150 people will benefit from this project, both regular users of the hall from the local community, and those at commercial bookings.

Marketing and Communications

Foundation Scotland, alongside the Fund Panel, has worked to raise the profile of the Fund through a variety of channels during the second year of the Fund, some of which are set out in the table below.

Activity	Date/frequency	Notes/impact
Press release	July 2016	Announcement of Year 2 Round 1 awards
Press release	July 2016	Year 2 Round 2 open for applications
Posters promoting the Fund deadlines	July/August 2016	Distributed in the area by Fund Manager & Panel members
Press release	August 2016	Last chance for Year 2 Round 2 applications
Piece for AB54 community newsletter (long copy deadline)	October 2016	Year 2 Round 3 open for applications
Press release	November 2016	Announcement of Year 2 Round 2 awards
Press release	January 2017	Year 2 Round 3 open for applications
Piece for AB54 community newsletter (long copy deadline)	January 2017	Year 3 Round 1 open for applications
Posters promoting the Fund deadlines	January 2017	Distributed in the area by Fund Manager & Panel members
Press release	April 2017	Announcement of Year 2 Round 3 awards
Press release	April 2017	Year 3 Round 1 open for applications
Piece for AB54 community newsletter (long copy deadline)	April 2017	Year 3 Round 2 open for applications
Posters promoting the Fund deadlines	April/May 2017	Distributed in the area by Fund Manager & Panel members
Press release	April 2017	Last chance for Year 3 Round 1 applications
Press release	July 2017	Announcement of Year 3 Round 1 awards
Updating of Fund web-pages https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/clashindarroch/	As required and after each round of grants	

In addition the Fund Manager has attended a number of funding fair or other community events in the area to promote the Fund. Articles about the Fund and the awards made have appeared in the *Huntly Express*, the main local paper, on 1 July 2016, 29 July 2016, 4 August 2016, 10 March 2017, 17 March 2017, 24 March 2017, 21 April 2017, 28 April 2017, and 16 June 2017.

Panel Overview

The Panel has had a full complement of twelve members for all of the year, and attendance at meetings has been excellent.

During this period Mary Burgerhout, nominated by Huntly Community Council, stood down from the Panel, and was replaced by Hazel McIntosh. The Panel is now a well-formed group with growing experience in making what are sometimes difficult decisions.

Provision exists for Panel members to serve for a period between one and four years, and the retirement of members will be staggered.

A review of the operation of the Fund and the Panel after three years will be carried out by the Panel with Foundation Scotland in April/May 2018.

Foundation Scotland

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