



Funding Criteria – Yelvertoft Solar Farm Fund

Fund Overview:

The Yelvertoft Parish Council Bluefield Solar Farm Community Fund has an initial sum of £10,000 in 2024. This is linked to CPI and will therefore increase with inflation each year over the next 40 years of the Fund.

There will be one funding round to apply to each year. However, additional rounds may be established if not all the funding is allocated.

Groups can apply for grants as follows:

- Minimum grant level - £150.
- Maximum grant level - £10,000.

Match funding is not a requirement. However, if the Fund is over-subscribed in any one round, match funding could be needed. This is because some successful applicants may receive partial, rather than full grant awards for their projects. In these circumstances, where the demand for grants exceeds the money available, some applicants may also be unsuccessful.

Area of Benefit:

Projects and initiatives for which grants are requested must be located within and/or primarily benefit residents and communities in the Yelvertoft Parish.

Project Purpose:

Priority will be given to educational, environmental and community projects, or initiatives within Yelvertoft Parish. These should be consistent with the principles of sustainable development and must deliver positive outcomes for the community living in the Parish.

In particular, funding will be available for:

- Projects or initiatives that promote and/or involve the installation of energy efficiency measures, small-scale renewable energy projects and education relating to these.
- Building or landscaping projects or initiatives for the benefit of the community.
- Projects or initiatives that will improve the local environment for the community through planting or other such enhancements.
- Projects or initiatives that encourage physical recreation and/or the promotion of wellbeing and good health.
- Projects or initiatives to mitigate climate change, and education relating to this.

- Projects or initiatives to support nature conservation, and education relating to this.
- Other community projects or initiatives within the Parish.

Eligible Organisations:

Eligible organisations, who can apply for funding include:

- Local voluntary and community groups and charities.
- Yelvertoft Parish Council, including on behalf of the local community (e.g. where a project or initiative is proposed by an informal group).
- Schools and educational establishments.
- Social enterprises (including co-operatives, social firms, community-owned enterprises, community interest companies and development trusts) provided they operate on a not-for-profit basis.

Applicants need to have a written constitution, or a set of rules, or a governing document and will need to have a bank or building society account with a minimum of two signatories in place before applying for a grant.

Organisations that have already received grants from the Fund can apply for further grants each year. They can also submit more than one application to each round of the Fund.

Organisations that are not awarded grants are welcome to reapply for a grant for the same project or initiative in the next funding round, unless advised otherwise.

Exclusions

Grants will **not** be available for:

- Commercial organisations.
- Private membership-based sports clubs and facilities unless membership is open to the general public without undue restriction (i.e. not membership by nomination organisations).
- Projects that only benefit one individual. *Note: applications received from an organisation where the project directly benefits individuals (e.g. energy saving measures, such as insulation) are eligible.*
- Projects and initiatives that promote religious or party political objectives.
- Retrospective funding, i.e. projects that have already been completed, whether or not already paid for.
- Works considered a statutory responsibility.

Judging Criteria:

The main criteria used when assessing applications received will be:

- The social, economic, and environmental benefits which will result from the project or initiative.

- The level of community support for and (where relevant) involvement in the project or initiative.
- The number of people who will benefit from the project or initiative.
- The ability of the applicant to deliver the project or initiative.
- How the work will be continued after the project or initiative has been completed, i.e. its sustainability and legacy.
- Value for money.

Yelvertoft Parish Council's decision for the grant funding shall be final.

Adopted at the Finance & Strategy Committee meeting held on 12.02.2024
(approved at the Full Council meeting held on 11.03.2024
Date of review: May 2025