

Community Funding Bulletin 2024



Halkirk District Wind Farm Community Funds

Foundation Scotland administers three of the local community benefit funds from local wind farms, for the residents of Halkirk District. These wind farms are Achlachan, Bad á Cheò and Halsary, collectively known as the ABH Funds.

Foundation Scotland is an independent charity with expertise in grant making and provides governance and administrative support to the Funds under contract to the wind farm owners. The Foundation's costs for this service are paid from the Fund.

Decisions on awards are made by a local Funding Panel, comprising up to 14 volunteers from the community.

2024 Fund activity

During 2024 the three Funds have...



Awarded 45 grants ranging from £500 to £26,000 totalling £148,838...



Including 23 awards to community groups totalling £121,718



.. and 12 awards to people learning to drive totalling £6,000...



... and 10 awards to people doing other training courses totalling £21,120.

How to apply

Guidance and forms



For guidance and to apply online go to: <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk> or use the short link: bit.ly/ABHfunds or scan this QR code with your smart phone:



Application Deadlines:

- ❖ 15th March
- ❖ 15th July
- ❖ 15th September
- ❖ 15th December

(decisions take 6-8 weeks)



ABH Funds
Halkirk and District

Awards Made in 2024



ABH Funds
Halkirk and District

Awards to groups or projects within the Halkirk District Fund area (12 projects receiving £62,000)

- 1.** £1,616 1st Halkirk Guides For camping equipment
- 2.** £8,573 Council of Management of Scotsclader Hall Towards running costs of the Hall for three years from 2024/25.
- 3.** £3,000 Halkirk & District Community Council A micro-grant scheme for the local community.
- 4.** £26,294 Halkirk Parent Council Towards a canopy - an outdoor learning space
- 5.** £4,425 Halkirk Parent Council Trips and outdoor activities through 2024/25.
- 6.** £1,720 Northern Pilgrims Way Group SCIO A celebration of the unveiling of the Skinnet Stone once set in place.
- 7.** £1,500 Sidh Chailleann Art Rising Artists of Caithness: workshops and mentoring
- 8.** £4,641 Spittal Village Hall To install a distribution board and carry out an electrical installation condition report
- 9.** £5,629 Spittal Village Hall Flooring, tables and trolleys, new plates and cutlery sets
- 10.** £2,680 Spittal Village Hall Electrician to install equipment and undertake safety checks, new plates, cutlery and a ladder
- 11.** £500 Spittal Village Hall New table covers
- 12.** £1,500 Spittal Village Hall Electrical repairs, a new worktop, fridge & freezer



Awards to groups or projects out with the Halkirk District Fund area (11 projects receiving £59,639)

- 13.** £6,000 Science 03 Towards the Caithness International Science Festival.
- 14.** £1,670 Caithness District Young Farmers To attend the qualifiers in Cornhill in June 2024
- 15.** £5,000 Citizens Advice Caithness Towards the salary of an Income Maximisation and Energy Efficiency Adviser.
- 16.** £7,500 Northern Pilgrims Way Group SCIO To employ Heritage Ranger to arrange local walks and talks
- 17.** £14,000 Caithness Broch Project To work with an Architect Firm complete feasibility work and a business plan for the replica Broch project at Flygla.

- 18.** £900 Thurso High School PTA For an educational trip to Rome and Naples
- 19.** £1,000 Thurso High School PTA For the 2024 S6 University trip.
- 20.** £1,000 Thurso High School PTA For an educational trip to Berlin.



- 21.** £1,700 Ormlie Community Association Ltd Towards an Employability Support Worker
- 22.** £8,369 Ormlie Community Association Ltd To run the Halkirk Baby & Toddler Group through 2025.
- 23.** £12,500 Highlands and Islands Enterprise Towards the Thurso Newton Room.

Bad á Cheò Education and Training Awards

The purpose of the bursaries is to improve people's opportunities for employment. Anyone aged over 16 who lives within the Halkirk District area can apply for short courses or multi-year courses which they can see potential for employment in.

Costs might include course fees, course books, study aids, equipment. Please note travel, subsistence and accommodation costs will only be considered for people aged 16-25, and in the first instance students should check whether they are eligible for free bus travel.

22 Halkirk District residents received an award:

- £6,000 to 12 local people to fund driving lessons and test fees
- £120 ITC Level 3 Award Outdoor First Aid
- £470 Hot Stone Massage
- £280 Natural Lift Facial Massage
- £1,500 NC Engineering
- £3,750 BSc Molecular & Cellular Biology
- £4,750 Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery
- £2,500 BA (Hons) Film & Media
- £1,500 AAT Level 3 Diploma in Accounting
- £2,500 BSc Architectural Technology
- £3,750 Primary Education

Micro-grants

Individuals or non-constituted groups looking for a small grant of up to £300, can apply to apply for a micro-grant. For more information, please contact Halkirk & District community council:

secretary@halkirkcommunitycouncil.org

Joining the Panel

If you are interested in joining the Panel we'd love to hear from you. You can contact eilidh@foundationscotland.org.uk or call 07801530218