OnPath Energy Penny Hill Wind Farm Community Fund

Grant Guidelines

At Point North, we manage the OnPath Energy Group Wind Farm Community Fund. We do this in consultation with Community Fund Committee (CFC). The CFC is made up of representatives from each of the Parish Councils mentioned below. The final decision on grant applications is made by OnPath Energy Group, who are advised by the CFC.

About the Fund

OnPath Energy's Penny Hill Wind Farm Community Fund (the Fund) provides grants to community groups, charities, and voluntary organisations in and around the OnPath Energy Penny Hill Wind Farm.

Applicable locations:

The eligible parishes for the Fund are:

- Aston
- Thurcroft
- Treeton
- Ulley
- Whiston

Projects outside of these areas might be eligible if applicants can show how the project benefits local people.

Size of Grant

Up to £7,000

What type of projects can you support?

The Fund can support a broad range of existing or new projects and activities, including projects which:

- Promotion of energy efficiency
- Environmental protection and nature conservation
- Supporting health and wellbeing of people
- Regeneration
- Improvements to community facilities

- Education and training facilities or equipment
- Social welfare, including events, trips and activities such as luncheon clubs and food banks

Who can apply?

Your organisation does not have to be a registered charity to apply but must have charitable, educational, philanthropic, or benevolent aims. Examples include:

- Community groups
- Voluntary organisations
- Playgroups
- Youth clubs
- Church and village halls
- Sports clubs and facilities
- The Scout and Guide Movement
- Environmental projects
- Senior citizens clubs and activities
- Schools (for non-statutory projects that are not normally funded by the Council)
- Education, employment, training and skills development for unemployed people

Organisations seeking funding must satisfy the following conditions:

Volunteer-led organisations, registered charities and CIOs must:	Social enterprises, Community Interest Companies (CIC) and other companies must:
Have a management committee with a minimum of three unrelated members	Have a management committee with a minimum of three directors, or four directors if two are related
Have a bank or building society account in the name of the organisation/group, with a minimum of two unrelated cheque signatories	Have a bank or building society account in the name of the organisation/company, with a minimum of two unrelated cheque signatories
Have charitable aims	Have clear charitable purposes and a defined social benefit
Provide evidence of good governance practices and sound financial management (including registering with the Charity Commission, CASC or other governing body, depending on the size of the organisation)	Have a recognised status (e.g. a company limited by guarantee), and be registered with the necessary relevant body (e.g. Companies House)
Usually, you must register with the Charity Commission if your charity is based in England or Wales and has over £5,000 income per year. We may ask for evidence of this in the form of a letter from the Charity Commission confirming receipt of your application for	Have a nominated organisation as an asset lock body.

charitable status.	

In addition, social enterprises, CICs and other companies must demonstrate within applications that:

- The company has been registered for a minimum of 12 months
- A reasonable percentage of their income has been earned through trading
- The project they wish to fund is not a tradable asset or service
- Sessional costs are in line with an appropriate pay structure
- The application is made for cost to deliver the project not managing the CIC
- The project or activity for which funding is sought is charitable i.e. it must not be part of the trading services for which they would usually have a charge
- There is clear evidence of need from the community and the benefit must also be clear

In managing your organisation, we would expect that the appropriate policies are in place. These should include (if appropriate) but not be restricted to:

- Safeguarding policies and procedures for children and vulnerable adults
- Public liability insurance
- Employers' liability
- Equality and diversity
- Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks carried out and in place for all paid and unpaid volunteer staff working with children and vulnerable adults
- Suitable planning permissions and/or other regulations approval are in place prior to the commencement of any improvements to building or land as required

We are unable to accept application from groups that:

- Have not returned monitoring forms for previous grants
- Are subject to an investigation by the Charity Commission, the police or any other organisation in a legal capacity
- Are connected to the donor unless a full and independent assessment has taken place to ensure that there is no conflict of interest, and the proposed grant offers value for money
- Have restricted membership other than that associated with the objects of the group itself i.e. necessary for the safety/wellbeing of disadvantaged people
- Fail due diligence or do not comply with Charity Commission guidelines i.e. we would not make grants to organisations that have related bank signatories,

several related trustees, income well in excess of the threshold for charitable registration etc.

What the fund will not consider:

- Advancement of religion or political activities
- Activities that are the responsibility of statutory authorities
- Projects outside the area of benefit
- Activities contrary to the interests of the Funder or any associated entities
- Activities likely to bring into disrepute the Funder or any associated entities
- Retrospective funding such as costs incurred before a grant has been formally approved by the CFC and ratified by Point North
- Salaries
- Services or facilities already funded by the local authority or other statutory body at the time of application (other than as part of a match funding application)
- Projects of no benefit to the community or environment in the area of benefit
- Applications from national or regional charities with no specific projects in the eligible area
- Projects relating to improvements to land that is not open to the general public
- Requests for sponsorship
- Requests for deficit or retrospective funding for projects and activities that have already taken place
- Statutory or other legal duty of a governmental department, local authority or other public body to carry out
- Individuals

Can you apply to other programmes?

Applying to OnPath Energy's Penny Hill Wind Farm Community Fund does not restrict you from applying to other funds.

When to apply?

Please visit our website for the latest closing dates.

How to apply:

To apply for a grant, you must use our online application form which can be found by visiting: https://ukcommunityfoundation.my.salesforce-sites.com/forms/CDCF/bankspennyhill

When you have completed the application in full, we aim to have a decision for you within 12 weeks.

Please make sure you, or someone else in your organisation will be available to clarify any of your application for one month after submitting your application.

Need more help?

If after reading the guidelines, you have any questions or need some help completing your application, please get in touch with our team. If you're booking an advice appointment, please include the OnPath fund name in your booking.

E-mail: apply@onpathcommunityfund.co.uk

Advice line: 0191 378 6353

Advice surgery: https://calendly.com/info-61057/fundingadvice?month=2024-06