**BLACKHILL WINDFARM COMMUNITY FUND**

**Meeting of Directors, 6.30 pm Wednesday 12th February 2025**

**Gavinton Village Hall**

**AGENDA**

1. Present – Adam Prokopowicz, Andrew McEwen, Joy Dobie, Stuart Renton, Keith Dickinson, Sharon Cleghorn, Tim Myer
2. Apologies –
3. Declaration of interest –
4. Approval of minutes from November 2024 - Approved
5. Applications – Update
   * BF0283 – Berwickshire Youth Pipping & Drumming Foundation - £2,000.00 – Awarded 06/12/2024.
   * BF0284 – Duns Swimming Pool - £5,634.00 – Awarded 06/12/2024.
   * BF0285 – DunsPlayFest - £5,520.00 – Awarded 06/12/2024.
6. New Applications – Bank Balance – £52,644.03 (28/01/2025)
   * BF0287 – Duns Community Nursery - £1,955.48
   * To purchase Apple iPad, pens, whiteboard & drying rack.
   * A well written application which fits into our social sustainability objective.
   * They have done their research into the various products they require.
   * Modest request for a valuable community resource.
   * Approved - £1,955.48
   * BF0288 – Greener Duns - £3,460.00
   * Requesting funding to establish a monthly Repair Café in Southfield in Duns from April 2025 to March 2026.
   * Greener Duns have held a number of Make Do & Mend events over the last 3 years at Duns Volunteer Hall and more recently in the Fair Share Café on Murray Street.
   * Proposing to move the Repair Cafes to Southfield which will provide a larger space.
   * Keith had a conversation with Julia Wood, from Greener Duns, and discussed a number of things including the cost of the Film Hire.
   * The application fits our criteria of sustainability, building networks and skills.
   * Generally supportive of the project however the application looks like seed capital for a range of activities.
   * No evidence of additional funding being sought or any plans to future proof the project by continually working to increase the audience they reach.
   * Response -
   * We are very supportive of the aims of your project however we are unable to support your application in its current form.
   * We would welcome an amended application but please bear in mind that due to our limited funds we do not generally fund ongoing core costs or volunteer expenses.
   * If you would like to submit an amended application, please include the following information -
   * How many people do you currently serve with the Repair Café and how many do you expect to reach with the move to Southfield.
   * A detailed breakdown of the frequency of Repair Café.
   * If you would like to discuss a new application with one of our directors, Keith, please let me know and I will pass on his details.

* + BF0289 – GFPCC - £13,182.50
  + To fund swimming lessons/classes for GFPCC residents.
  + They have requested a large amount although our website clearly states that our average grant is £3,500.
  + No evidence of having sought match funding.
  + Abbey St Bathans, Bonkyl, Preston CC received funding from PACT for swimming lessons.
  + This application has raised more questions than answers.
  + How did they seek, collect and collate the information provided in the application?
  + How many people in the catchment area are restricted from swimming on financial grounds?
  + Would this set the president for other community councils to apply to BWCF for funding.
  + Rejected – The directors are unable to align your application with our funding guidelines.
  + BF0290 – DDAOS - £1,800.00
  + To hire sound desk.
  + They plan to future proof by training some of their members on the sound desk and plan to fund raise to purchase their own sound desk.
  + A well regarded and supported organisation which includes younger members of the community.
  + They are using some of their reserves to part fund.
  + Approved - £1,800.00
  + BF0291 – DPS - £1,000.00
  + To go towards scenery, props, microphones & costumes.
  + We do not fund work which is the responsibility of a local governing body.
  + This project is an extra-curricular Music Theatre Club.
  + Modest fund for a worthwhile activity.
  + Concerns over the funds being paid into the general school bank account.
  + Approved – £5,000.00
  + Restricted Award (General and Specific Terms & Conditions to be signed by the head teacher and grant applicant).
  + BF0292 – Duns RFC - £3,500.00
  + Requesting funding to replace defunct Worcester boiler.
  + Club membership is currently an issue which has had a knock-on effect to their finances.
  + Worthy cause which helps grass roots sports.
  + Approved - £3,500.00 – provide list of other potential funders.
  + BF0293 – BHS Musical Theatre Group - £5,000.00
  + To purchase a Kawai Grant Piano and fund the school show Beauty & The Beast.
  + A Grand Piano (circa £23k) is a tangible long-term project.
  + They are asking for just over 20% of the funding required and have sought additional funding.
  + Concerns over the funds being paid into the general school bank account.
  + Approved – £5,000.00
  + Restricted Award (General and Specific Terms & Conditions to be signed by the head teacher and grant applicant).

1. Meet The Funders – 30/04/2025.
   * Invited to have a stand at Borders Community Action on 30th April 2025
2. AOB
   * Website
   * The website is 80% complete.
   * Initial observations and changes
   * Replace the homepage banner with something brighter.
   * Remove the three-photo section and keep the symbols. Current titles under discussion.
   * Add rolling images of successful projects.
   * Implement a section to show number of Projects Supported to Date, Projects Supported This Year, and Funds Injected into the Community.
   * Set up a scrolling banner for the Successful Projects page featuring previous applicants.
   * All directors to be given the opportunity to review the website once it is completed and prior to going life.
   * Terms & Conditions to be reviewed and if necessary updated to include a note clarifying that all funds awarded should be considered to be restricted to the specific purpose described in the application. Introduce Keith to Michael to discuss / review our Terms & Conditions
3. Dates of future meetings

* 14th May 2025 – Longformacus Village Hall
* 13th August 2025 – Duns Volunteer Hall – AGM
* November 2025 – Paxton Village Hall