

Innogy Renewables UK Kiln Pit Hill Wind Farm  
Community Benefit Fund  
Impact Report 2018



## Your Year 2018

This report presents feedback from the sixth year (Nov 2017 to Oct 2018) of grant making from the Innogy Renewables UK Kiln Pit Hill Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund (the Fund) and aims to give a flavour of the impact that the Fund has had in Shotley Low Quarter Parish over the last year.

In Year 6 there were six grants awarded, totalling £16,894; grants from the Fund are - recommended by an Advisory Panel (the Panel) comprising of local people and including a representative from Shotley Low Quarter Parish Council. The Panel met twice during the year: in November 2017, to consider grant applications to the Fund, and in May 2018 to explore potential development opportunities for the Fund. The Panel welcomed a new member Helen McIntyre, who has added to the already extensive skills and knowledge of the Panel.

The Fund continues to attract a high number of applications for consideration from within the Parish and, in year six, the Fund again received more applications than could be supported. All grant applications were assessed against Fund criteria, with consideration given as to how they will have long-term impact on the Parish. Whilst the Fund is relatively broad in terms of what it can fund, projects supported have all demonstrated that they primarily benefit residents of Shotley Low Quarter.

The Community Foundation reports the impact of its grants under three themes: helping people to overcome disadvantage, creating stronger communities, and making the area a good place to live. The grants made through the Kiln Pit Hill Fund generally fall within the latter two themes, with the added impact of supporting people, particularly older people, who live in a rural area and who may face additional challenges in terms of accessing services and experiencing isolation. For example, the contribution that the Fund has made over the last six years towards improvements at St John's Hall has helped create a warmer, more welcoming community asset that is well used by voluntary organisations. The purchase of cinema equipment has added a new dimension to the offer of the Village Hall; films are shown every third Friday of the month and are aimed at attracting a wide audience, bringing new people and families into the Hall and increasing its standing as a community hub.

Whittonstall Community Band is now seen as a permanent fixture in the community and continues to support members to flourish in a creative and safe environment. The Band continues to help create a stronger community by providing opportunities for people to get together, share a common interest and for the wider community to share in performances and have fun. Many of the grants made in Year 6, and indeed during the lifetime of the Fund, have helped make the Parish a good place to live. For example, the grant made to the Parish Council for the maintenance of community assets, such as public seating, was again approved by the Panel in recognition that these facilities are well-used and the ongoing maintenance will prolong their lifespan. A second award for the purchase and installation of two defibrillators in the Parish, one at Whittonstall the second at Carterway Heads, together with training of community members in their use, may help to save lives, if ever called into use.

The Fund awarded a grant to a Community Interest Company (CIC) for the first time; within Community Foundation guidelines, CICs can be supported in their start up phase, for expansion of activities, or if they are the only organisation in the locale that provides a service. Fine Studios CIC

was in its start-up phase and was the only organisation offering art activities for people from within and without the Parish who are living with dementia and those with mental health problems. The award was towards the purchase of a wood burning stove to allow the art space to be used for activities throughout the year. During the year following the award activities took place and a monitoring visit was undertaken by the Community Foundation, which confirmed that the Funds had been allocated as awarded. In December of 2018 we were informed that the CIC may be moving premises, this was investigated in January 2019 and, as activities were no longer on offer for the Community of Shotley Low Quarter the Community Foundation was successful in securing the return of a significant portion of the grant award, which is explained in more detail later in the report.

It cannot be stressed enough the passion that the Advisory Panel continue to bring to the Fund, along with a wealth of local knowledge, I would like to thank each one of them for their support and input over the last year, and I look forward to working with them in the year ahead

Pete Barrett

**Pete Barrett**  
Senior Programme Advisor

[pb@communityfoundation.org.uk](mailto:pb@communityfoundation.org.uk)



## Vital Signs 2019: Food poverty: how philanthropy can make a difference

Vital Signs is our flagship initiative to guide effective giving. It is based on national and local statistics and research; learning from our grant making and the views of our partners across the North East. This year we have been concentrating on the growing problem of food poverty in the region, and below we share headlines from our forthcoming report on this subject. As always, we have tried to identify ways that philanthropists can best help to address local needs.

People in food poverty are unable to afford to eat properly. There is no definitive measure of the scale of this problem in the North East, but foodbanks run by the national Trussell Trust distributed over 64,000 emergency food packs here in 2018. This is likely to represent the tip of the iceberg since access to such provision is generally by referral only and short-term in nature, and many vulnerable people are put off by the stigma of using such services.

### Food poverty facts

The poorest 10% of UK households spend 5x more of their available income on feeding themselves than the most affluent.

1.2 million people in deprived areas now live in food deserts.

The major cause of food poverty is that income from low-paid work or benefits is simply not enough to meet the rising cost of food and fuel. In many poorer or more isolated areas – termed “food deserts” – the problem is made worse by problems with the local availability of good quality, affordable food. The North East is therefore particularly vulnerable. It has a relatively weak regional economy characterised by a predominance of low paid employment. Levels of benefit dependency are high, partially as a result of high unemployment but also reflecting an ageing population and high rates of disability.

In a range of our communities – from deprived urban neighbourhoods to isolated rural settlements – local food shops are becoming few and far between. Getting access to good quality, affordable food is therefore a challenge for residents.

Some groups are at particular risk of falling into food poverty. Often it is just the loss of a few day’s wages, a benefit stoppage or broken washing machine that can tip the balance. For 132,000 children living in poor households in our region the school holidays create problems. It is estimated that one in 6 parents in poverty now skip meals to ensure their children are fed. The amount and quality of food available to their children is dramatically reduced with the loss of breakfast clubs and free school meals. The resulting “holiday hunger” contributes to the educational attainment gap between poor children and their more affluent peers with long term effects on life chances. There is also compelling evidence of food poverty affecting older, vulnerable and disabled people: in Gateshead during 2015 over a third of older people admitted to hospital were malnourished.

The good news is that community and voluntary organisations – often working in partnership with local government and the food industry – have mobilised to tackle the problem of food poverty. The growing visibility of foodbanks is symptomatic of this, but there are also many other types of service here in the North East that are working to address the problem. These range from schemes that ensure surplus food is redistributed through community cafes and shops rather than going to landfill to services that work to maximise family income by advising on issues like benefits and debt.

As always with Vital Signs our aim is to shine a light on where the generosity of North East philanthropists can have the greatest impact. In mid-2019 we will be publishing a detailed research report [“Food Poverty: how philanthropy can make a difference”](#) that recommends the use of charitable funding for three purposes:

### Living in food poverty

*“...in the face of having little to spend, households prioritise purchasing foods that will not go to waste and that are most filling. Often this means a reliance on cheap foods that are nutrient-poor but calorie-rich.”*

- End Hunger UK

*“When my mum’s got the money then we can get snacks. Its 25 pence per item. We don’t get snacks if it’s a bad week. Sometimes we’re hungry.”*

- Young person interviewed by the Children’s Commission on Poverty

1. To support the costs of service delivery, and in particular those associated with coordinating provision and covering projects’ core expenditure which are harder to get funded.

2. To increase provision to help children at risk of “holiday hunger”, particularly over the Summer. We recommend funding schemes that combine the minimum “4 hours a day, 4 days per week, 4 weeks per holiday” level of educational, physical activity and food provision that is proven to have maximum benefit to poorer children.

3. To address the causes of the problem by using evidence to influence policy-makers locally and nationally and promoting good practice and partnership working between agencies. We see this as the best way to ensure that food poverty does not become entrenched in our region.

It is anticipated that the publication of our report will spark an interest in securing funding through the Community Foundation for projects that address food poverty. We hope that if these match your philanthropic interests that you will help us to support the important work of local civil society organisations in this area.

Mark Pierce

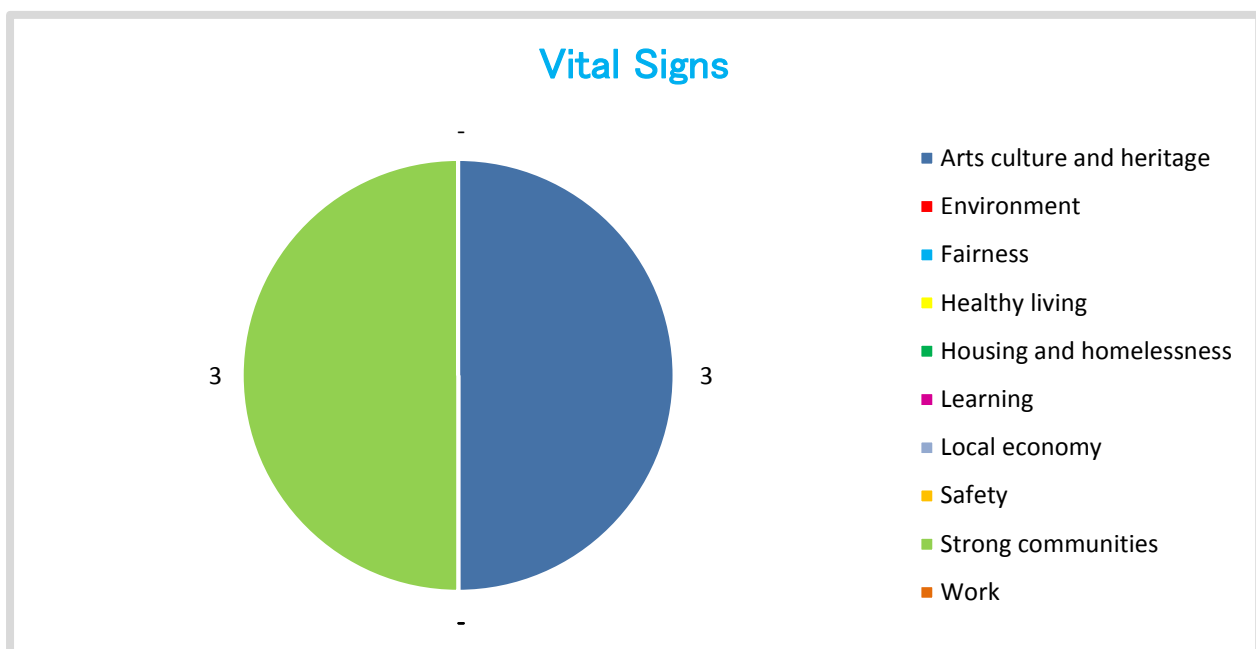
**Director of Community Knowledge and Funding**

## Grants awarded

Grants award	
<b>Shotley Low Quarter Parish Council</b> 2018 maintenance/safety schedule for public seating programme	<b>520</b>
<b>Shotley Low Quarter Parish Council</b> Installation of 2 defibrillation units	<b>4,174</b>
<b>Shotley Low Quarter Parish Council</b> First aid courses for parish residents	<b>2,130</b>
<b>St John's Church Hall Trustees</b> Snods Edge community cinema	<b>4,596</b>
<b>Whittonstall Community Band</b> Whittonstall Community Band	<b>3,494</b>
<b>Fine Studios CIC</b> Sustainable heating for the Studio and accessible toilet	<b>1,980</b>
<b>6 Grants</b>	<b>16,894</b>

## Grants breakdown

The following graph shows the breakdown of your grants across our Vital Signs theme.



## News from the people you have supported

Shotley Women's Institute (WI)	
Project:	Dabble Days Craft Group - Year 2
Grant amount:	£1,500
Area of benefit:	Northumberland

This grant was awarded to Shotley WI to run Dabble Days, allowing people across the community to access and learn new crafts. The initial award two-year award was made three years ago, however, unforeseen circumstances led to the second-year payment being delayed. Shotley WI kept in contact with the Community Foundation throughout this time and took advice. This enabled a programme of activities taking place over the last year (2017/2018) and the completion of the project. Feedback from participants has been very positive and they have enjoyed trying out new crafts including:

- Powertex
- Crochet
- Knitting
- Beading
- Enamelling
- Hooky and Proggy mat making.

### Shotley Low Quarter Parish Council

Project:	Installation of two defibrillation units
Grant amount:	£4,174
Area of benefit:	Northumberland

The Parish Council was awarded a grant award to purchase and install two defibrillators at the east and west boundaries of the Parish. Both defibrillators have been installed on the external walls of public houses in the Parish, in Whittonstall and Carterway Heads, with the landlord's permission. Both are situated on main roads, with the defibrillator at Whittonstall being placed within one of the the larger settlements in the Parish.

As part of this award, local residents are to be trained in the use of the defibrillators; to date, two of five sessions have taken place, with the remainder due to take place in April and May of 2019.





St John's Church Hall	
Project:	Snods Edge Community Cinema
Grant amount:	£4,596
Area of benefit:	Northumberland

The cinema projection equipment was purchased and installed in the Village Hall in February 2018. At the time of reporting cinema shows have taken place on a regular basis on the third Friday of the month. In total seven films have already been shown this year with the next one scheduled for 19 October. Attendances have varied, with the popular children's showings attracting 70 plus, including quite a few people who do not normally use the Hall.

The new equipment has given us an opportunity to show a broad range of films to a wide audience who might not otherwise have ventured out to the cinema. Family involvement has been high with many new faces appearing at the Hall. The equipment has also been utilised by a number of other Hall users at birthday celebrations, weddings and workshops. The sound system can also be adapted for music and other related activities [with the right instruction!] Prospective Hall hirers get quite excited about the opportunities created, especially organised seminars and work.

SNODS COMMUNITY CINEMA BRINGS TO YOU



**(12A) The Multi-Oscar winning film Bohemian Rhapsody is a foot-stomping celebration of Queen, their music and their extraordinary lead singer Freddie Mercury**

**FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

**DOORS OPEN 7.00PM FILM STARTS 7.30PM**

**@ ST JOHNS CHURCH HALL SNODS EDGE DH8 9TJ**

**ADMISSION - £2.50 Adults £1.00 12 -16 years**

**BAR OPEN, ICE CREAM AND SNACKS**

**Seating is Limited**

**LICENSING KINDLY PAID FOR BY ST JOHNS CHURCH HALL COMMITTEE**

 St John's Church and Hall

## Whittonstall Community Band

Project:	Whittonstall Community Band
Grant amount:	£3,494
Area of benefit:	Northumberland

Early in the year we started to focus on the annual joint concert which was at Highfield Middle School in March. This is a fantastic opportunity for the younger members of the band to perform in front of an audience and for all members to share expertise, ideas and sometimes musicians! It is also a great time to showcase our new material. Our residential was held in April at the Emmaus Youth Village at Allensford. We spent a great weekend together rehearsing 2 new pieces of music which we performed to an audience on the Sunday afternoon and enjoying the open spaces of the Derwent Valley - we had another clear night for toasting marshmallows over the fire pit! The weather was glorious for the Bee Fest at Cherryburn in June this year and it stayed warm for the Wood Fest at Chopwell Woods in July. The new band jackets came in very useful though into the winter season with outdoor performances at the Sill Discovery Centre in November and at Hedley-on-the-Hill in December. We continued to maintain good links (and obtain new ones) with local peripatetic music teachers, who often recommend us to their students to allow them the experience of playing in an organised band.

Due to a slight change in the price from the suppliers, we have been able to buy 43 band jackets 36 of which have been issued to members with another 4 due to go out in January. They have been invaluable during the winter months!

We have actually spent £575 on new music scores. Some great new pieces for Christmas: Let it Snow!, All I want for Christmas, My Favourite Things (from Sound of Music), It's beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas and a lovely version of Prokofiev's Troika. We also purchased a great medley of Glenn Miller tunes and the stirring Dambusters March. Other new music we've been able to buy: How do you like your Eggs in the Morning?, and some more contemporary scores - Crazy in Love, Havana and Papa Was a Rolling Stone.

Our new bandmaster has now been with us for over a year and the band is gaining in confidence and still enjoying the great experience of having fun playing music together.









Fine Studios CIC	
Project:	Sustainable heating for the Studio and accessible toilet
Grant amount:	£740 (Initial award £1,980)
Area of benefit:	Northumberland

The stove makes an enormous difference to the studio. Not only does it provide warmth, but also a focal point. people gather round, warm their hands and bottoms, drink tea and chat. It can be sometimes be hard to drag them away to make art. It is loved and admired, and coveted by all.

The converted loo made Fine Studios accessible to all. We have a number of visiting artists with limited mobility, and also some who require help. The extra space has made such a difference.

The costs were quite a lot more than originally estimated, and were covered by the landlord/owner of Fine Studios.

#### **Update from the Community Foundation:**

Since the successful completion of this award, Fine Studios CIC relocated the studio to the Scottish Borders. Having moved outside of the Fund area of benefit and not in a position to offer activities to residents of Shotley Low Quarter, a partial refund of the purchase price of the woodburning stove was requested by the Community Foundation and duly received (Mar 2019). This refund will be reinvested in the Fund to support organisations working in, and offering services to, the Parish.

## Thank you letters from some funded groups

### SHOTLEY LOW QUARTER PARISH COUNCIL

By EMAIL TO:- The Chief Executive  
Mr Rob Williamson, & Administrator Ms V Rodgers,  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, TYNE, WEAR  
AND NORTHUMBERLAND,  
PHILANTHROPY HOUSE, WOODBINE ROAD  
GOSFORTH, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE3 1DD 18th December 2017

Dear Mr. Williamson,

Re: GRANT OFFER FROM THE FROM "INNOGY RENEWABLES  
UK KILN PIT HILL WINDFARM COMMUNITY FUND."  
**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION REF. 180878: 181179 & 181180: .**

We refer to Ms. Roger's Eml. dated 15th December 2017 relating to your Grant acceptance letter dated 14/12/2017 reference the 3 projects detailed below, and also acknowledge receipt of the Terms and Conditions documentation for this funding.

- **180878 - 2018 Fixed Asset Maintenance**
- **181179 - Installation of 2 Defibrillation units within our Parish**
- **181180 - Provision Of 1st Aid Training for Parish residents.**

As requested we have signed and returned by eml. the "Acceptance Forms" for these grants together with a copy of a recent bank statement, detailing the current bank account to which the funding payment should be deposited please. (You will note from the level of balance this status reflects completion of the KPH 2015/16 grant awards recently finalised and reported to the Monitoring system), - the result of which we have confirmed has vastly improved community safety from the first day the pathway was laid!.

We can confirm on completion of the new funded projects (realistically scheduled to be finalised in Autumn 2018), we will issue the required Monitoring Form illustrating progress of the grant objectives under the new on-line reporting method.

Please convey our sincere thanks to the Community Foundation Panel for their generosity in providing such funding available for the above 2018 projects, which will provide long-term, - and quite simply, life-saving improvements within our community, for all who live, work and visit our rural parish..

Yours sincerely,

  
Marian I Green, Parish Clerk,  
For and on behalf of Chair & Members of Shotley Low Quarter Parish Council

Fine Studios CIC, Fine House Farm, Kiln Pit Hill, Consett, DH8 9SL

Tel:07738803418 [jane@finehousefarm.com](mailto:jane@finehousefarm.com)

18 December 2017

The Advisors  
Innogy Renewables UK  
Kiln Pit Hill Wind Farm Community Fund

Dear Advisors,

I am writing to thank you so much for your very kind, and greatly appreciated, offer of a grant of £1980 towards a wood burning stove, and adaptation of the toilet to a disabled toilet, at Fine Studios.

We opened our doors in April 2017. Our aim was to provide a space for anyone to come to make art in a friendly, secure, dedicated studio. We had no idea of the impact we were to have and the feedback we have received. We have two main types of art programmes here. We offer a range of Art Workshops, from Summer Schools to Ceramics courses, from weekly 2 hour Art Classes to 3 Day Life Drawing Classes. These are all led by established visual artists based in the North-East. The feedback we have had from the artists and their clients has been overwhelming. The landscape, the environment, the tranquility, the beauty and the peace..... who knew we lived in such a beautiful place! But, the feedback has often been, 'it is a bit cold in there', 'how are you going to keep it warm in the winter?'....

The other main activity which takes place at Fine Studios is our 'Art for the Brain' workshop. This currently runs for 4 hours, every Monday. The aim of this session is to welcome anyone with dementia or Alzheimers, Parkinson's disease or who has suffered a stroke or brain injury, and, importantly, their families and/or carers, into a welcoming and understanding environment, to make art. These sessions have become increasingly popular, with people from within the parish, Corbridge, Stocksfield, Hexham and even as far away as Morpeth attending regularly. But, we had to close for December. The studio was just too cold, even with all the electric heating on. We had elderly and vulnerable people trying to paint with their coats and scarves on. It was just not fair. It was also worrying.

So how fantastic it is to receive the news that you have offered funding towards a lovely big cozy efficient stove. We hope to have it installed before the end of January. We will send you photos. This also means that we can extend 'Art for the Brain'. We hope to run a Workshop from 10am - 4pm on Mondays and 1pm - 4pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This will be dependent on funding from a range of sources and support from Newcastle and Northumbria Universities, but the fact that we can now offer a warm space will strengthen our cause.



We would also like to thank you for the funding towards the toilet adaptation. We have so little money, and what we have seems to be very quickly spent on materials. We use a lot of paper, and paint, and ink, and masking tape! We only charge £5 a head for 'Art for the Brain', but each session costs us about £250. So, there is rarely any spare cash for non urgent building work. This grant means that we know we have the money, we can go ahead as soon as our builder has 2 or 3 days free, and we can extend the invitation to come and make art to all with mobility problems too. We hope to have this completed by the end of January 2018 too.

We would also like to invite all of you to come and have a look. Come and have a create. If you would like to come and see what we are doing, whether it is 'Art for the Brain', 'Winter Pastels' or 'Painting the Northern Landscape', please do not hesitate to give me a ring. I have attached some photos from our 'Art for the Brain' sessions and 'Summer School' to tempt you.

Thank you again.

Sincerely yours,

Dr Jane Dawson

Director



Ref: 181204

Dear Mr Williamson c/o Advisors to the Innogy Renewables UK Kiln Pit Hill Wind Farm Community Fund

It is my absolute delight to be in a position to write to you to pass on my thanks to your organisation and to your generous donors for our recent grant award. It was a decidedly chilly May day on the band stand at Beamish when I decided I needed to pursue some way of staying warm when we play. So this award for outdoor coats will mean we can look forward with playing outside with much more pleasure in the future!

We have had rather a year of transition and were disappointed that our previous band leader could not continue. We are however delighted to have been able to employ the services of a young graduate of Leeds College of Music to pick up the reins. There has also been one or two changes where young people have left to pursue their studies or play in more advanced bands but this has meant opportunities for other young folk to develop their own musical journey.

We have had another busy year of practising and performing. We had 12 scheduled performances though unfortunately 3 of these were cancelled due to inclement weather. The majority of these performances were in our local area; various school fairs, Chopwell woods Heritage day and Beamish. Unfortunately our band residential weekend could not be held this year as the venue was unexpectedly sold at short notice, but we already have booked up for next year and look forward to it. After our success last year, we are again looking to participate in the Tynedale Music Festival in March and will soon be choosing some new scores to play thanks to this award.

We have just had our Christmas celebration at the church in Whittonstall, which was well attended by people from the village, the local area and parents. We raised £92.41 for The People's Kitchen and it was very encouraging to hear so many kind and enthusiastic words from the audience afterwards and a reminder that our activities, made possible by the generous funding, are a benefit not just to band members but to wider audiences and families in various communities.

Once again thank you very much for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely

Andrew Spencer

Chairman Whittonstall Community Band

**St John's Church Hall Trustees:**

Vivienne - I am assuming that an email will serve the same purpose as a letter to say that the Hall Committee gratefully accepts the grant offer of £4596.00 made in the letter of 14 December 2017 towards the provision of a community cinema at Snods Edge. At its meeting last night the Committee discussed in more detail how the installation of the cinematographic equipment will be organised. We do have a film show on 19 January and another planned for 16 February 2018. The last children's film show in December attracted well over fifty parents with their kids and was very well received. We have already held preliminary talks with Newcastle based Universal AV, who provided the lowest quotation, and following acceptance of the funding bid intend to progress things fairly speedily, perhaps even in time for the March film night. These sorts of projects could never be achieved without the support of the Kiln Pit Hill Wind Farm Community Fund and the award helps to strengthen the community's involvement in activities at The Snods which is so vital to maintaining St Johns Church Halls role as a community hub.

Tom Stukins - Treasurer and Trustee

**Community Foundation**

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