



Berry Burn Community Fund 11th Annual Report 2025



Active Travel Forres (Round 33)

Preparatory topographical survey for improving access to Grant Park from St Leonards Road



Background: In 2013 [Statkraft](#), owners of the Berry Burn Wind Farm, agreed to set up a Community Fund. Over a series of meetings, the proposed Fund Members discussed and finalised details and together with Statkraft, were able to sign off the Constitution on 29th August 2014. This allowed the Berry Burn Community Fund to be formally launched and to invite applications for funding from within the agreed zoned area.

The role of the Fund Members is set out in the Constitution.

What are the Fund's objectives, in which zones does it operate and who can apply for funding?

The Fund's objectives are to fairly and reasonably disburse funds resulting from the receipt of the Annual Grant, which takes the form of an annual payment to the Fund from Berry Burn Wind Farm Limited (BBWFL), company number 04511914. Statkraft, who own BBWFL, paid £255,500.88 in 2025 and this payment shall increase (but not decrease) annually in line with the RPI. The payment shall be for the general benefit of the public living within the Community Council boundaries of Dyke Landward, East Nairnshire, Forres, Findhorn and Kinloss, Heldon, Speyside, Finnerne, Grantown-on-Spey, and Cromdale and Advie, to be disbursed by the Fund as the Fund sees fit.

The Fund can comprise up to eleven members of the general public selected from within the designated operating zones, together with one representative of Statkraft.

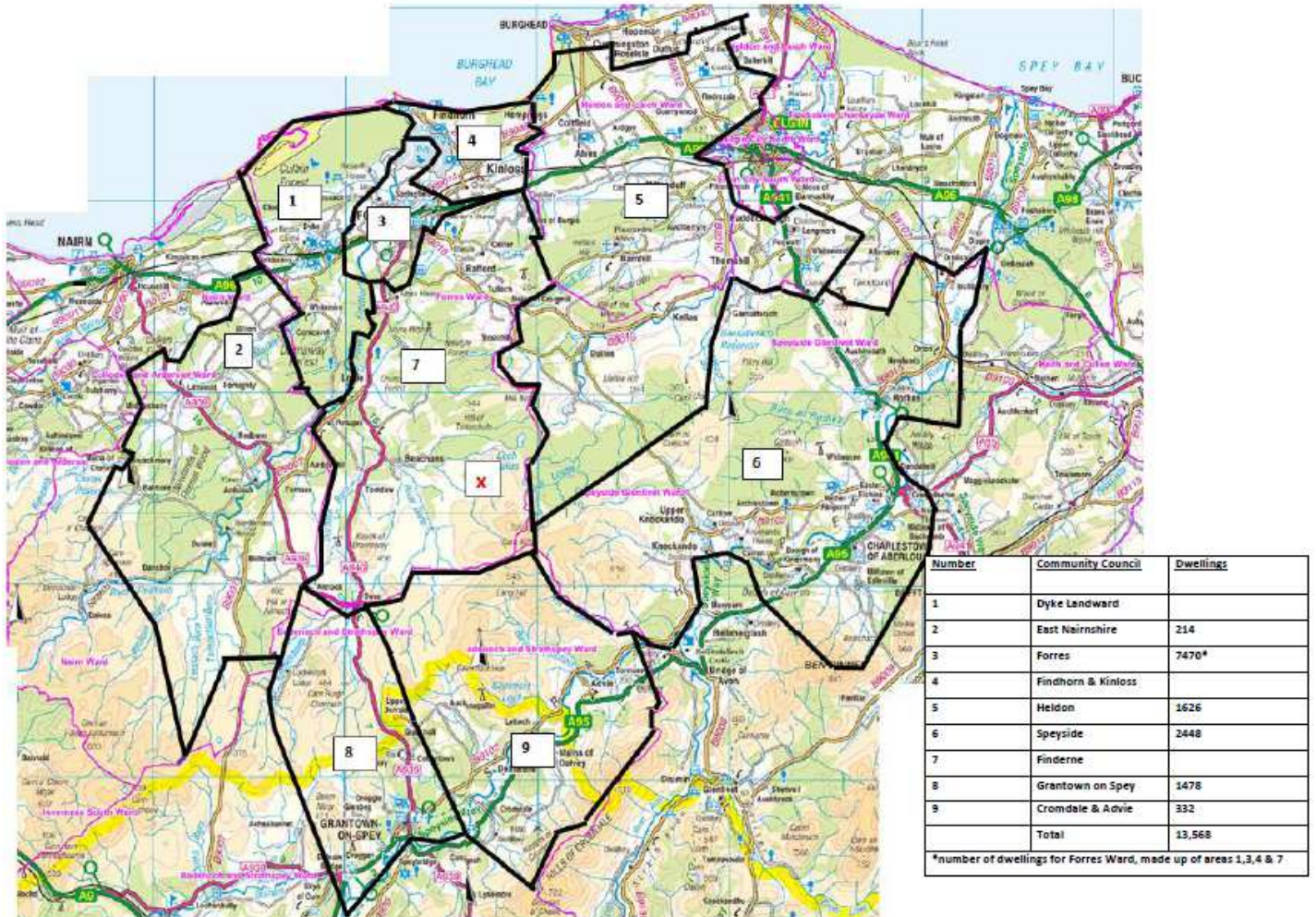
Applications are open to members of clubs, societies or groups operating within the relevant zones and looking for financial support. Applications from individuals will also be considered, provided that those applications demonstrate a clear benefit to the wider community. Assistance can be offered to small local businesses, for capital equipment or to business start-ups which focus on environmental, educational, health, welfare or community improvements and outdoor activities.

How often does the Berry Burn Community Fund make awards?

Funding rounds currently take place three times a year. Dates can be found on the Berry Burn Community Fund website at <http://berryburncommunityfund.co.uk/timetable/>



Berry Burn Community Fund Zones



How are applications made?

Any organisation wanting to apply for funding will need to submit an application form, along with a copy of their complete and independently-examined accounts, including a balance sheet, for the past two years, three competitive quotes and a copy of the organisation's Constitution. All paperwork must be submitted by email to admin@berryburncommunityfund.co.uk

Additional information can be found, together with the necessary application form, on the Berry Burn Community Fund website: www.berryburncommunityfund.co.uk



Chair's Report 2025

This past year has been one of consolidation and settling into my role as Chair. At the outset I must thank my fellow members for their support and contributions to our collective decision making. The Fund continues to make an impact to the benefit of communities within the Fund area.

Fund members operate in an open, honest and co-operative manner where all views are valid and considered. We value diversity and variety and are always willing to consider applications to become a fund member, as and when vacancies arise.

Throughout the year the Fund has supported many and varied causes, events and individuals. To describe a few - community woodlands, a community travel service for older people, new fencing for an agricultural show, additional storage space thereby freeing up workshop space for a recycling charity, part travelling expenses within the UK for an aspiring golfer and part funding to generate electricity from a water wheel at a mill.

An emphasis on part funding young people who benefit from participating in organised and structured groups (eg Guides, Scouts, pipe bands etc) has been rewarding. These young people raise the majority of funds for themselves and then gain lifelong skills when participating, for example, in multinational camps at home and abroad.

Above is but a small sample from the 44 applications approved in 2025. Three applications were withdrawn prior to consideration, and 23 were rejected for a variety of reasons, mainly incomplete details, awaiting permissions from third parties (eg planning), banking or constitution details which were not competent.

I must note our thanks to Sharon Robinson, a founder member, who returned after a 'gap year' to help out when we were short of members. Also to Sally Gingell, a past vice chair, for her work on behalf of the Fund over the years. We also said goodbye to Mary-Ann Connolly and Robbie Noel, thank you both.

In their stead we have welcomed Alison Frankland, Liz Barr, Sam Dalziel and Tom Duff. They are already making an impact and I look forward to their participation in our discussions.

All of the above would not occur without the advice and guidance of Sandra Mitchell, our administrator. I thank her personally for her support.

Overall, as I said at the beginning, 2025 has been a year of consolidation. I look forward to 2026 with optimism and certainty that the Fund will continue, to the best of its ability, to fulfil the aims of our Constitution.

Alex Ross, BBCF Chair
February 2026



Treasurer's Report 2025

This year the Berry Burn Fund awarded 44 Grants with a value of £287,085. Payments in 2025 towards Grants Awarded amounted to £242,513. Included in this figure are payments on Grants from award rounds prior to 2025 which were paid out in 2025 when the projects completed. The fund finances are in a very sound condition and carry forward a small surplus (of uncommitted funds) of £2,620 into 2026. Committed funds are identified and monitored and are all covered by the Bank balances carried forward at 31/12 /25.

Following on from changes in Fund Members, the Fund agreed during the year to authorise Mike Dolan as an additional signatory to the Berry Burn Community Fund Bank account. This took us back to three signatories and allows a more flexible approach to cover signatories' holidays and commitments.

The 32 Day Savings account, opened in 2024, has continued to obtain a higher interest rate. A new 95 Day account was opened in the Spring of 2025. Funds have been kept on 32-day and 95-day deposit for as long as possible and uplifted, as required to meet Grant payments. These accounts along with the existing Deposit account hold virtually all of the Grant monies, pending payment of awards. Total deposit interest earned in 2025 amounted to £6,030 (£4,143 in 2024) which is returned to the general Grant Fund.

The administration cost for the 2025 year comes out at 3.47% of Grants Awarded (4.27% in 2024) and is maintained within our aim to keep this below 5%.

After deducting the above interest earned on Deposits our net costs of administering the Fund for the year amounts to 1.37% compared to 2.63% in 2024.

Receipts		Payments	
Bank at 01 Jan 2025	£189,002	Bank at 31 Dec 2025	£198,070
Statkraft Grant	£255,500	Grant Payments	£242,513
Deposit Interest	£6,030	Administration	£9,949
Total	£450,532	Total	£450,532

Finally, a huge thank you to Sandra Mitchell our administrator for all of her excellent work over the last 12 months for the Fund. She has assisted me in dealing with the transactions during the year and helped me predict the future timing of Advances and other Grant Payments so that we can try and maximise deposit interest. Thanks also to Alex Ross and Mike Dolan for 2nd Authorising all of the payments arising during 2025.

James Campbell, BBCF Treasurer
February 2026



Administrator's Report 2025

After the challenges of 2024, this past year has felt like one with more stability. Yes, there were still a few changes to the Fund member body, but overall the course has been steadier. I see this as due to the dedication and service of Alex Ross, Mike Dolan and James Campbell as our Office Bearers, for theirs are crucial roles within the Fund. I offer my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the three of them.

This year we have seen a significant increase in the number of applications being submitted from a variety of groups and individuals across the Fund zones, up 40% from that in 2024. While it is very heartening to see the inspiration and motivation of local people to create benefit for their communities, the downside to this increase is that the Fund is unable to support all the applications for good projects that meet the criteria.

We are delighted with how our Facebook page has grown over the past year, interactions up by 125% and net follows up by 97%. This is great news as social media is another way for potential applicants to learn about the Fund's existence.

As mentioned in the Chair's Report, the Fund welcomed four new members in 2025. My heartfelt thanks go to all our volunteers for their hard work throughout the year, their dedication and diligence in helping the administration of the Fund run smoothly.

Positive and extensive local press coverage throughout the year has again reflected well on the work of the Fund. Details of each award round, and numerous follow up articles, mainly in the Forres Gazette and Strathspey and Badenoch Herald, highlighted the development of various projects and acknowledged the contribution made by the Fund.

Sandra Mitchell, BBCF Administrator
February 2026



Funding Awarded in 2025

Round 33 – February 2025 Funding Awarded: £86,142.63

Strathspey Works – Granttown Remakery £12,000.00 for workshop staff.

Forres Baptist Church £10,301.00 for the remodelling of the interior of the building to create a larger community space to be able to expand the number and frequency of community activities.



Forres Osprey Bus SCIO £8,800.00 to reduce barriers to improved wellbeing.

Anagach Woods Trust £8,121.00 for delivery of the Anagach Woods Vision.

Growing2gether £7,000.00 to deliver two Growing2gether Nursery programmes to strengthen young people and communities in Forres.

Mandala Garden Project Ltd £5,955.80 to acquire a BCS 740 Two Wheel Tractor and Berta Flail Mower attachment to double food production over the next two years.



The Paddock Broom of Moy CIC £4,602.00 for the purchase and installation of a Polycrub.



Park Ecovillage Trust £4,600.00 for the Carbon Action Project (CAP).

Moray Firth Credit Union Ltd £4,382.00 for Window of Opportunity (WOO).

Earthtime For All Ltd £3,970.00 for Aberlour Waddle Toddle.

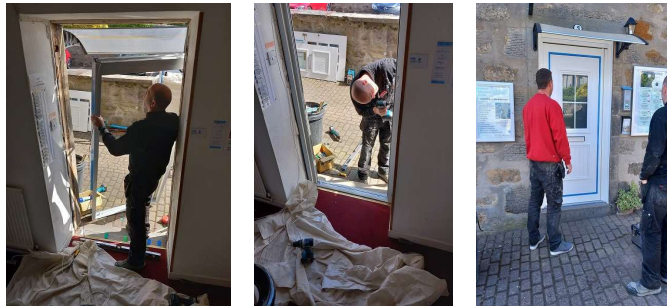


Active Schools – Moray Council-Speyside £3,730.83 for the Speyside Active Schools Programme.

Nature4Health £3,215.00 for Branching Out, Forres.



Healthworks Holistic Healthcare Ltd £3,200.00 for a front door replacement to the Healthworks building.



Grantown Swim Club £2,535.00 to replace essential club equipment and support four swimmers to complete the Scottish Swimming Teachers Qualification (SSTQ).

Moray Flying Circus £2,500.00 to attend the 2025 National Youth Circus Event (Subsequently, the project in its current form changed and is to be re-applied for).

Active Travel Forres £1,230.00 for a topographical survey for the upgrade to the entrance to Grant Park from St Leonards Road.

Round 34 – June 2025 Funding Awarded: £93,527.95

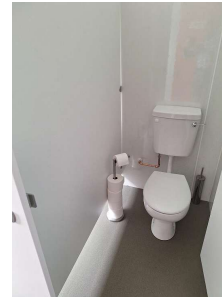
Forres Golf Club £18,127.00 for upgrade to a building to bring the energy rating from band G to band C.

Inspiring Foundations £13,772.75 for automotive training.

Grantown Grammar School £12,182.53 for Sports Field Infrastructure Rejuvenation Project.



Edinville Community Hall Council £11,905.96 for Edinville Hall Gent's Toilet refurbishment and upgrade.



ReBOOT £9,000.00 for expanding capacity to increase their impact.

Strathspey Farmers Club (Grantown Show) £8,000.00 to for livestock gates for the Grantown Show.



Riff Raff Producing CIC £3,178.83 for Between the Mountains and the Sea - Winter Wellbeing Choir.

Frozen Charlotte Productions Ltd £3,075.00 for Creative Play with Frozen Charlotte (based in Forres).

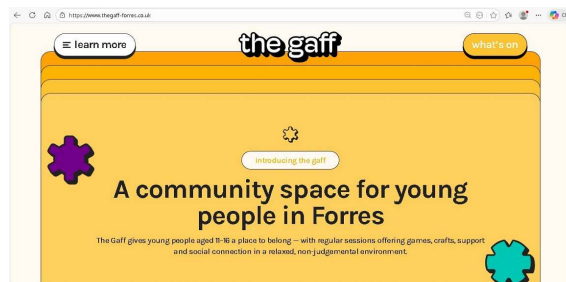
Speyside High School Fund £3,000.00 for Speyside High School football teams.

Strathspey Camanachd £3,000.00 for Strathspey Camanachd Growth Initiative.

Wild Things £2,871.00 for upgrading IT to widen access.

Edinville Community Association SCIO £2,529.70 for securing the future of Edinville Hall.

The Gaff! (Forres Youth Space Project SCIO) £2,315.18 for The Gaff! Website and Ad Signs.





Karen Astill Coaching £570.00 for Altyre Women's Circles.

Round 35 – October 2025 Funding Awarded: £107,414.00

Knockando Woolmill Trust £25,000.00 for waterwheel energy recovery and storage.

Strathspey Works – Grantown Remakery £20,000.00 for shop expansion.

Forres Tennis Club £13,000.00 for installation of 6 lamp posts and 8 outdoor LED floodlights for Courts 1 and 2.

St Laurence Forres Trust £10,000.00 for St Laurence Community Music and Arts Centre.

Rangjung Yeshe Gomde Trust £8,795.00 for a new tractor.



Morayvia £7,000.00 for restoration and refurbishment of their Sea King Helicopter.

Forres Rangers £6,000.00 for 1st Forres Rangers – Sangam 2026.

Fionas Wholefoods & Refills CIC £4,450.00 to enable training opportunities for aspiring baristas.

Active Travel Forres £3,732.00 for Grant Park entrance redesign (St Leonard's Road).



Moray Food Plus £2,988.00 for Nourish cooking sessions.

The Moray Operatic and Dramatic Society (The MODS) £2,200.00 for Project Panto – Robin Hood and the Knights of the Flatpack Table at the Universal Hall.

Speyside Children's Arts Festival £2,012.00 for the Young Producers Project 2026.



Findlay Nicol £1,600.00 for competitive golf travel costs.

Community Connectors CIC £637.00 for Community Connectors CIC's growth and expansion.

Total Awards made 2025 - £287,085

Total Awards made 2024 - £248,974

Total Awards made 2023 - £228,373

Total Awards made 2022 - £261,922

Total Awards made 2021 - £148,523

Total Awards made 2020 - £212,360

Total Awards made 2019 - £154,625

Total Awards made 2018 - £175,578

Total Awards made 2017 - £189,171

Total Awards made 2016 - £163,313

Total Awards made 2015 - £207,726

Total Awards made 2014 - £80,627

Berry Burn Community Fund
February 2026