

**GARREG LWYD HILL WIND FARM
COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND**

Report for the 2023 Grant Scheme

“Making a difference in our communities”

Llanbister
Kerry
Llanbadarn Fynydd
Beguildy
Bettws-Y-Crwyn

Introduction

Garreg Lwyd Hill Wind Farm provides a community fund which will see funding available to support local community projects every year during the lifetime of the wind farm. The fund is managed by a Community Fund Panel made up of representatives of the local community councils administered by Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations (PAVO).

The community fund is open to applications from groups and projects which benefit the communities living in the following community council areas:

- Beguildy
- Bettws y Crwyn
- Kerry
- Llanbister
- Llanbadarn Fynydd

Consideration may be given to an application from outside the Area of Benefit at the discretion of the fund panel but only if it shows that such an application provides a demonstrable benefit to those communities within the area of benefit.

A panel was formed prior to the grant scheme going live, consisting of 2 representatives from each community council area. The panel operate under their terms of reference, which is reviewed annually.

2023 Scheme

Applications were encouraged from the area of benefit via the PAVO website, press coverage, by community councils and word of mouth. A lead in time of 3 months was given.

The fund welcomed applications from organisations that would make a difference across a range of areas. The fund also encouraged projects that would give a wider benefit to the community.

A total of 31 applications were received from a broad range of community groups for the grant scheme totalling **£169,287.59**. 26 applications were successful.

A total of **£97,367.92** was awarded:

- 10 projects were fully funded
- 16 projects were partially funded
- 5 project was not awarded funding

Unsuccessful groups were referred to PAVO for funding support.

The breakdown of awards for 2023 was:

Llanbister Area

Name	Description	Amount Awarded
Llanbister Primary School	Llanbister Cooking project	£291.55
	Llanbister Creative Project	£1,912.99
Llanbister Community Hall	Llanbister Community Hub/hall and Catch Up Club	£5,224.57
Gravel Baptist Chapel	Laying tarmac	£3,000.00
Llanbister Best Kept Village Group	Husbandry/Pruning of Trees	£200.00
Pound Baptist Chapel	Refurbishment of school room	£5,766.63
Llanbister show and sports	Llanbister Show and Sports Capital Assets	£1,651.00
Llanbister Community Council	Operation Renovation	£1,972.00

Llanbadarn Fynydd Area

Name	Description	Amount Awarded
Wellington Centre	Upgrade of lounge area	£4,999.00
Llanbadarn Ffynydd Community Shop	Replace existing pump and gauge	£14,332.91

Bettws y Crwyn Area

Name	Description	Amount Awarded
Trustees of Black Mountain Chapel	Rescuing the boundary wall at Black Mountain Chapel	£4,060.00
St Mary's Church, Bettws y Crwyn , Parochial Church Council	Under Pew Heating	£11,875.00
Upper Clun Community Wildlife Group	Small Woodland Birds Nestbox Monitoring Scheme	£660.00
Bettws-y-Crwyn Parish Hall Committee of Management	Repair and Refurbish Phase 6	£2,790.36

Beguildy Area

Name	Description	Amount Awarded
Felindre Village Hall	Printing Equipment	£954.99
	Insulation for the main hall	£656.46

	Replace 4 faulty/worn external doors.	£5,388.00
	Development of patio and outside seating area with steps	£10,082.46
	Felindre football pitch mower	£2,250.00

Kerry Area

Name	Description	Amount Awarded
Kerry Community Council	Dolfor Park Playground Renovation	£7,800.00
Kerry Bowling Club	Hot Water Heater	£500.00
Dolfor Free Church	Dolfor Free Church – Replacement Chairs – Phase 3	£3,800.00
Dolfor WI	Provision of speakers	£100.00
Dolfor Sports Committee	Dolfor village portable sound system	£1,000.00
St Michaels School - FOS	Outdoor sports court	£6,000.00
Dolfor Short Mat Bowls Club	Contribution toward use of Dolfor Community Hall.	£100.00

IMPACT OF THE GRANT SCHEME

The grant scheme has made an impact at various levels and in different ways.

It has:

- Continued to provide a highly valuable and popular source of localised funding within the area of benefit
- Enabled small to large requests for funding helping groups to apply for only what they need
- Provided a useful source of match funding for larger scale projects
- Provided valuable capital funding to help ensure that the fabric of essential community buildings and facilities is maintained and that they are fit for purpose, and giving them a new lease of life, enabling them to raise an income through hiring by user groups
- Supported improvement that improves safety and security of community buildings
- Provided funding that has benefitted all age groups within the community, directly and indirectly
- Provided further funding for phased projects in the community
- Supported local businesses and craftsmen providing equipment and services
- Raised awareness within communities of what their local community organisations are trying to achieve, and encouraged people to get involved with them
- Helped to reduce heating costs of community buildings
- Helped rental appeal for user groups
- Helped to ensure community buildings are used all year round

- Enabled fundraising activities to take place
- Enabled groups to make links with other organisations locally and regionally
- Support for local wildlife and community involvement in supporting wildlife

Feedback from some of the organisations receiving grant funding:

Kerry Bowling Club – Hot Water Heater

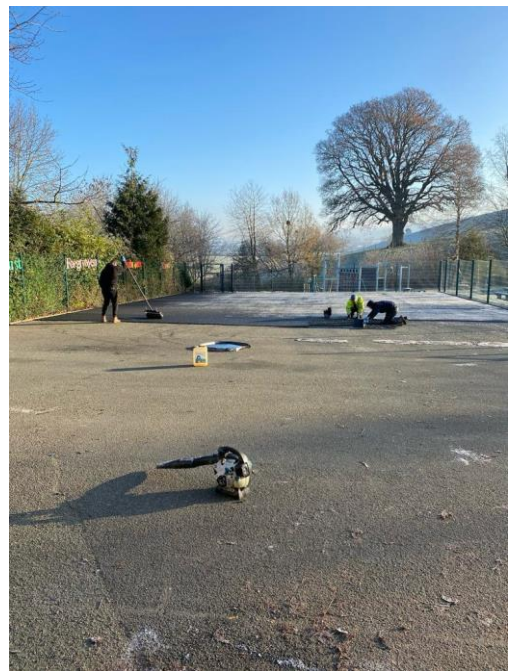
“The regular users of the club are delighted. It is only a simple project, but the water heater is now stored underneath the sink, is safe and provided more space.

We have been able to advertise the kitchen and club for “better” community use. A number of new activities have been received, including birthday parties and funerals.”



Friends of St Michaels School Kerry – Outdoor sports court

“The re-surfacing has greatly increased the enjoyment of playtimes for all age groups including pre-school children. The fundraising for this project has allowed us to embed some fun activities in the community calendar which have been enjoyed by many members of the community. Achieving a large project is a huge sense of achievement for the group.”



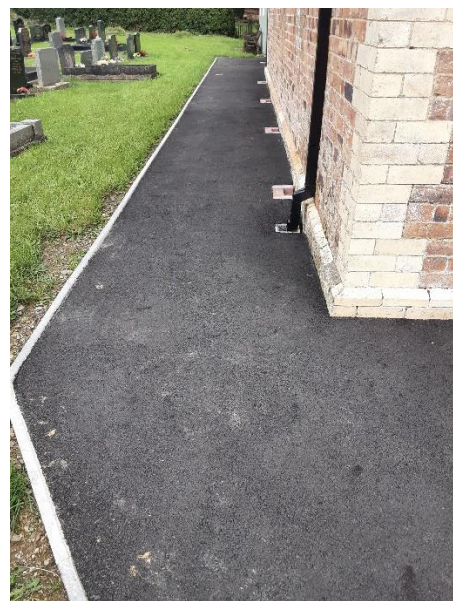
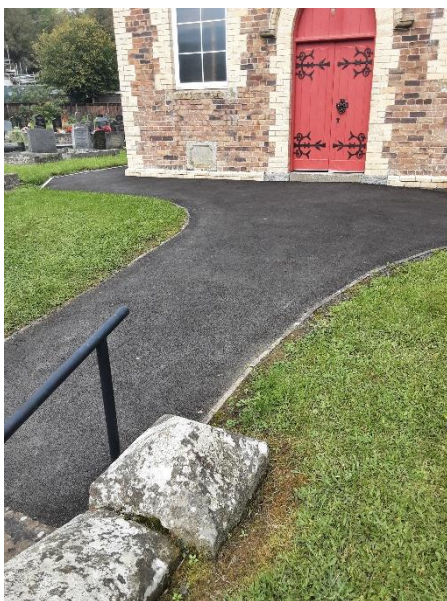
Wellingtonia Centre - Upgrade of lounge area

“The funding has enabled us to help raise funds to cover the ever increasing costs of running such a community building.”



Gravel Baptist Church – Laying Tarmac

“By renewing paths it will make it safer and cleaner and hopefully encourage more people to visit the chapel and help improve the attendance.”



Pound Baptist Chapel - Tea / School Room Refurbishment

“The exterior refurbishment carried out will maintain the building for many years to come. In particular, the wooden framed windows and doors were beyond repair but now enhance the outer appearance and are safe and comply with Health and Safety regulations. The grant enabled the Trustees to carry out the required work for which we thank the funders and look forward to working with you in the future.”



Felindre Village Hall – Insulation for the Main Hall

“It is helping to make the hall more sustainable and reduce our operational costs with reduced electricity consumption. It has also improved the rental appeal of the hall with ambient temperature retention and reduced user costs.”

Trustees of Black Mountain Chapel - Rescuing the boundary wall at Black Mountain Chapel

“The process of seeking advice on the rebuilding of the wall and match funding has increased awareness of the value of the Chapel and its setting in the community. We really appreciate the local focus of the Community Benefit Fund.”

Upper Clun Wildlife Group - Small Woodland Birds Nest box Monitoring Scheme

“People that didn’t before have nest boxes, now have them and have become involved in the community group. We now have more people involved and enjoying the activities by being out in nature and following the birds’ development. More results are coming in too. We have planned a training session for April 2024 for new members that have joined over this year and will invite existing members for a refresher course in nest box monitoring.”

Bettws-y-Crwyn Parish Hall Committee of Management - Repair and Refurbish Phase 6

“The grant has made a huge difference to our community and almost immediately after the flooring was laid the Hall was used for a three-day music and arts festival called, The Bettws Triangle. The Hall was packed for three nights of live musicians playing and it was lovely having the Hall entrance, corridors and toilets looking so clean and welcoming.”

Llanbister Community Council - Operation Renovation

“It improves the look of the village and gives people a sense of ownership and pride”.

Llanbister Show and Sports – Show Capital Assets

“The Show is hugely indebted to the Garreg Lwyd Fund for the support given to us. The capital expenditure has enable us to reduce our annual hire costs significantly, thereby significantly contributing to present and hopefully future financial sustainability of the Show. Dare we say it that we would hope that the Show will continue well into the next 100 years.”