

1st November 2021 to 31st October 2022

# Newsletter



## Watten Community Funds



Watten Community Council works in partnership with Foundation Scotland to manage different funds donated for the benefit of the Watten community. The current Donors are Gresham House Asset Management, owner of Wathegar 1 and Wathegar 2 wind farms and RWE, owner of the Bilbster and Bad á Cheò wind farms and the new addition in 2022: SPR Renewables owner and operator of the Halsary Windfarm.

### History of Awards

The **Bilbster Community Fund** launched in 2011 and has awarded 26 grants, distributing over £40,000.

The **Wathegar 1 Fund** launched in 2014 and has awarded 14 grants, distributing over £33,000.

The **Wathegar 2 Fund** launched in 2019 and has awarded five grants, distributing over £23,000.

The **Bad á Cheò Fund** launched in 2019 and has awarded 11 educational awards distributing over £12,500 and one community award of almost £19,000.

The **Halsary Watten Fund** launched in 2022 and has awarded one grant of almost £19,000.

### How to Apply

Full guidelines for applicants are available online at

<https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/watten> and <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/bad-cheo-education-training>

There are two rounds per year with deadlines of **30th June** and **31st December**.

For assistance or further information about the funds please contact Eilidh Coll. If you are a group looking for support with planning your project contact Caithness Voluntary Group at [www.cvg.org.uk](http://www.cvg.org.uk)

**Eilidh Coll** 07801 530218  
[eilidh@foundationscotland.org.uk](mailto:eilidh@foundationscotland.org.uk)

## Community Fund Awards

During this reporting period six grants were awarded:

- 1. Watten School Parent Council** £700.18 to purchase two P4-P7 go-karts for the children to use during breaks.
- 2. Watten Early Learning Centre** £1,183.20 to hardcore an area to site a replacement storage container in a safe and convenient location.
- 3. Caithness Voluntary Group** £37,927.30 to recruit a Development Officer to work with the Watten community and stakeholders to drive community projects on a part time basis.
- 4. Caithness CAB** £6,000 to recruit a new Money Advice and Energy Advice Officer at 25 hours per week for 12 months to help rural people mitigate the cost of living.
- 5. Caithness CAB** £6,000 to provide a budget which the Money Advice and Energy Advice Officer can use to alleviate fuel poverty and provide energy efficiency measures for local people in Watten.
- 6. Science 03** £4,000 contribute to the cost of the 2022 Festival.

## Bad á Cheò Education and Training Awards

This fund has been up and running since late 2019 and residents are slowly beginning to apply and see the value of it. Over the last year three residents applied for funding:

- 1. £1,200** to contribute to subsistence whilst studying Electrical installation SVQ Level 3.
- 2. £500** to pay for driving lessons and a driving test
- 3. £1,500** to contribute to the cost of studying Social Science NHC.

An educational grant can cover a number of costs linked to study. First time applicants can apply for up to £1,500, a second time applicant can apply for up to £1,000 and going forward a person will be able to apply for up to £300 for future courses.

The purpose of this fund is to improve local people's opportunities for employment. You don't have to be unemployed to apply. The process is quick with awards made usually within six weeks of receiving the application.

## Financial Transactions

Financial transactions (01/11/21 - 31/10/22)	Bilbster (Year 12)	Wathegar 1 (Year 9)	Wathegar 2 (Year 4)	Bad á Cheò (part Yr 3&4)	Halsary (part yr 1)	TOTAL
<b>OPENING BALANCE</b>	<b>£3,261</b>	<b>£68,064</b>	<b>£106,283</b>	<b>£111,875</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£289,483</b>
<b>FUND INCOME:</b>						
Developer Donation	£2,921	£14,664	£44,090	£51,256	£60,248	£173,180
Interest	£0	£76	£0	£106		£182
Grant returned	£0	£0	£0	£0		£0
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£2,921</b>	<b>£14,740</b>	<b>£44,090</b>	<b>£51,362</b>	<b>£60,248</b>	<b>£173,361</b>
<b>FUND EXPENSES:</b>						
Community awards	£1,183	£4,778	£6,000	£23,964	£18,964	£54,888
Education awards				£3,200		
Foundation Scotland fee	£292	£851	£0	£4,660	£6,025	£11,827
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£1,475</b>	<b>£5,629</b>	<b>£6,000</b>	<b>£31,823</b>	<b>£24,988</b>	<b>£66,716</b>
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>£4,707</b>	<b>£77,175</b>	<b>£144,373</b>	<b>£131,413</b>	<b>£35,260</b>	<b>£396,129</b>