

## **The Sheringham Shoal Community Fund**

### **Brief details for Wells Town Council Meeting 2 July 2018**

#### **Fund aims**

The Fund supports projects proposed by groups inspired to do something new and positive in their community. Projects need to focus on one or more of the following objectives:

- To contribute to reducing climate change.
- To assist the sustainability of North Norfolk communities by stimulating their own ability to solve issues and create opportunities, for example by providing educational or community business facilities.
- To have a marine environment or marine safety focus.
- To promote environmental sensitivity, sustainability or the benefits of renewable energy.
- To contribute to education or employment in the renewable energy industry or related arenas through access to courses and community activities.

#### **Who can apply?**

The fund is open to charities, community groups, parish and town councils, educational institutions and other non-profit organisations working in the North Norfolk area. Profit distributing organisation cannot apply. There is a particular focus on the Wells area as this is the base for Sheringham Shoal operations.

#### **Grant size**

The fund does not specify lower or upper grant limits. As a guide £20,000 to £25,000 is the largest sum likely to be awarded. Many smaller awards are made through the fund.

#### **How to Apply**

- Grants are awarded through a two stage process. There is an initial straightforward “outline proposal” form on which applicants are asked to set out what they want to do and explain how the work will address the Fund’s priorities. Selected applicants are then invited to complete a more detailed full application.
- Outline proposals can be submitted at any time and decisions are made on these quickly; full applications are accepted twice a year for decisions in May and November.
- The main reason why applications fail is that they do not show that they are relevant to the Fund aims shown above.
- The outline proposal form is available on the Norfolk Community Foundation website (*details below*). The full application form is sent directly to applicants who are successful at the outline stage.

### **What has been funded in and around Wells-next-the-Sea?**

The Wells area has benefited from around £150,000 from the Sheringham Shoal Community Fund. Organisations awarded funding include:

- Wells Maltings Trust – towards the costs of creating small business units at the Sackhouse;
- Wells Maltings Trust – support with the organisation's costs to develop the Maltings project;
- Wells Community Hospital to install photovoltaic panels;
- Wells Community Hospital to help create a community hub;
- Alderman Peel High School – to install solar hot water for swimming pool;
- Heritage House – to install photovoltaic panels;
- Wells Primary and Nursery School – to install photovoltaic panels;
- Wells Harbour Maritime Trust – to establish the gilly station on the Quay;
- Wighton Parish Council – to replace street lighting with new LED lights.

### **Examples of projects elsewhere in North Norfolk**

- Cromer & District Foodbank – to purchase an electric van;
- Palling Volunteer Rescue Service – to renovate the lifeboat station;
- Cromer Town Council - to purchase beach litter picking equipment;
- North Walsham Community Association - to replace and insulate the community centre ceiling and replace fluorescent lights with LED lighting;
- About with Friends – LED lighting

### **Demand**

Only one grant was awarded in Wells in 2017 and none have been awarded so far in 2018 (though there is potential for continuation funding for Wells Community Hospital later this year). Only one application from Wells has been declined in the last three years and so the issue is with insufficient applications from groups in the town rather than the panel rejecting applications.

### **Other points**

Decisions are made by a community panel rather than the windfarm operator itself. The panel includes representation from Wells Town Council.

Before applying groups are **strongly** encouraged to discuss their idea with Clive Rayner at Norfolk Community Foundation [cliverayner@norfolkfoundation.com](mailto:cliverayner@norfolkfoundation.com) 01603 623958.

Further information and a link to the outline proposal form is on the Norfolk Community Foundation website: [www.norfolkfoundation.com/funds/sheringham-shoal-community-fund](http://www.norfolkfoundation.com/funds/sheringham-shoal-community-fund)