Cheyne Court Vind Farm

IMPACT REPORT 2017/2018



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Introduction

We are delighted to produce this Impact Report for Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm covering a successful year of community grant-making in Kent.

Over this time, Kent Community Foundation has worked with you to identify projects which meet your funding guidelines:

"Local community projects/groups within 10 kilometres of the Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm."

Grants made through Kent Community Foundation are followed up in accordance with our Monitoring and Evaluation protocol. Grant recipients are required to submit a formal end-of-grant report (usually 12 months after the award) providing evidence that the grant has been spent as specified, confirming the actual number of beneficiaries etc. as well as reporting back on outcomes achieved.

We hope you enjoy reading this report and look forward to discussing it further with you.

The Kent Community Foundation Team

Grants Awarded

Since Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm's establishment in 2009, on the Kent side of the border the fund has awarded:



Brookland and Fairfield Parochial Church Council

Church Lighting Amount Awarded: £1,836 50 beneficiaries

The Parochial Church Council is responsible for the general management of the churches of St. Augustines, Brookland and St. Thomas Becket, Fairfield in the Diosece of Canterbury. Brookland and Fairfield Church being one of these, the organisation opens its churches for local people by putting on ceremonies, religious events and for public events and visits.

The Parochial Church Council used the awarded funding from Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Community Fund towards improving the lighting in the Church. This lighting replacement has allowed energy efficient lighting to be installed to improve the system and reduce electricity bills. It has saved the time spent by the church warden climbing high ladders to replace bulbs on the previous fixtures and allowed many locals to be able to visit or use the church for the events with reliable and good lighting available.



Ivychurch Amenities Association

Improving Ivychurch Children's Outdoor Play Opportunities Amount awarded: £5,000 100 beneficiaries

The lvychurch Amenities Association has been reformed to build on all the work that has been done previously for lvychurch, with their main objective being to manage and maintain the village hall, car park and village green, which includes the play park. They also develop and manage any further community projects that might benefit the residents of lvychurch.

Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Community Fund awarding funding to lvychurch Amenities Association allowed them to begin work on improving the outdoor facilities for young people. The money was used in two phases alongside their raised money to improve and create a better playing facility for children and young people in the area. The funding allowed them to put in an activity centre as well as a ball wall to allow the local children to enjoy outdoor activities in the village.

John Arimtage Memorial Trust

JAM on the Marsh 2017 Amount awarded: £2,500 12,100 beneficiaries

John Armitage Memorial Trust or JAM as it more commonly known is a creative, dynamic, forward-thinking arts organisation, founded in 2000. In 2014, JAM on the Marsh, an annual multi-arts festival on Romney Marsh, was founded. In 2017, the festival was attended by 12,100 people. JAM believes that nurturing musical ability, enjoyment and appreciation at grass-roots is key to safeguarding a sustainable future for music as well as the cultural, social and academic benefits this brings. JAM are committed to developing opportunities for young people to engage in music, helping them to reach their potential.

The award from Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Community Fund has helped to support the 2017 JAM on the Marsh Festival. The festival strives to bring music and arts to an area of isolated deprivation by putting on events local to the residents in all areas across Romney Marsh. The event helps to promote music and the importance music and learning and instrument but also helps to bring communities together and for people to get to know their neighbours. The event also aims to promote opportunties and brings together local musicians to take part and showcase their talents and give back to their community.



Lydd Methodist Church

Repairs to the front of the Church Amount awarded: £580 20 beneficiaries

Lydd Methodist Church works to meet the needs of the community. The church helps to support local families through parent and toddler groups, the elderly through coffee mornings and lunches as well as yoga groups for all ages.

The Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Community Fund award made to Lydd Methodist Church allowed them to improve the outside of the church. The money enabled the church to repaint and spruce up the windows and doors but also allowed them to purchase a new door knocker and lock. The work has improved the drab outside and given it a more welcoming feel from its nicely decorated outside. Many visitors of the church for the weekly sessions have commented and given great feedback on the improvements.



Sabotage Theatre CIC

The Looker- Horse drawn theatre tour Amount awarded: £2,000 308 beneficiaries

Since 2008 Sabotage Theatre has created brave, original plays for places where there aren't theatres and is the only operating professional horse drawn theatre company in England. They started on Romney Marsh and have a workshop and rehearsal space in Ruckinge. The organisations focus on isolated and rural audiences, where the majority of these are inhabited by elderly residents. By using theatre as a tool for promoting conversation and embrace opportunities to explore challenging issues, such as cultural identity, isolation and diversity in conjunction with folklore and local history.

Sabotage Theatre used the funding from Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Community Fund towards their Look-Horse theatre tour. The play brought together diverse and isolated communities to participate in a shared cultural experience that challenged audiences perceptions on how society functions. This provided opportunities to examine and evaluate contemporary life, culture and societal change in the light of an increasing dependence on technology. The project introduced new audiences to theatre who would not otherwise have had this opportunity. With the limited community events on Romney Marsh, the project offered opportunity for locals to connect and engage with each other and the arts through a new shared experience.



Wittersham Football Club

Changing Room Refurbishment Amount awarded: £2,000 100 beneficiaries

Wittersham Football Club provides footballing opportunities to children from the age of six to adults. They provide this through arranging matches and training. The football club currently run three youth teams for the local children.

The funding allocation from Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Community Fund supported Wittersham Football Club to refurbish their changing room facilities. The funding contributed towards the purchases of a new toilet, storage benches and new flooring to allow them to upgrade the highly used facilities for the teams. The upgrade has made the changing room a more welcoming environment to be in for all that use the facility for matches or on training days.



New Romney Counselling Services

NRCS Young People Amount awarded: £2,500 14 beneficiaries

New Romney Counselling Services (NRCS) is a voluntary organisation that was founded in 2000 by two qualified and experienced psychotherapists. They recognised the need for a counselling service to cover the gap between Folkestone, Ashford and Hastings, for those who cannot afford private counselling. Many of their clients have been turned away from NHS funded counselling services as they do not fit within their criteria. The NHS counselling services cannot see all children/teenagers and since the mental health teams can only see the severe cases, there is literally nowhere for these children to go to receive therapy when they are potentially at their most vulnerable.

The funding was used to support the NRCS Young People's project. The project allowed the young people to gain coping strategies and techniques, that they could take with them through subsidised counselling by New Romney Counselling Services. These young people expressed and explored their feelings and problems within their daily lives. From the feedback on the counselling, the parents commented on their child's improved behaviour at school and at home.

Case Study:

Client A is 16. During our initial sessions, I was unsure of how effective our working relationship would be as she wouldn't make eye contact with me. She had very low self-esteem and a dysfunctional family background. After around 12 sessions, she slowly started to make eye contact and engaged more in conversation. An initial course of treatment from the NHS would only have resulted in 12 sessions, so I am grateful she came to us as I believe she may have made even more limited progress elsewhere. After about 24 sessions, she said that people had started to notice a difference in her at school. I believe one of her biggest issues was that no one had previously given her the time she needed to listen and understand her. She felt isolated from her family as she felt they had very little in common and subsequently struggled to understand each other. I feel that due to receiving the time and affirmation she needed, she felt freer to express herself. Over the year we spent together, I saw enormous positive changes in her attitude and demeanour and was unrecognisable from our initial sessions.

Romney Marsh Ploughing and Cultivations Society

Continued investment within the Society Amount awarded: £483 **600** beneficiaries

Romney Marsh Ploughing and Cultivations Society works to promote rural crafts and skills. They work to do this by involving local communities, businesses and people with the aim of educating people, in particular the younger generation in the traditional ways of farming.

Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Community Fund allocating funding to Romney Marsh Ploughing and Cultivations Society allowed them to purchase items to support the society in their ploughing match event. The money covered the cost of purchasing the Cant numbers and pegs for the event which were placed out by the local scouts group. This event allowed the local community and visitors to experience a ploughing match and understand the importance for farming and agriculture for the community.



St Mary's on the Marsh Project Fund

PA System Amount awarded: £1,913.50 **600** beneficiaries

The St Mary in the Marsh Project Fund is a registered charity set up to raise funds, build and maintain community spaces to provide central meeting points and engender community spirit for the inhabitants of this rural, widespread and disadvantaged community. The Project Fund raises funds through a variety of fundraising activities including themed events, concerts, dances, coffee mornings, book sales, treasure hunts and the annual village May Fair which includes the Romney Marsh Tug-o'-War Challenge Cup competition and a Fun Dog Show. The main aim of the fund is to bring the community together and build bonds in shared experiences.

The funding awarded by Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Community Fund covered the purchase costs of a PA system for the organisation. This helped the organisers run a better fun day for the community and make sure they were heard across the area of the event so that important imformation was shared to attendees. This system will be in use for all future events and will support getting important information out to all in attendance. The PA system is loaned to Romney Marsh Ploughing and Cultural Society (see page 12) for their ploughing match.



Art In Romney Marsh

Art in Romney Marsh Amount awarded: £3,500 280 beneficiaries

Art in Romney Marsh (AiRM) is an arts organisation and charity that aims to enable access to high quality cultural activities and deliver learning programmes to the residents of isolated, rural villages located on Romney Marsh.

Funding from Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Community Fund has allowed AiRM to promote the importance of art and using local resources to the young and old. The project was an intergenrational project bringing together primary school aged children with local elderly residents of Romney Marsh to create art, share experiences and reduce isolation and divides between the different ages.



Kent and Medway Charity Team

Buster's Book Club Amount awarded: £5,000 I,680 beneficiaries

The Kent and Medway Charity Team works to improve the lives of children and families through initiatives which support healthy lifestyles, green travel, improved literacy skills and enhanced road safety skills. They tackle issues affecting children with the aim of bringing about a change in their life style choices. With twenty years of experience and strong relationships with primary and secondary schools across Kent and Medway, the charity is constantly developing its work to deliver projects with positive outcomes.

The funding allocation from Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Community Fund went towards supporting the costs of the charity teams Buster's Book Club for young people in Romney Marsh. Buster's Book Club has motivated children at participating schools to read for pleasure at home more regularly. This project can benefit their literacy skills and school progress in reading, which all schools have reported has greatly improved as children are more comfortable with reading and reading allowed by sharing stories from books with their peers. The project has also supported the children to read at home, making them read with their parents and share stories with one another. The promotion of reading and reading at home has greatly improved the childrens abilities but also given the parents chance to bond with their children over a shared love of stories. The winning team for the Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm area were the Cherry class from Brenzit Primary School.





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