



EDF Burnfoot Wind Farms Cluster Community Funds

Impact Report April 2020 - March 2023



Headlines

- **481 awards made since the Funds' launch, totalling over £1m**
 - 224 awards to charities and community groups in Blackford (£297k)
 - 232 awards to groups and projects across Hillfoots, Clackmannanshire (£562k)
 - 1 commissioned project to develop youth services in the Hillfoots area, leading to the launch of Ochil Youth Community Improvement CIC
 - 25 transfers to devolved fund arrangements benefitting residents of Braco & Greenloaning and Glendevon (£171k)
- **Total Funds' leverage of almost £1,330k**, meaning that for each £1 of community benefit funding received, an additional £1.28 of matched funding has been brought into the communities
- **Greatest impact** in the areas of creating Sustainable Cities & Communities (SDG 11) and supporting Good Health & Wellbeing (SDG 3)



Executive Summary

More than £1m has now been distributed from the EDF Burnfoot cluster of community benefit funds.

This report details the fund distribution activities and headlines across all Community Funds receiving monies from the EDF Burnfoot cluster of windfarm sites for the period April 2020 to March 2023. Whilst focussing on this three-year period, the report also provides cumulative Funds' data since their launch in 2010. The EDF Burnfoot cluster of community benefit funds is having significant impact across the Funds' areas of benefit, thanks to funding arrangements being tailored to the needs and context of each area. This includes:

- Pooling funds with other funding available to award grants through the Blackford Community Fund, guided by a Panel of local residents.
- Devolving funds to two local charitable bodies enabling them to deliver projects and award grants in Braco & Greenloaning and Glendevon.
- Enabling six Hillfoots communities in Clackmannanshire to work jointly as a decision-making Panel to award grants/recurring awards in the area.
- Establishing a new, sustainable youth work charity for the Hillfoots area via commissioning and start-up grants.

More than 100 different community groups and charities have received funding over the lifetime of the Fund. Significant grants and key successes in the last three years include:

- Important Covid response activities funded in a number of areas (see for example Blackford project spotlight later in this report).
- Major pieces of community infrastructure created or overhauled (see for example project spotlights on Braco Multi Games Area and Glendevon Wildlife Pond).
- Multi-year recurring grants arrangements established with six Community Councils to fuel community events programmes, Xmas light festivals and microgrants (see for example spotlight on Menstrie Community Council).

A financial overview summary is also provided in this report, along with details of activities arising from the four sub-funds established to accommodate the various distribution arrangements agreed with the beneficiary communities.

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Introduction - Fund Overview

The EDF Burnfoot Cluster of Community Funds is provided by EDF Energy Renewables, owner of the Burnfoot Hill, Burnfoot North, Rhodders and Burnfoot East windfarms. The Funds are all administered by Foundation Scotland, an independent charitable body with expertise in community-driven fund distribution and grant making. The EDF Burnfoot Hill Cluster of Community Funds support charitable activities that:

- Enhance quality of life for residents
- Contribute to vibrant, healthy, successful and sustainable communities
- Promote community spirit and encourage community activity

The original Burnfoot Hill Community Fund was technically established in 2010 (although first funding did not become available until Sept 2011), to benefit the Clackmannanshire Hillfoots communities of Alva, Dollar and Tillicoultry; and the Blackford and Glendevon communities in Perth & Kinross.

With the commissioning of the Burnfoot North (2014) and Rhodders (2016) windfarms, the Fund was enhanced, increasing the amount of investment and extending the number of beneficiary

communities to include the Hillfoots village of Menstrie, and the Braco & Greenloaning area in Perth & Kinross.

Most recently, in 2020 with the commissioning of the Burnfoot East windfarm community, investment in all of these areas has further increased, and the area of benefit expanded to include the Hillfoots community of Muckhart.

Foundation Scotland manages a range of distribution and decision-making mechanisms on behalf of EDF to enable funding to reach groups in these eight Community Council areas. The community benefit monies from the EDF Burnfoot Cluster of wind farms are now administered via four 'sub-funds':

1. Blackford Community Fund
2. EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Clackmannanshire) – embracing the 'Hillfoots' villages of Alva, Dollar, Tillicoultry (including Coalsnaughton & Devonside), Menstrie and Muckhart.
3. EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Braco & Greenloaning)
4. EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Glendevon)

Index linked annual payments are received by Foundation Scotland, in line with the installed capacity of each windfarm site and divided between the sub-funds, based on the following initial payment amounts:

	Blackford Community Fund	EDF Burnfoot Community Fund (Clackmannanshire)	EDF Burnfoot Community Fund (Braco & Greenloaning)	EDF Burnfoot Community Fund (Glendevon)
Burnfoot Hill	£5,200	£27,732	N/A	£4,000
Burnfoot North	£3,200	£2,400	£3,200	£3,200
Rhodders	£2,400	£28,800	£2,400	£2,400
Burnfoot East	£1,800	£21,600	£1,800	£1,800
Total	£12,600	£80,532	£7,400	£11,400

Blackford Community Fund

The Blackford Community Fund was originally established with an endowment (now referred to as a Community Invested Fund) from a donation made by Ochil Developments to Blackford Community Council, which the Community Council contracted Foundation Scotland to manage. The Fund now also receives annual payments from the EDF Burnfoot Hill, North, East & Rhodders windfarm sites. Monies from both sources are pooled, meaning that each grant awarded is in effect partly from EDF Burnfoot funding and partly from the Ochil Development endowed funds, with the

proportion varying year-to-year depending upon volume of grants and hence amounts required to be drawn down from the invested fund.

The Fund is overseen by a local Community Panel who, with support from Foundation Scotland, make awards through a quarterly programme of open grant making which supports charities and local community groups working for the benefit of residents in the Blackford Community Council area.

EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Clackmannanshire)

Funding for the Hillfoots villages – covering the Community Council areas of Alva, Dollar, Menstrie, Muckhart, and Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton & Devonside in Clackmannanshire – is managed through a 'single joint fund'. This means that a single Fund is available to support activities and

projects in any of the five areas, and decision-making regarding awards is made jointly by a Community Panel which includes representatives from each of those communities. Foundation Scotland supports this Panel, which is comprised of Community Council representatives and local residents.

The Fund supports projects which contribute to the priorities identified in each area's Community Action Plan. Grant making occurs on a twice-yearly cycle, with decisions in Spring and Autumn. Groups can apply for grants between £500 - £5,000 in each round.

Each Community Council (or nominated alternative group in the area) also receives annual grants respectively for Christmas lights/related festive events, and for other local events across the year.

EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Braco & Greenloaning)

Funds for Braco & Greenloaning are administered through a devolved arrangement with the Ardoch Development Trust (ADT). Foundation Scotland typically makes two payments annually to ADT (subject to up-to-date reporting and due diligence). ADT distributes funds through a grant making programme which supports groups and projects that will benefit the Braco & Greenloaning community. ADT receives community benefit monies from both the Burnfoot cluster windfarm sites and

In addition, awards are made typically annually to each of the Community Councils to deliver microgrant schemes, which offer small awards of up to £500 to unconstituted groups or individual residents.

These microgrant schemes allow the monies from the EDF Burnfoot windfarms cluster to benefit the community more widely by offering a source of funding for informal organisations, small-scale community activities or smaller start-up projects.

the Braes of Doune windfarm located near Stirling. ADT combines both income streams into a single grant making programme which funds local community groups and also supports some community activities delivered directly by ADT.

Foundation Scotland offers advice and support to help ADT build its capacity to manage the local fund distribution and grant-making activity, and monitors ADT's Fund activity through at least annual reporting.

EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Glendevon)

In a set-up similar to that of Braco & Greenloaning, the funds for Glendevon are administered through a devolved arrangement. Initially, this was with Auchterarder & District Community Trust, but latterly since 2018, the arrangement has been with Glendevon Community Trust (GCT). Payments are typically made twice

yearly to GCT (subject to up-to-date reporting and due diligence). GCT receives funds only from the Burnfoot windfarm sites and distributes these to local groups supporting community priorities through a tailored grant making process. Again, Foundation Scotland offers support, advice and monitoring oversight.

Financial Overview

The table below summarizes the Fund's finances from inception at 1st July 2011 to 31st March 2023:

	Blackford Community Fund*	EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Clackmannanshire)	EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Braco & Greenloaning)	EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Glendevon)	EDF Burnfoot Cluster Contributions to Foundation Scotland
<u>Income</u>					
EDF Renewables – Burnfoot Hill	£88,132.35	£373,963.73	£2,681.31	£68,018.68	£49,251.49
EDF Renewables – Burnfoot North	£31,812.07	£22,684.13	£31,812.06	£31,812.07	£5,484.83
EDF Renewables – Rhodders	£18,744.81	£224,913.70	£18,744.81	£18,744.81	£32,134.76
EDF Renewables – Burnfoot East^	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Fund Interest	£42.42	£72.47	£1.00	£9.82	
Total Income	£138,731.65	£621,634.03	£53,239.18	£118,585.38	£86,871.08
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Grants Awarded	£125,450.34	£514,560.70			
Grants Cancelled/Returned	-£4,388.57	-£8,864.33			
Grants Pending	£3,113.30	£12,500.00			
Commissioned Activity		£37,027.02			
Fund Expenses	£1,682.21	£5,026.50			
Transferred to Devolved Funds			£50,036.35	£118,585.38	
Transfers to Devolved Funds Pending			£3,202.83		
Contribution to FS management costs					£86,871.08
Total Expenditure/Transfers	£125,857.28	£560,249.89	£53,239.18	£118,585.38	£86,871.08
Closing Balance Available	£12,874.37	£61,384.14	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00

^Due to delays relating to the covid pandemic the first Burnfoot East payments were received on 14/08/2023, which is after the current reporting period.

**For the purposes of this report only income and expenditure relevant to the Burnfoot Windfarm cluster has been included within the Blackford Community Fund financial information .*

Grant Making & Impact Overview

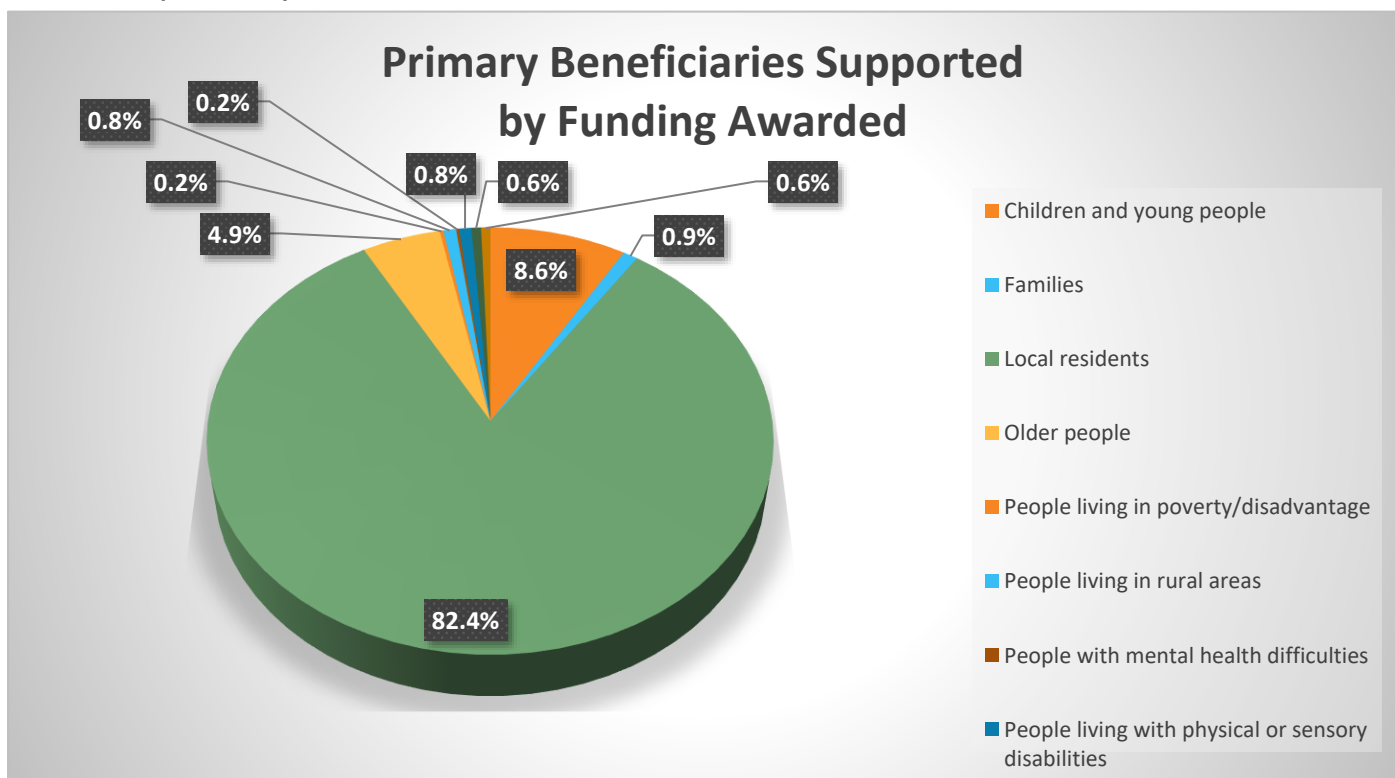
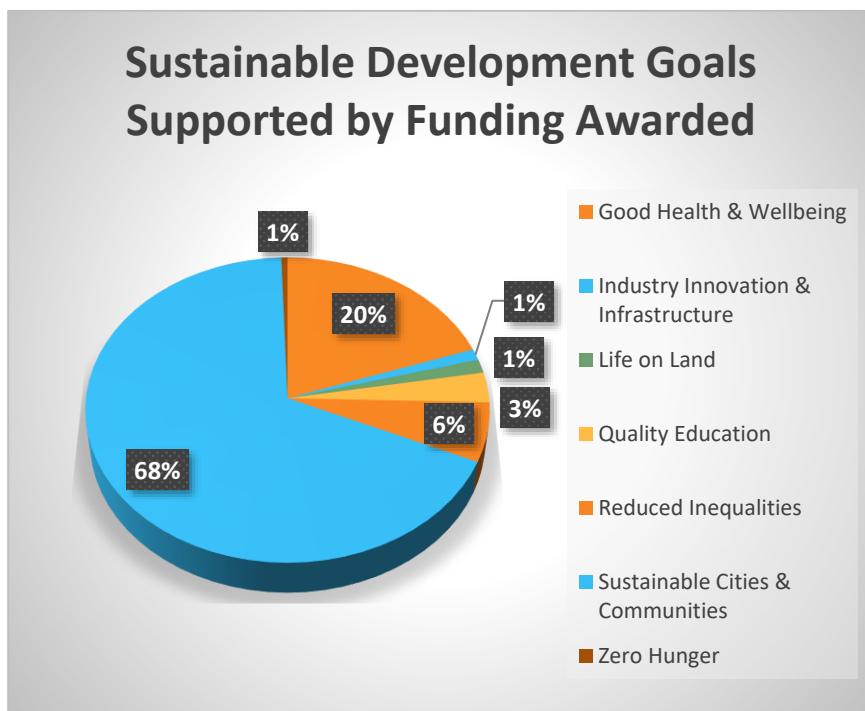
Since its inception, the EDF Burnfoot Cluster Funds have supported 456 community projects and activities across Clackmannanshire and Perth & Kinross with grants awarded directly through the Blackford and Clackmannanshire Funds. In addition many other organisations and projects have been indirectly supported through the 25 transfers to the devolved Funds. The total funding distributed to date is £1,031,293.56, broken down across the sub-funds as follows:

	Blackford Community Fund		EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Clackmannanshire)		EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Braco & Greenloaning)		EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Glendevon)	
	No. of Awards	Total Awarded	No. of Awards	Total Awarded	No. of Transfers	Total Awarded	No. of Transfers	Total Awarded
2011/12	7	£5,277.00	8	£15,394.70	0	£0.00	0	£0.00
2012/13	23	£16,704.72	9	£14,271.40	0	£0.00	1	£8,000.00
2013/14	17	£16,360.00	9	£12,979.00	0	£0.00	1	£4,788.00
2014/15	26	£27,411.00	10	£16,442.00	1	£3,200.00	1	£8,546.00
2015/16	21	£23,307.30	19	£34,864.27	1	£5,613.85	1	£11,008.08
2016/17	23	£69,790.81	21	£38,941.00	1	£5,744.13	1	£11,222.30
2017/18	18	£22,802.39	27	£67,080.74	1	£5,941.53	1	£11,591.53
2018/19	17	£20,416.76	25	£77,518.75	1	£6,138.66	1	£11,842.88
2019/20	22	£46,338.70	35	£86,995.67	0	£0.00	0	£0.00
2020/21	19	£15,909.32	25	£68,121.69	2	£9,993.82	2	£21,962.72
2021/22	15	£16,102.18	22	£69,446.94	3	£9,310.06	2	£15,539.35
2022/23	16	£16,961.10	22	£60,031.56	2	£7,297.13	2	£14,084.52
Total	224	£297,381.28	232	£562,087.72	12	£53,239.18	13	£118,585.38

To measure the positive impact which Fund monies are having on local communities and residents, Foundation Scotland identifies which of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) each funded activity primarily contributes towards, and the primary participants who derive the greatest benefit from the activities. This helps demonstrate how the Funds are contributing towards both global and local priorities.

Across all of the communities supported, funding awarded has contributed to six of the Sustainable Development Goals, with the most prevalent being building Sustainable Communities (56%) and encouraging Good Health & Wellbeing (31%).

It can also be seen that a wide range of beneficiaries have been supported, with 82.4% of funding awarded benefitting all local residents generally; 8.6% supporting children and young people; and 4.9% benefitting older residents specifically.



Since the Fund's inception, grants totalling £859,469.00 have been awarded direct directly to charities and community groups, in addition to transfers to devolved funds of £171,824.56. This funding has supported projects that collectively cost £2,354,550.68, meaning the fund has helped leverage an additional £1,323,257.12 in matched funding.

In real terms, this means that for every £1 of funding awarded from Burnfoot monies, organisations have also benefitted from an additional £1.28 of matched funding. This leveraged funding has increased the scope of projects supporting the Clackmannanshire and Peth & Kinross areas and further enhanced the impact such projects had on their communities.

Blackford Community Fund

Context

Blackford is a small village with a growing population of around nine hundred, located just off the A9, roughly halfway between Perth to the north and Stirling to the south. The community has many active local interest groups and a rich cultural heritage preserved through activities such as the Blackford Highland Games, one of the oldest Highland Games events in Scotland. The village has a high proportion of older residents, and supporting this age group was one of the priorities identified by Blackford Community Council during the

initial set-up phase of the Blackford Community Fund.

The Fund supports community groups and activities through a programme of open grant making, with decisions overseen by a Community Panel. The majority of awards focus on supporting annual events and the ongoing running costs of local interest groups, to ensure a wide variety of leisure activities remain available to residents of all ages.

Fund Distribution

An open grant making programme offers groups the opportunity to apply for funds twice yearly, in Spring and Autumn. As many of the groups operating locally are informal community associations, the Fund supports applications from unconstituted groups where they can partner with a constituted group who is willing to hold the

funds on their behalf. With the majority of projects supported being repeat activities each year, the Community Panel is currently trialling a streamlined application process which minimises the administrative requirements on repeat applicants.

In this reporting period, a total of 50 successful applications to the Fund were received over seven rounds that ran each year in the Spring and Autumn, except in 2020 when an additional round of grant making occurred in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. One additional application was received during this period but was withdrawn by the applicant due to being unable to progress the planned activities.

In total 20 local organisations were cumulatively awarded £48,973. The estimated total funding awarded specifically from Burnfoot monies is £45,373, as in the grant-making period the Fund drew down and additional £3,000 of income from community invested monies.

Since 2020, the average award has been £980, with the lowest award being £120 to Blackford Community Council and the highest award being £2,134 to Blackford Parish Church. One-quarter of all awards were made at the standard maximum level of £1,500, providing clear evidence that contributions at this level are continuing to support groups in delivering consistent and effective projects even in the face of significantly rising costs.

In order to support more strategic grant making activity, two organisations were awarded grants above the standard maximum, in recognition of needs identified as a priority within the community. Both awards were focused on helping retain and resume community activities in the face of pandemic lockdown restrictions – one to Blackford Parish Church to establish a community garden, allowing residents opportunities to learn gardening skills and socialise safely outdoors; and the other to Blackford Highland Games committee to reinstate the event after lockdown restrictions were lifted.

A summary of awards made through the Blackford Fund in the reporting period is as follows:

Year	Successful Applications	Amount Awarded
2020/21	19	£15,909
2021/22	15	£16,102
2022/23	16	£16,961
Total	50	£48,973

A full breakdown of the groups and projects supported in the reporting period is available at Appendix 1.

Impact

The Fund supports community groups and charities working in the Blackford Community Council area that are providing activities or services which: promote community spirit and bring people together; enhance quality of life or promote people's wellbeing; and foster a vibrant sustainable community.

Projects that benefit older residents are given particular preference, as agreed between Foundation Scotland and the Community Council when the Fund was established.

The 2019 10-Year Anniversary review identified four key areas where the Fund was making a difference locally:

- Supporting activities and events that help improve the look and feel of the village
- Supporting activities that help Blackford's older residents stay connected and feel less isolated
- Helping to bring people together with shared interests, building friendships and a sense of belonging to the community
- Celebrating and developing Blackford's musical & cultural heritage

Illustrative examples of how the Fund is supporting local groups to achieve these aims are detailed below.

Spotlight: Blackford Community Vegetable Garden

Originally established in response to the COVID-19 lockdown, Blackford Community Vegetable Garden allows residents to learn gardening skills while volunteering to grow produce which is then distributed locally. The organisation has a small dedicated growing space located in the grounds of Blackford Parish Church, but also encourages members to start growing in their own homes and gardens to expand the reach of the project. With total awards of £2,500 from the Fund, the organisation has installed a polytunnel to extend its growing season and expand the range of

fruits and vegetables it can grow each year, as well as launched both a herb garden and a 'grow potatoes at home' project.

The project not only benefits the volunteers, who can enjoy healthy outdoor activity while gaining confidence in their gardening skills, but a number of elderly and housebound residents who receive regular deliveries of the items harvested. The group is helping to raise awareness locally of how home growing can reduce food miles and plastic waste and so is helping residents take grassroots action to combat climate change.



“...Those who have received the produce that we have distributed so far have been very grateful. We have also received a lot of feedback from the wider community, in particular compliments about the polytunnel, which villagers recognise as a symbol of our ambitions for the future.”

***Blackford Community Vegetable
Community Garden Volunteer***

Spotlight: The Highland Games and Twinning with Trebsen

Blackford Highland Games, founded in 1870, is one of the oldest Highland Games events in Scotland. The Games have run virtually continuously for 150 years and showcase traditional cultural activities and local talent.

Supported by the Fund since 2011 with awards totalling over £46,000, the Games are an important aspect of preserving and showcasing local heritage in the community.

The Games include competitions for throwing the hammer, tossing the caber, putting the shot, tug o' war, athletics, cycling, and highland dancing, which can attract international as well as local competitors.

Young people from the area are encouraged to participate with primary school races and youth competitions. Attracting visitors from near and far, the Games provide an excellent opportunity for local businesses and community groups to promote their services.

In 2019, the Games were visited by a delegation from Trebsen in Saxony, Germany. Trebsen town, which has also been celebrating its own Highland Games for over 20 years, was keen to find a 'twinned town' in Scotland with which it could share cultural connections. Having been welcomed at the Games, the guests were also invited to a special Community Ceilidh showcasing performances by local musicians. A return delegation from Blackford then travelled to Trebsen in September to attend its Highland Games and sign an official twinning agreement between the towns.

Since then, Blackford Community Council has encouraged other local community groups to participate in twinning activities to strengthen this connection and continue the cultural exchange. In 2022, Blackford Community Council was awarded just over £950 from the Fund to purchase and install a noticeboard celebrating the twinning services.



**"The project is getting more community groups to take individual responsibility for organising events linked to the Twinning and promoting awareness within the community... It will hopefully strengthen ties between the two countries...People have commented that it is great to see a visible presence of the Twinning."
Blackford Community Council Member**

EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Clackmannanshire)

Context

Set at the foot of the Ochil Hills in Clackmannanshire, the Hillfoots villages are home to a collective population of over 11,000 people. Each village benefits from an active Community Council and a wide range of community groups and activities.

The Clackmannanshire Fund was established as a single fund for the benefit of all the Hillfoots communities, as it was

agreed that working together would maximise the impact locally whilst still being able to support larger-scale projects and services which benefit the area as a whole.

With a strong focus on capacity building, the Fund has helped forge strong links between these communities and provided a springboard for developing community ambitions and empowering local action.

Fund Distribution

During the reporting period, six rounds of grant making took place. A total of £115,988 was awarded to successful community group applicants, with a further £81,612 awarded to Community Councils. A full breakdown of grants awarded through the Clackmannanshire Fund can be seen at Appendix 2.

	Approved		Withdrawn		Totals	
	No of Apps	Amounts Awarded	No of Apps	Amounts requested	No of Apps	Amounts
Community Groups & Projects	34	£115,988	1	£1,500.00	35	£117,488
Microgrants Schemes	9	£16,000	1	£1,500.00	10	£17,500
Community Councils – Targeted Activities	26	£65,612	0	N/A	26	£65,612
Total	69	£197,600.19	2	£3,000.00	71	£200,600.19

Community Groups & Projects

Of the 35 applications received from community groups for projects in the reporting period, 43 were successful, and 1 was withdrawn by the applicant.

Funding is awarded primarily on the benefits the project will provide to participants, but the Community Panel periodically reviews the Fund distribution across geographic areas. In the reporting period, the spread of funding awarded across community areas was as follows:

Area	Successful Applications	Amount Awarded
Alva	8	£26,514
Dollar	6	£20,336
Menstrie	5	£18,064
Muckhart	2	£7,122
Tillicoultry	8	£24,186
Multiple Hillfoots Areas	5	£19,765
Total	34	£115,988

Microgrant Schemes

Each of the five Community Councils – Alva, Dollar, Menstrie, Muckhart, Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton & Devonside – receives an annual award to provide a microgrant scheme provided previous year's microgrants awards have been broadly spent. Annual amounts to each Community Council for microgrants have been uplifted from £1,500 per annum to £2,500 over the course of the reporting period in response to rising costs of living. Microgrant awards in the reporting period were as follows:

Community Council	Successful Applications	Amount Awarded
Alva	2	£3,500
Dollar	1	£2,000
Menstrie	2	£3,500
Muckhart	2	£3,500
Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton & Devonside	2	£3,500
Total	9	£16,000

Community Councils – Targeted Activities

In addition to the annual awards for the delivery of microgrant schemes, each Community Council also receives two awards annually to cover targeted activity provision – one for local events such as Gala days and the other for Christmas lights and winter festival activities. Again these are paid out provided previous years' amounts have been utilised. This guarantee of annual support helps local communities plan programmes of activity throughout the year.

Where a specific community need or priority has been identified by local residents, Community Councils may also apply for a one-off grant award to support projects addressing these needs under the

'targeted activity' banner. These include activities such as protecting against flooding, improving local paths infrastructure, or installing bike racks to promote sustainable travel.

Awards for targeted activity in the reporting period are set out in the table below:

Community Council	Successful Applications	Amount Awarded
Alva	5	£15,572
Dollar	5	£11,880
Menstrie	6	£13,733
Muckhart	5	£12,500
Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton & Devonside	5	£11,927
Total	26	£65,612

Impact

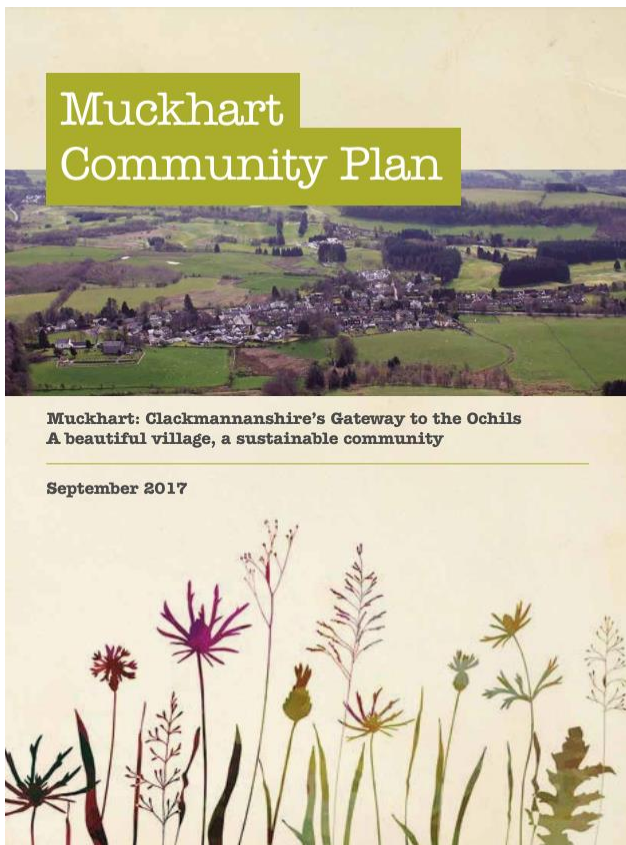
The Fund supports projects which provide activities that meet the needs of residents of one or more of the Hillfoots villages. Although the Fund can support any project which contributes to at least one of the three overall criteria – enhancing quality of life for local residents; contributing to vibrant, healthy & sustainable communities; or promoting community spirit & encouraging community activity – priority is given to projects which also address unique local priorities in each area's Community Action Plan. The priorities identified by each community are:

Alva

- Local facilities & events
- Tourism
- Town centre improvements
- Local economy & businesses

Dollar

- Access to services
- Local economy
- Community & recreation
- Environment & heritage
- Housing & sustainability



Muckhart

- Image of the village
- Housing development
- Sustainability & environment
- Education
- Business development
- Active community
- Infrastructure
- Public Services

Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton & Devonside

- Town & village environment
- Recreation & youth
- Roads, traffic & transport
- Tourism & local economy
- Community facilities & activities
- Sustainable community

Menstrie

- Community facilities & activities
- Paths, roads & parking
- Local economy & sustainability
- Village environment
- Access to services

Examples of how the Fund is supporting projects to meet both the overarching Fund objectives and these local needs and priorities are highlighted in the case studies below.

Spotlight: The Village Kitchen Clackmannanshire



Formerly known as the Playpen Café, The Village Kitchen is a Community Interest Company (CIC) located in Muckhart that supports the senior community (over 65s) across Clackmannanshire and the wider Forth Valley. This social enterprise brings the community together through food and provides a range of linked services to support physical and mental health & wellbeing, nutrition, and equal access to community services.

The 'Meals on Wheels' project 'Lunch Club at Home' aims to provide meals, support positive mental health and wellbeing amongst the elderly, and eliminate food waste. The Village Kitchen received two funding awards totalling £9,940 from the EDF Burnfoot (Clackmannanshire) Fund to support this project in becoming a permanent community service.

From May to November 2021, The Village Kitchen provided home-cooked meals to the elderly twice per week. They worked with the charity FareShare to eliminate food waste and ensure their portions were large, with many beneficiaries spreading the meal over two days. During this period, the Lunch Club at Home project increased its core beneficiaries to sixty-seven local residents, most of whom are over eighty, and at least half also experience mobility issues which make it challenging to leave their homes.

As pandemic restrictions eased, The Village Kitchen expanded their work to include a sit-down lunch service at the local community hall. This weekly lunch club café offered a four-course meal at group tables, hosted by volunteers. This in-person offering allowed previously isolated elderly community members to socialise in a safe and friendly environment.

The project also included weekly entertainment, such as performances by local musicians.

More recently, the organisation has launched a new project called 'Lunch Club Big Day Out', originally in partnership with the Glasgow-based charity Weekday Wow Factor. The project takes older people on day trips to tourist sites and beauty spots to help boost their mental health and wellbeing.

Future plans for the Village Kitchen include a fourth arm – 'Lunch Club The Big Shop', taking isolated beneficiaries by mini-bus to supermarkets in Alloa and supporting them with grocery shopping.

The project is supported by numerous volunteers, some working in the kitchen while others act as drivers, taking meals to beneficiaries and offering doorstep chats and informal wellness checks.



Brian*, a beneficiary's son, expressed gratitude for the food, saying his father 'always looked forward to the dish of the day'. Lily* called the initiative 'amazing' and highly recommended the service. Pauline* praised the friendly volunteers, and Frank* said the soup and scones were 'yummy', with seeing his volunteer being 'the highlight of his Tuesday'.

The food services the Village Kitchen provides are improving beneficiaries' diets by adding nutrition and variety and providing easy access to quality home-cooked meals for those no longer able to cook.

**Names have been changed*

Spotlight: Menstrie Community Council

In addition to its ongoing microgrant scheme, Menstrie Community Council has undertaken targeted activities and projects in the last three years to support local residents and provide a varied calendar of events for all ages.

An award in summer 2020 allowed the Community Council to revitalise the

Midtown Gardens, creating new paths and replanting flower beds and grass areas. Central to the gardens is the 'Fox Boy' statue by Andy Scott, which celebrates Menstrie's heritage and culture. Although appreciated, the statue was previously inaccessible to garden visitors, but the new tarmac path and flower beds have made it a centrepiece for community events.



"This year, the work done around 'Foxy Boy' has had a marked visual impact. It is good to see people taking photographs up close with this piece of art, previously impossible without being told off for walking on the garden! The path has also opened access for wheelchair users like myself and parents with pushchairs."

Local resident

Subsequent annual awards for local events, including festive celebrations, have seen the Fox Boy statue decorated for Halloween and Christmas, as part of a series of night-time garden walks for families. In 2022, over eight hundred families attended, with more than three hundred children receiving gifts from Mrs Claus in the Santa's Grotto at the 'Christmas Gardens' event.

Older residents were also supported during the festive season with deliveries of Christmas hampers filled with edible treats and activity books, hand-delivered to ensure each recipient had some company during the holidays. In 2022, over 150 hampers were delivered, with plans for a local knitting group to create mini-Christmas trees to be included in next year's hampers.



Other events included the annual Gala Day, Easter egg hunt, Music in the Park, a football tournament for primary school children, and circus skills demonstrations. Menstrie Community Council also offered additional support to residents throughout the pandemic via a COVID-19 emergency food parcel scheme which delivered over four hundred parcels; and through microgrant of up to £500 for individuals and informal groups, which supported sports equipment, flooding resilience plans, and printing of the 'Menstrie Matters' community magazine. Menstrie Community Council noted that:

"[The] events bring a large number of people together and are well received by all within the community. We have tried to foster a collaborative approach and are working closely with our other community groups and the sister organisation who run our community centre."

The consistent, strategic, long-term funding awarded to each Community Council through the Clackmannanshire Fund ensures a wide-ranging programme of local events and services, helping to foster community connections and build capacity.

EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Braco & Greenloaning)

Context

Braco & Greenloaning, two adjacent villages within Perth & Kinross, close to Crieff and Dunblane, have a combined population of just under 2,000. Although a semi-rural area with limited facilities, the communities are highly active with many community development and recreational interest groups operating in the area.

A recent consultation held in 2023 has helped develop a Community Action Plan for the area, with six priority themes identified for action and development between 2024-2029:

- Local economy and village enhancement
- Community facilities, activities and events
- Roads, traffic, pavements, paths and active travel

Fund Distribution

ADT has operated an open grant making programme with applications considered on a rolling basis approximately every six weeks. Grants can support local groups to deliver a wide range of charitable activities, as long as these are primarily for the benefit of residents within the Fund area. ADT supports external organisation's through a regular grant making programme

- Environment and heritage
- Transport and services
- Low carbon – sustainability and housing

The EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Braco & Greenloaning) is managed through a devolved arrangement with Ardoch Development Trust (ADT).

ADT's grant making programme, which combines funds from multiple windfarm sites, received positive feedback during the Community Action Plan consultations. It was noted that the organisation's proactive approach in ensuring a wide range of projects received funding has brought clear benefits to the area.

and as well as delivering some projects directly where significant community needs or gaps in local services are identified.

In this reporting period, a total of £26,601 has been transferred from the EDF Burnfoot Wind Farm Cluster Funds to Ardoch Development Trust.

However, it should be noted that a further £10,229 was transferred in October 2023, representing the cumulative Years 1-3 payments from the Burnfoot East Fund, arrangements for which had been delayed primarily due to COVID-19.

Between April 2020 and March 2023, ADT awarded grants totalling £47,096 from cumulative income across all windfarm developers from whom they receive community benefit funding. The estimated total funding awarded specifically from Burnfoot monies is £19,305, with the remainder of funds drawn from other community benefit income streams.

These awards have supported residents through a wide range of activities, including community celebrations and festivals, improvements to local facilities and schools, performing arts, sports and music. One of the most significant projects in recent years has been the construction of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), which is now used regularly by various sports and youth groups within the community.

Awards funded specifically from the Braco & Greenloaning Fund between April 2020 and March 2023 are shown in the following table:

Project Information	Amount Awarded
Towards costs of musical curricular development for primary school children	£335
To provide strings instruments musical tuition for children for 12 months	£1,599
Towards the cost of local floral displays	£128
To refurbish Braco Primary School playground	£43
Towards ongoing running costs for the local parents and toddlers group	£279
To offer mindfulness activities for primary school children, improving mental health & wellbeing	£624
Towards the cost of covid safe music teaching in community spaces	£740
Towards the cost of football coaching for children	£1,684
Towards cost of riding for the disabled, for primary school children	£2,240
Towards running costs for Ardoch Strings, traditional instrument music group	£2,345
To purchase a leaf-blower for maintenance of the MUGA	£311
To hold Rugby Tots session for nursery and primary school children	£260
Towards costs of running a local sewing and knitting group	£1,360
To hold a Jubilee Family Fun Day event for the community	£1,880
To purchase netball equipment for the MUGA	£107
To run a sports and activities summer camp for children	£840
To provide ongoing strings instruments musical tuition for children	£3,500
To hold a senior citizens' afternoon tea event	£150
To offer First Aid training courses for local residents	£880
Total	£19,305

Spotlight: Braco Multi Use Games Area

Having identified the importance of improved community sports facilities, ADT began to make plans several years ago for the possible installation of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) to support various sporting activities. Despite the many challenges associated with such a large construction project and delays due to pandemic restrictions, ADT was delighted to see the project through to completion in December 2020. Subsequently, the Trust has been able to provide support to several local groups who make use of the facility, including adding storage facilities for equipment; providing a leaf blower to help volunteers keep the space tidy; purchasing additional netball equipment; and awarding a grant to Ardoch Junior Football Club to provide coaching for children aged 5-11 years.

Ardoch Junior FC offers four weekly classes, two mixed sessions and two all-girls sessions encouraging more young women to participate in football. A further £840 awarded from the Fund in 2022/23 allowed the club to expand the activities it can offer by supporting the costs of running a summer camp teaching multi-sports skills.

The MUGA provides opportunities for various sports activities, including tennis, netball, football, and basketball. A volunteer committee has been established to ensure that the asset is well maintained long-term and that local residents can continue to benefit from the facility for many years.



EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Glendevon)

Context

Glendevon is a small village in Perth & Kinross, close to Auchterarder. The village and surrounding area has a population of around 160 and boasts some stunning walking trails, along with a path through the Ochil foothills that connects the area to Dollar in Clackmannanshire.

- Rural regeneration
- Community cohesion
- Improved education
- Enhancement and creation of community and recreational facilities
- Improved health and wellbeing for local residents

Funds for this area are distributed through a devolved arrangement with Glendevon Community Trust (GCT), a development group formed to distribute grants supporting local community projects working towards the following aims:

GCT operates an open grant making programme which has supported a range of community improvement projects, both small and large-scale, and annual events which bring local residents together.

Fund Distribution

Membership of GCT is open to all local residents, with member numbers currently around one hundred. From these, a small management committee is elected to be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day running of the Trust. Grant awards to local groups are open for applications at three levels, with varying decision-making arrangements.

Awards up to £750 are open to individuals, as well as both formally constituted and informal unconstituted community groups. Decisions are made solely by management committee to streamline the award-making process for these smaller grants.

Awards between £750 - £3,000 are open to both constituted and unconstituted groups, with award decisions requiring approval from the full membership of the Trust.

Awards over £3,000 are open only to constituted groups and require approval from all Trust members.

As individuals and unconstituted groups are eligible for funding at higher levels than would be common in schemes which support informal groups, normally around £250, all award payments are made either directly to the supplier or to the group retrospectively.

This is upon submission of receipts to avoid depositing grant funding into individual bank accounts. Since April 2020, five payments totalling £39,465 have been transferred to GCT from the EDF Burnfoot Cluster Funds. One additional payment of £18,70 was made in October 2023, which included the delayed Years 1-3 payments for the Burnfoot East windfarm extension. The following projects have been supported through awards made by the Trust in the reporting period:

Project Information	Amount Awarded
To rebuild the footbridge over the River Devon	£57,059
To establish a community resource centre with storage and equipment for use by multiple local groups	£3,000
To hold a Community Get Together event for all local residents	£1,000
To maintain publicly accessible defibrillators located within the village	£197
To maintain various planters around the village	£1,000
To purchase Christmas lights and tree for the area and host an annual switch on event	£2,000
To restore the Glendevon wildlife pond	£7,000
Total	£71,256

In a move towards more strategic grant making practices, Glendevon Community Trust agreed at their Annual General Meeting of 2022 to make standing annual awards to four projects: village planters, the Christmas lights switch-on event, ongoing defibrillator maintenance, and an annual Glendevon Get Together community festival. This approach will reduce the administrative burden on both the Trust and the organisers of these projects and enable longer-term planning. Standing

awards also provide a consistent funding stream to these projects which are well supported by residents and continue to meet local needs.

To ensure these standing awards remain appropriate each year, they will be reviewed by the full membership at each AGM, confirming the ongoing benefits provided by each project and assessing whether funding has been set at the correct level in line with rising costs.

Spotlight: Glendevon Wildlife Pond

The Glendevon area boasts a variety of natural beauty spots, including walking trails around the five nearby reservoirs and a path through the Ochil foothills. Perhaps less well-known until recently is a historic curling pond which had sadly silted up over the years but has now been restored as a wildlife pond to support biodiversity in the local area.

In 2022, the Glendevon Pond Restoration Group was awarded £7,000 of EDF Burnfoot monies by Glendevon Community Trust to undertake this restoration project. After a long and careful process of consultations, surveys and design approvals, the Restoration Group secured permission from the Woodland Trust to restore the pond beside the track from Glendevon House toward Burnfoot.

The restoration works included relocating flora, restoring the sidings, and removing a massive nine hundred tonnes of silt.



Previously used by residents for skating and curling, the pond is now home to a huge array of insect species including damselflies, water boatmen, dragonflies and stonefly nymphs, not to mention amphibians and marsh plants.



As well as supporting local flora and fauna, the restored pond provides a tranquil place for local residents to enjoy the natural beauty of their area. The project is an excellent example of how groups can channel community benefit funding to support both people and planet, and take grass roots action to preserve their natural heritage.

Marketing and Communications – All Funds

The Burnfoot Hill Community Funds are promoted locally in each of the respective areas of benefit and also more widely through news shared on Foundation Scotland's website, and social media, showcasing Fund impact across the various communities.

In each geographical area, awareness of the Funds is raised locally through posters, local news articles, and social media updates via the various Community Councils, anchor organisations, and groups or projects supported. The following press articles have particularly highlighted Fund activity in the reporting period:

- Glendevon wildlife pond, featured in The Courier in July 2023 (see Appendix 3)
- Menstrie Community Council microgrant scheme, promoted in the Alloa and Hillfoots Advertiser in July 2023 (see Appendix 4)

The following news articles and case studies have been published on Foundation Scotland's website and social media platforms:

- [Supporting local creativity – Blackford Crafters](#)
- [Summary of projects funded in Clackmannanshire in Summer 2021](#)
- [Communal shed supporting social activity – Tillicoultry Allotment Association](#)

- [Space for friendship for Menstrie's older residents – Senior Citizen's Lunch Club](#)
- [The Village Kitchen, Clackmannanshire](#)

The wide-reaching impact the EDF Burnfoot (Clackmannanshire) Fund has on the Hillfoots communities was also recognised by Local Energy Scotland, who featured two in depth case studies. The [Burnfoot Cluster case study](#) - examines the positive impact of the 'single-joint' fund model, whereby all of the community councils, along with a panel comprised of representatives from each area, work in partnership to determine Fund criteria and spending can most benefit all residents. A few highlights noted were that:

- Panel empowerment has led to targeted grant making, building a diverse calendar of local events, and deepening social connections
- Community Councils were supported in developing Local Action Plans
- Development Trusts and other community anchor organisations have been established in Dollar, Alva, Menstrie, and Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton & Devonside
- Microgrants have been an important stimulus for community action
- The fund encourages collaboration rather than competition between the communities it serves

One of the most positive conclusions drawn was: "*The fund has been an important catalyst in building the communities' conviction that they themselves can make positive changes to their communities.*" Burnfoot Cluster Case Study, Local Energy Scotland

The second case study – focused on [OYCI, Ochil Youths Community Improvement](#) – a social enterprise developed in response to a large scale youth led consultation across the Hillfoots area originally commissioned through the Clackmannanshire sub-fund in 2017.

In response to the consultation, OYCI was launched as a social enterprise with the aim of developing the recommendations listed in the 'Improving Our Communities' report . In 2020 , a further grant of £4,000 was awarded to the organisation to support core running costs, allowing activities to continue during the challenging season of the covid pandemic.

The main learning noted in the case study was that commissioned activity can be an effective way to distributing community benefit funding to reduce gaps in local services and to empower groups, who might otherwise be disengaged from the community, to become engaged in decision making.

Conclusions

The EDF Burnfoot Cluster Wind Farm Community Funds continue to make a positive difference across a diverse range of communities and projects in the Clackmannanshire and Perth & Kinross areas. Fund distribution arrangements are tailored to meet local needs, with moves towards more strategic approaches to grant making in all areas that have supported these communities in developing longer lasting and more consistent provision of local services.

The impact of the Fund has grown year-on-year, especially with the addition of the Burnfoot East site, which has increased the annual income available to the Clackmannanshire, Glendevon, and Braco & Greenloaning areas. Foundation Scotland will continue to work closely with both the Community Panels and the devolved fund grant making organisations to maximise the reach of the Funds and support a wide range of charities and local groups in continuing to serve the needs of their communities.

Contact

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Appendix 1- Blackford Community Fund Awards

April 2020 – March 2023

Organisation	Project Summary	Amount Awarded
1st Blackford Rainbow Unit	To fund various trips	£1,300.00
Blackford Bowling Club	Replacement and repositioning of the men's urinals.	£1,500.00
	To remove and rebuild an existing retaining wall allowing easier disabled access.	£1,435.00
	To install a ramp to allow access for all to bowling and community social facilities.	£1,350.00
	To remove and replace existing damaged Perpex roof on veranda and viewing area and rebuild any damaged woodwork.	£1,495.00
	To fund the purchase of new external seating to provide a viewing facility for players and spectators	£1,450.00
Blackford Community Council	To purchase plants, herbs and seeds for the Blackford Community Garden.	£287.25
	To fund a ceilidh.	£120.00
	To purchase a noticeboard for Blackford to highlight the Twinning of Blackford with Trebsen, Germany, and to promote twinning activities to the community	£953.30
Blackford Community Cycling Club	To fund annual affiliation fees and purchase first aid and on-road maintenance kits.	£268.00
Blackford Community Vegetable Garden	To fund purchase and installation of a polytunnel, associated materials and seeds. This will enable a wider range of fruit and vegetables to be grown, extended the period when crops can be grown and enable an early spring planting for next year's produce.	£1,095.00
	To fund potato project, herb garden and consolidate the group's gardening projects in general, thereby generating locally grown food for residents and a range of volunteering benefits for local residents	£1,027.00
	To fund bed and path edging panels	£327.00
Blackford Festive Lights	To fund an event to 'switch on' the Christmas lights	£1,500.00

	To fund annual Christmas gathering including children's activities, festive food as well as insurance costs.	£1,500.00
Blackford Fiddle Group	To fund tuition.	£1,400.00
	To hire professional music tutors to provide 1:1 and small group support for Fiddle Group members, in particular children and young people, to develop their skills	£1,500.00
Blackford Friends of Guiding	To fund hall hire and to partially contribute to the annual affiliation fees paid to Girl Guiding	£750.00
Blackford Gala Day Committee	To fund the senior citizens' and children's entertainments, inflatables, pipe band and a replacement banner.	£1,500.00
	To provide a BBQ and foodstuff to members of the community during gala week.	£1,500.00
	To purchase new bunting and to contribute to the costs of the June 2022 Gala and Senior Citizens Entertainment, thereby enhancing community spirit and resident well-being particularly in the Covid aftermath.	£1,500.00
	To contribute towards the cost of the 2023 Gala Week festivities, specifically a senior citizens trip, insurance and hire costs.	£1,500.00
Blackford Highland Games Committee	To fund insurance, first aid and pipe band hire for the 2021 event.	£1,500.00
	To cover the cost of the toilet facilities at Blackford Highland Games 2022, a major social, cultural and economically important event in Blackford community.	£1,406.00
	To contribute to key Blackford Highland Games 2022 event costs, thereby helping a major social, cultural and economically important event return after the pandemic in the Blackford community.	£1,960.00
	To contribute to Blackford Highland Games 2023 event costs, specifically the cost of providing toilets for the event, thereby helping a major social, cultural and economically important event in the Blackford community	£1,500.00
Blackford Improvement Group (BIG)	To enhance the recently refurbished park by replacing the picnic benches, providing safe and sociable seating for the many park users.	£1,500.00
Blackford is Brighter	To buy a selection of annual and permanent plants and compost for the containers, hanging baskets and flower beds around the village.	£1,000.00

	To buy a selection of annual and permanent plants and compost for the containers, hanging baskets and flower beds around the village.	£1,500.00
	To fund spring planting and wild flower planting.	£1,000.00
Blackford Parish Church of Scotland	To fund installation an outside tap, socket and undertake gravel and groundworks to support the formation of a Community Garden in response to Covid 19.	£2,133.70
	To fund the initial phase of the "Moving Forward" project.	£841.00
	A donation to the work of Blackford Cares who is leading a community response during the Coronavirus pandemic.	£750.00
Blackford Primary School Parent Council	To enhance the community garden for school and community use by repainting, graveling, new planting, and restoring/ renewing sensory activities to support health, wellbeing and learning.	£1,000.00
Blackford Study Group (Blackford Bells)	To fund insurance and the purchase of music stands and covers.	£441.37
	To fund insurance.	£267.98
Blackford Study Group (Blackford Crafters)	To fund hall hire for the Crafter's group.	£194.00
	To cover the cost of running a community upcycling and recycling project.	£266.20
	To cover the cost of running a craft workshop	£280.80
Blackford Study Group (Blackford Sings)	To provide 14 music classes	£500.00
	To provide professional instruction for its Autumn term.	£500.00
	To provide professional instruction for the ?Blackford Sings? group during its Spring 2022 term, thereby encouraging resident participation and enjoyment of choir activity.	£700.00
	To fund hall hire and tutor fees.	£600.00
	To contribute to the cost of tutors for the Blackford Sings group January ? June 2023, thereby offering opportunities to reduce isolation and to improve health and wellbeing to members of the Blackford community	£1,000.00
Blackford Study Group (Parent Group)	To fund public liability insurance for the group.	£150.00
	To cover the cost of insurance	£160.00
Blackford SWI	To fund a summer outing. CHANGE OF SPEND DUE TO COVID The group are unsure as to when outings will be allowed so they would	£340.00

	like to request a change to their grant. They would like to use the funding towards afternoon teas for their 17 members. The eve	
	To fund hall rental Sept 20 - May 21.	£289.00
	To fund hall rental, speakers and a members afternoon tea.	£435.00
Senior Citizens Lunch Club	To fund a theatre outing and a meal for the lunch club members.	£1,500.00
Total		£46,972.60

Appendix 2- EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund (Clackmannanshire)

April 2020 – March 2023

Organisation	Project Summary	Amount Awarded
1st Alva Scout Group (4th Clackmannanshire)	To fund replacement of rotten floor in side room and remedial work to prevent future water damage.	£5,000.00
	To fund improvements to the security of the Scout Hall by installing CCTV cameras.	£2,400.00
5th Clackmannanshire (1st Tillicoultry) Scout Group	To fund groundworks and awnings to increase use of outdoor space.	£3,710.00
Alva Community Council	To provide 5 benches along the cycle path to the south of Alva.	£4,625.00
	To support development, maintenance and implementation of activity linked to Christmas light festivities in Dec 2021.	£2,500.00
	To contribute to the cost of local events held over the year.	£2,500.00
	To provide a micro grant scheme to the local community.	£1,500.00
	To purchase PPE, wet weather clothing, small tools and equipment for the Alva Community Resilience Team to help protect against the effects of flooding	£3,447.12
	To contribute to the cost of local events held over the year.	£2,500.00
	To provide a micro grant scheme to the local community.	£2,000.00
Alva Development Trust	To fund a Defibrillator & Cabinet to be located on the outside of the Cochrane Hall where it will be connected to an electricity supply and to fund replacement of the kitchen floor.	£2,000.00
	To fund replacement of the boiler to provide reliable heating for members for users of the Cochrane Community Hall in Alva.	£5,000.00
Alva Glen Heritage Trust SCIO	To fund a project to maintain and enhance Alva Glen.	£4,114.32
Alva Golf Club	To fund purchase of a mower for the maintenance of the course for its members.	£1,500.00
CR Cats SCIO	To fund expansion of changing and storage facilities, car parking facilities and the course.	£5,000.00

Dollar Community Council	To support development, maintenance and implementation of activity linked to Christmas light festivities in Dec 2021.	£2,500.00
	To contribute to the cost of local events held over the year.	£2,500.00
	The project will install cycle racks and two benches at the Dollar end of the Devon Way.	£1,880.00
	To contribute to the cost of local events held over the year.	£2,500.00
	To provide a micro grant scheme to the local community.	£2,000.00
	To support development, maintenance and implementation of activity linked to Christmas light festivities in Dec 2022.	£2,500.00
Dollar Community Development Trust	To contribution towards costs associated with setting up a ?friends of? DCDT to consolidate volunteering in the community.	£5,000.00
Dollar Glen Football Club	To fund the development of plans and consultation work enabling construction of new changing, storage, referee and toilet facilities as part of the wider Devon Way Sports Park development in Dollar.	£5,000.00
Dollar Horticultural and Garden Club	To help to fund 76 hanging baskets and 31 planters for Dollar in Bloom.	£1,583.00
	To contribute to the costs of benches, trees, shrubs, plants and tipping costs to renovate a dilapidated memorial garden in Dollar, thereby re-establishing it as a civic amenity.	£2,953.00
Forth Valley Disability Sports	To purchase equipment to enable the delivery of a fully inclusive ski program at Firpark Ski Centre Tillicoultry for adults and young people with a disability	£5,000.00
Forth Valley Vikings	To fund purchase of training and off field equipment for the team in its first year.	£1,565.00
Hillfoots Rugby Football Club	To upgrade and refurbish the facilities in the clubhouse.	£4,330.00
HSTAR Scotland SCIO	To fund rent, legal fees and counselling costs.	£5,000.00
Japanese Garden at Cowden Castle SCIO	To fund the Junior Tour Guides project.	£800.00
Menstrie Community Action Group	Replace one boiler within the Dumyat Community Centre as part of the larger project to replace the full heating system.	£5,000.00
	To fund Staff Support worker p/t 20 hours week	£5,000.00
Menstrie Community Council	To fund purchase of folding tables and gazebos to replace old.	£1,832.97
	To fund installation of a path to improve access and viewing at the Foxy Boy Statue.	£1,900.00
	To contribute to the cost of local events held over the year.	£2,500.00
	To provide a micro grant scheme to the local community.	£1,500.00

	To support development, maintenance and implementation of activity linked to Christmas light festivities in Dec 2021.	£2,500.00
	To contribute to the cost of local events held over the year: 2022.	£2,500.00
	To provide a micro grant scheme to the local community.	£2,000.00
	To support development, maintenance and implementation of activity linked to Christmas light festivities in Dec 2022.	£2,500.00
Menstrie Mains Residents Association	To fund planting a wild flower area with two fixed seating benches along the walkway to the cycle path that leads to the main Menstrie village and to the settlements of Cambus, and Tullibody.	£1,555.00
Menstrie Parish Church of Scotland	To fund electrical works as part of a wider renovation of kitchen facilities in the Church hall used by a number of community groups including Menstrie Senior Citizens Lunch Club, as well as the congregation.	£3,852.00
Menstrie Senior Citizens Lunch Club	To contribute to the costs of senior citizens lunches & activities, thereby improving health, wellbeing and inclusion.	£2,657.50
Muckhart Community Council	To support development, maintenance and implementation of activity linked to Christmas light festivities in Dec 2021.	£2,500.00
	To contribute to the cost of local events held over the year. Some of these funds will be used towards the The Light Up Muckhart Event.	£2,500.00
	To provide a micro grant scheme to the local community.	£1,500.00
	To fund a new Nature Trail on the existing path to the local Primary School.	£2,500.00
	To contribute to the cost of local events held over the year 2022.	£2,500.00
	To provide a micro grant scheme to the local community.	£2,000.00
	To support development, maintenance and implementation of activity linked to Christmas light festivities in Dec 2022.	£2,500.00
Muckhart Coronation Hall	To fund the installation of a new bunded oil tank, improving safety at a well-used community facility.	£2,122.00
Ochil Youths Community Improvement (OYCI)	To fund a contribution to the core costs of running the organisation and supporting young people.	£4,000.00
St. James the Great Episcopal Church	To assist with repairs to the roof of the church building, thereby preserving the building for increasing levels of community use and as a heritage asset within the community.	£5,000.00

The Originally Tillicoultry Allotment Association	To fund a shed to store equipment and host meetings.	£5,000.00
Tillicoultry Allotment Association	To fund purchase of battery powered tools and a shed.	£1,263.72
	To fund building of four new compost bays and four raised bed structures which will enhance opportunities for allotment holders and visitors.	£2,682.56
Tillicoultry Centenary Hall Company Limited	To fund purchase of a shed for outdoor storage.	£1,200.00
Tillicoultry Golf Club	To fund repairs to the Locker Room section of the roof.	£4,000.00
	To upgrade the women's toilet facilities in the locker room area of the club, thereby creating an improved and more hygienic facility for Club members and community events/meetings.	£2,000.00
Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton and Devonside CC	To provide a micro grant scheme to the local community.	£1,500.00
	To support development, maintenance and implementation of activity linked to Christmas light festivities in Dec 2021.	£2,500.00
	To contribute to the cost of local events held over the year.	£2,500.00
	To fund equipment for Tideco Flood Group volunteers, thereby improving the area's resilience response when flooding occurs.	£1,927.00
	To contribute to the cost of local events held over the year.	£2,500.00
	To provide a micro grant scheme to the local community.	£2,000.00
	To support development, maintenance and implementation of activity linked to Christmas light festivities in Dec 2022.	£2,500.00
Village Kitchen Scot CIC	To support the Lunch Club at Home to become a permanent community service.	£5,000.00
Wee County Archers	To purchase a 20 foot container to use for storing club equipment and enable repairs to be carried out, thereby enabling the club to acquire more equipment and expand the range of archery activities on offer and skills catered for.	£4,200.00
Wee County Crafters SCIO	To purchase a table router for the club to allow members to undertake complex work and enhance their woodworking skills.	£1,500.00
Total		£197,600.19

Appendix 3- Wildlife Pond, Courier July 2023

Outdoors

Nature watch: Enchanted by the azure dancers of the hill breeze in southern Perthshire

Keith enjoys watching damselflies 'dancing' in Glen Devon.

by Keith Broomfield

July 1 2023, 10:00am

July 1 2023, 10:00am

Share



Keith explores the pond.

Like azure dancers swirling in the hill breeze, the common blue damselflies flitted above this tranquil pond in Glendevon in southern Perthshire, hovering and chasing one another in a love-frenzy of mating to ensure the creation of the next generation.

<https://www.the-courier.co.uk/fplifestyle/outdoors/4492006/nature-watch/>

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Nature watch: Enchanted by the azure dancers of the hill breeze in southern Perthshire

It was wonderfully hypnotic to watch the male and female damselflies couple in the air before descending quickly down to the water in tandem, where she would dip the end of her abdomen into the water to lay her precious, fertilised eggs.

With the warm soft, shallow bottom of the pond oozing between my toes, my mind buzzed with excitement at the sheer abundance of magical life that called this little watery expanse home. As I waded carefully through the shallows with a small hand-net and collection tray, new discoveries unveiled at every turn.



Common blue damselfly.

My first sweep of the net revealed a sparkling treasure trove of insects including backswimmers, stonefly nymphs (larvae) and several wriggling frog tadpoles. The backswimmers – also known as water boatmen – were especially interesting, with their dumpy bodies and long, oar-like legs that are used as paddles to swim. Behind their simplistic beauty lies a voracious predator that swims upside down through the water where it snatches small insects, which are disabled with toxic saliva.

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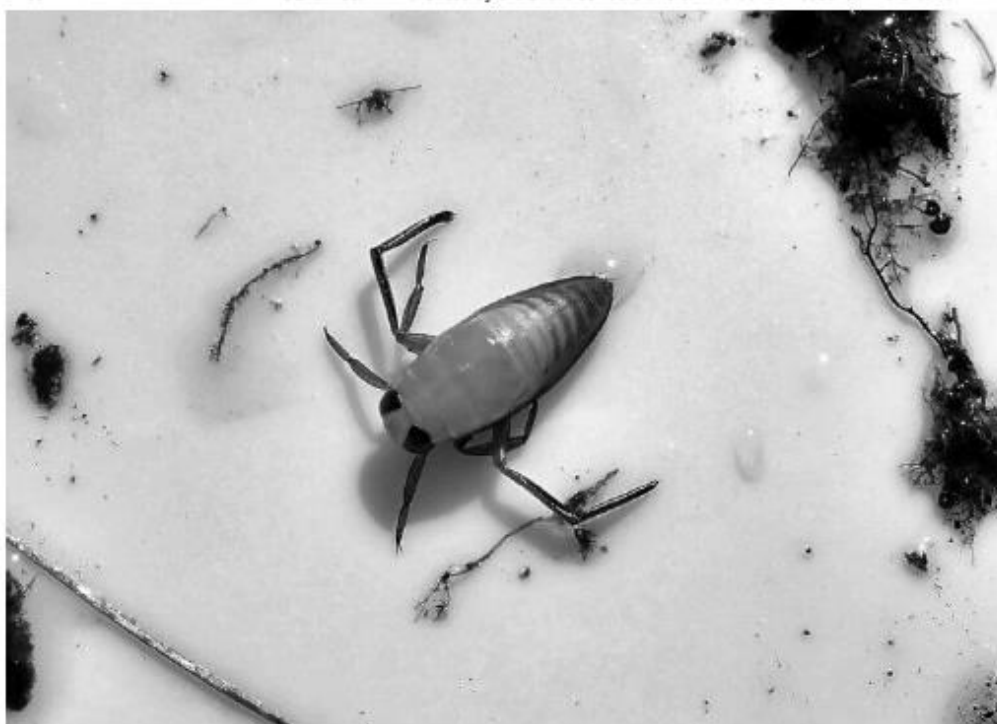
A pond brimming with life.

This pond was a superb example of nature conservation at work. In the past it was a curling pond but years of neglect had left it dried-up. Then, two years ago, with the permission of Woodland Trust Scotland, owner of the site, it was restored back to life as a wildlife pond, thanks to the efforts of a small group of Glendevon residents, funded by the Glendevon Community Trust who in turn are funded by the EDF Renewables Burnfoot Wind Farm Fund.

Now, the community has a tranquil place for the enjoyment of nature, as well benefiting from the enhanced biodiversity brought to the area. They also have a place to go curling, should a cold winter ever descend.

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A backswimmer.

Along with the common blue damselflies, large red damselflies were present in good numbers and the banksides were regularly patrolled by four-spotted chaser dragonflies. Damselflies and dragonflies spend most of their lives underwater as larvae. They live in this stage between four months and five years depending on species, and only live as flying adults for two or three weeks.

When ready to emerge, the larva will climb out of the water and the adult dragonfly or damselfly will emerge from its larval skin.

Another scoop with the net revealed a strange, circular gelatinous mass peppered with reddish specks. I wasn't certain, but this was most likely the egg mass of some kind of water snail. This pond was as exciting as any coastal rockpool – and just as diverse in the richness of life.

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Nature watch: Enchanted by the azure dancers of the hill breeze in southern Perthshire



A stunning large red damselfly.

As I put my walking boots back on and readied to leave, a pair of sand martins swooped low over the pond, dipping low and swerving, and taking advantage of the rich insect pickings from this bountiful oasis nestled in a beautiful glen.

Appendix 4- Menstrie Microgrants, Alloa and Hillfoots Advertiser July 2023

Client: Foundation Scotland Yellow News
 Source: Alloa and Hillfoots Advertiser
 Date: 26/07/2023
 Page: 14
 Reach: 5846
 Value: 162.9000

Yellow News...

Microgrants for Menstrie

SMALL grants for projects that benefit the community in Menstrie are being made available.

Community Microgrants for Local Projects are available through Menstrie Community Council with the fund opening for 2023.

Applications are being invited by September 8 from project volunteers and not-for-profit organisations that benefit the Menstrie community.

Up to £250 is available for individuals while groups could secure £500.

The grants are supported by EDF Renewables and Foundation Scotland, visit menstrie.org/microgrants.

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