



WINDFALL FUND ANNUAL REPORT 2016 - 2017

A CELEBRATION OF THE FIRST 5 YEARS!



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5 YEAR SUMMARY

Funding Highlights

- 198 funding enquiries
- 110 applications received and assessed
- 94 projects funded
- 85% application success rate over the five years
- 55 different groups awarded funds

Financial Highlights

- £418,500 given out as grants
- Towards projects worth more than £3,000,000

Operating Highlights

- 21 Mini grants (< £250) totalling £4,400
- 32 Small grants (£250 - £2,000) totalling £51,700
- 41 Large grants (> £2,000) totalling £362,400

Can you believe it? The Windfall Fund is 5 years old!! Read on to find out what we have been up to and where the money has gone

Looking Ahead

We are delighted with the outcomes of the Windfall Fund and amazed at what has been achieved. We have worked with so many committed and inspiring groups and are pleased to be able to share with you the successes of the Fund so far. Let's see what the next 5 years brings!

Alison Silver
Windfall Fund Co-ordinator

2016/2017 SUMMARY

2016/2017 (running from November 2016 to October 2017) was another successful year for the Windfall Fund. See below which groups were funded and read the case studies showcasing different types of projects

• Improving Biodiversity	3 projects	£ 24,470
• Sustainable Transport	3 projects	£ 11,600
• Waste/Recycling	1 project	£ 1,831
• Local Food	5 projects	£ 2,862
• Energy Saving	2 projects	£ 12,026
• Raising Environmental Awareness	2 projects	£ 16,939
TOTAL		£ 69,728

Footpath improvements along the old railway line - Martholme Greenway - in Great Harwood



CASE STUDY 1: RIBBLE RIVERS TRUST

PROSPECTS has been privileged to be involved, through the Windfall Fund, with the work being undertaken by the Ribble Rivers Trust in Hyndburn as part of their prestigious Ribble Life Together project. The Salmon@HEART (Hyndburn Ecosystem And River Transformation) project is an exciting river improvement scheme on the River Hyndburn between Clayton-le-Moors and Great Harwood to help migrating salmon, trout and eels bypass the historic weir at Oakenshaw and allow them to reach upstream habitat that has been inaccessible since at least 1844. A specially designed channel has been constructed to bypass the weir and has been complemented by education projects with local schools and 1.25ha new woodland planted by volunteers. The Windfall Fund contributed £13,676 towards the construction of the new fish pass and the tree planting. The rest of the funding has come from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Forestry Commission, Environment Agency and The Rivers Trust.

PROSPECTS Trustees were keen to see the work in progress and have made no less than 3 visits to the site!! The first visit was during the construction phase of the project and involved accessing the site via a temporary bridge over the Hyndburn Brook; the second visit was to celebrate the official opening of the fish pass when the water was let into the new channel for the very first time; and the third visit was to plant trees alongside the other volunteers.

Construction of the fish pass at Oakenshaw Weir



Unblocking the temporary dam at the official opening of the fish pass - we like it but it's an exciting wait to see if the salmon, eels and trout like it!!



PROSPECTS Trustees in action planting trees next to the newly constructed fish pass!



FACTS & FIGURES FOR 2016/17

APPLICATION PROCESS

- 20 applications received
- 16 grants awarded - 5 Mini, 4 Small, 7 Large
- 80% grant application success rate in 2016/2017
- Average time between application deadline date and grant payment - 1 week for Mini grants, 7 weeks for Small grants, 13 weeks for Large grants

GRANTS AWARDED

- Total grants awarded £69,728
- £1,117 for Mini projects, £6,438 for Small projects and £62,173 for Large projects
- In 2016/17 over 1/3 of the grants (6 out of the 16) were awarded in Great Harwood and Church
- Half of the projects funded have been actively supported by the PROSECTS Foundation staff in their delivery

MINI GRANTS

See the table below for a list of the Mini grants awarded in 2016/2017

DESCRIPTION	GRANT
Huncoat Community Forum	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To install a gate across a public footpath on Altham Lane in Huncoat to keep out scramble bikes 	£200
Belthorn Academy Primary School PTFA	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To repair raised beds and fill with soil, manure and bark chippings 	£250
Hyndburn Leisure	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve raised beds at a couple of community food growing sites as part of the Up and Active Gardening for Health project 	£250
Incredible Edibles Accrington	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For annual public liability insurance 	£202
Growing Wild	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For timber to build collection bays to store waste bark chip for mulching and conifer cuttings for dead hedging. 	£215

CASE STUDY 2: THE PROSPECTS FOUNDATION – REWILDING

The Rewilding programme has been a great success! With funding from The Postcode Local Trust, Co-op Local Community Fund and the Windfall Fund activities have taken place across the Borough rewilding areas of green space particularly around food growing sites. The Project Officer has worked with a large number of groups and schools including Rockmount North-west, Broadfield Specialist School, Hope Church, Hippings Methodist School, Accrington Women's Centre and St Anne's and St Joseph's School, amongst others.

Members of Hippings Methodist Eco Council showing off their new raised bed



The purpose of the project was to create and enhance wildlife habitats around local food growing sites to encourage sustainable food growing practices and to support local people in their understanding of the need to provide natural resources important for organic food growing. The Project Officer along with specialised trainers ran workshops, events and education and activity sessions on creating wildflower meadows, bug hotels, organic feed borders, hedgerows and heritage orchards, bird boxes and feeders, habitat piles and bog gardens. We also delivered AQA Unit Award qualifications for a number of the sessions and the results are impressive!

Forest Garden Workshop at Growing Wild in Baxenden



As a result of the project:

- 692 people gained new skills around habitat creation
- 31 people achieved an AQA Unit Award
- 21 sites were improved
- 24 groups/schools were involved
- 104 training workshops took place

Co-op Celebration Day in Rishton



Butterfly habitat at Broadfield Specialist School



FACTS & FIGURES 2016/2017

SMALL GRANTS

See the table below for a list of the Small grants awarded in 2016/2017

DESCRIPTION	GRANT
The Hyndburn Project	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop a furniture upcycling project in Accrington 	£1,831
Highfield Community Action Group	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve the food growing area at the back of The Base in Great Harwood, a day centre for adults with learning disabilities 	£1,945
The Friends of St Christopher's	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support Eco-themed activities at St Christopher's High School in Church 	£1,000
St Charles RC Primary School PTFA	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop a nature garden in the field behind the school in Rishton 	£1,662

ABOUT THE WINDFALL FUND

The Windfall Fund is the community benefit fund set up from the proceeds of the wind farm on Oswaldtwistle Moor. It is a partnership between EnergieKontor, the wind farm developer and The PROSPECTS Foundation. There are currently 12 turbines and the Fund is awarded to community groups for environmental projects. The wind farm was commissioned in October 2012 and the Windfall Fund started in April 2013.



LARGE GRANTS

See the table below for a list of the Large grants awarded in 2016/2017

DESCRIPTION	GRANT
Martholme Greenway	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Towards access and habitat improvements along the disused railway line between Mill Lane and Martholme Viaduct in Great Harwood 	£6,400
Ribble Rivers Trust	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Towards the creation of a fish bypass channel and 1.25 hectares of deciduous woodland at Oakenshaw Weir in Clayton-le-Moors 	£13,676
Mid Pennine Arts	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Towards the promotion and development of the new extended Greenway route for Hyndburn through Woodnook Vale 	£5,000
The PROSPECTS Foundation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To expand and extend the Rewilding project to enhance the biodiversity and wildlife of sites across the Borough 	£9,132
Hyndburn Leisure	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To install a voltage reduction scheme at Mercer Hall Leisure Centre in Great Harwood to deliver significant savings in energy use 	£5,000
The Dog Inn (Belthorn) Ltd	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To replace the hot water and central heating system to provide energy savings in the newly restored village community pub 	£7,026
The PROSPECTS Foundation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support environmental awareness activities around the enhancement of biodiversity and the promotion of cycling & walking 	£15,939



*Making bird
feeders for
the garden*



CASE STUDY 3: RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS

LANCASHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

Lancashire Wildlife Trust (LWT) was offered a Windfall grant of £2,993 to carry out access improvements, provide volunteer training opportunities and extend a number of habitats at Foxhill Bank Nature Reserve in Oswaldtwistle. As part of the funding, amongst other activities, the LWT installed a new entrance on Foxhill Bank Brow, installed new path drainage, reprofiled a set of steps, trained volunteers in brush-cutting and hedge-laying, created a wildflower meadow, cut back willows by the lodge edges and planted reeds.

As a result of the Windfall grant there have been improvements to the biodiversity of the site and habitats have been enriched. The access improvements have made a huge difference to the nature reserve and enabled people to walk more easily around the site, particularly in wet weather.

Hedge laying



Meadow management



New entrance on Foxhill Bank Brow



Reed planting



LANCASHIRE WOMEN'S CENTRE

The project with the Women's Centre involved four 5 week courses looking at different aspects of wildlife gardening. It included how to grow a mini allotment, growing edible flowers, how to sow and grow herbs, cooking to make the most of your veg and an introduction to willow weaving. The activity raised awareness of environmental sustainability issues and encouraged

The backyard garden behind the Women's Centre in Accrington



the women to develop skills in the practical application of activities to improve their own local environments. The project encouraged women to think about how food is produced and the benefits of sourcing local food, purchasing from local suppliers, growing and cooking their own food and the benefits of organic gardening.

ONE PLANET (ACCRINGTON) LTD

One Planet is a community owned co-operative which runs a retail shop supplying everyday goods that are more sustainable, less damaging to the environment and which help to provide social benefits to the producers in developing countries. It provides volunteering opportunities for people looking for work experience, people with mental health issues or those wanting to put something back into the local community. The Windfall Fund funded a Schools Liaison Officer to raise awareness about issues such as ethical trading, sourcing products locally, recycling and Fairtrade. The Officer delivered sessions in both primary and secondary schools across the Borough focusing on the fashion industry, healthy eating, consumer waste and stocking tuck shops with healthy snacks and Fairtrade products.

VISITS TO THE WIND FARM

SCHOOL VISITS

We carried out 5 school visits to the wind farm during the year, including St Andrew's Primary School, Oswaldtwistle, Broadfield Specialist School, Grindelton Primary School and Mount Carmel Roman Catholic High School. We enjoyed seeing the turbines close up, spotting frogs and bouncing on the spongy peat!

TRUSTEES VISIT

In the autumn we arranged for our Trustees to visit the wind farm to look at the habitat restoration work that has been ongoing since the turbines were built. The area covered by the wind farm footprint covers 176 ha of moorland and 15 ha grassland. For restoration and habitat monitoring purposes the land has been split into 31 patches and habitat plans have been drawn up for each patch. Restoration work has so far involved - grazing restrictions to allow the vegetation cover to improve; the blocking of grips and drains to help maintain water levels; spreading cut heather to provide a micro-climate to enable vegetation to recover; re-profiling gullies to prevent further peat erosion; and native seeding. Already the results are very positive and in the areas worked on there are now some good areas of Sphagnum moss, heather and cotton grass indicating a healthier moorland habitat.

Trustees seeing the habitat restoration work first hand



Natural England, the Government's advisor for the natural environment in England, confirmed the notification of the new West Pennine Moors Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in August 2017, 278 ha of which is in Hyndburn on the moorland around the wind farm. This is a conservation designation which recognises the national scientific importance of the mosaic of upland habitats and populations of breeding birds in the area.

THE HYNDBURN WIND FARM

FACTS AND FIGURES

- Operational since November 2012
- 81,623 MWh electricity were produced by the wind farm between November 2016 and October 2017
- This is enough electricity to power 2/3rds of the homes in Hyndburn
- According to Government statistics, in 2016 onshore wind generation fell by 8.4% despite an increase in capacity, as wind speeds were lower than in 2015, which had been the highest in 15 years *
- In 2016 25% of electricity generated by renewable sources came from onshore wind * and In April 2017 wind farms helped the UK experience its first coal-free day since the Industrial Revolution **
- EnergieKontor won a sustainability award for improvements to the moorland as part of the development of the wind farm from the North West Regional Construction Awards and were highly commended in the sustainability category of the National Construction Excellence Awards.

Oswaldtwistle Moor wind farm



*From Dept for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy - Digest of UK Energy Statistics

** From BBC - December 2017

THE WINDFALL FUND

HOW IT WORKS

For:

Charities/voluntary groups carrying out community led environmental projects in Hyndburn

Apply:

Easy application form available from the website. What are you waiting for?

***“A PARTNERSHIP
BETWEEN THE
PROSPECTS
FOUNDATION AND
ENERGIEKONTOR”***

Eligibility:

Constituted community group with own bank account; good project idea; support from your local community; detailed costings/quotes for items requested, committed to sustainable delivery of projects; has to fit within at least one of our 6 themes of sustainability - Improving Biodiversity; Growing Local Food; Energy Conservation; Sustainable Transport; Waste & Recycling and Raising Environmental Awareness

The PROSPECTS Foundation:

Hyndburn's community owned environmental charity based in Accrington administers the scheme on behalf of EnergieKontor, the wind farm developer

MORE INFORMATION

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