**Cornavarrow and Slieveglass Wind Farms Community Benefit Funds 2023/2024**

**Administered by the Fermanagh Trust on behalf of Energia Renewables**

**Grant Information and Guidelines
Closing date for applications 12 noon Monday 6th November 2023**

**Please read the guidelines carefully prior to preparing and submitting an application**

**Terms and Conditions**

1. These terms and conditions are the Rules which apply to Cornavarrow and Slieveglass Wind Farms Community Benefit Fund 2023/2024 only, unless otherwise expressly stated. By applying, applicants agree to be bound by these Rules.

2. The Cornavarrow and Slieveglass Wind Farms Community Benefit Fund is organised by The Fermanagh Trust based at Fermanagh House, Broadmeadow Place, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh BT74 7HR. The fund has been established by Energia Renewables.

3. The Fermanagh Trust reserves the right to cancel or amend the Community Fund Awards, and these Rules, at any time without prior notice.

4. In the event of a dispute, The Fermanagh Trust’s decision shall be final and no correspondence or discussion shall be entered into.

**Qualifying Entrants**

**The Fund aims to make a positive contribution to the community, hence significant weighting will be given to the impact, the proposed project will have on people’s lives.**

5. To qualify to apply for the Cornavarrow and Slieveglass Wind Farms Community Benefit Funds the lead group/project must be resident within 5km of either the Cornavarrow or Slieveglass Wind Farm). *Individuals may not apply in their own right*.

6. The Fermanagh Trust reserves the right to verify the eligibility of all applicants.

7. By submitting an application, you hereby warrant that all information submitted by you is true, current and complete.

8. The Fermanagh Trust reserves the right to disqualify any applicant if it has reasonable grounds to believe the applicant has breached any of these Terms and Conditions.

9. If an applicant is disqualified from the Award, The Fermanagh Trust in its sole discretion may decide whether a replacement applicant should be selected. In this event, any further applicant will be selected on the same criteria as the original applicant and will be subject to these Rules.

10. **Award Applications**

The Fund is inviting applications in the 2023/2024 round of funding towards a number of grant streams; (Each category of funding has it’s own application form).

**Cornavarrow and Slieveglass Wind Farms**

1. **Revenue small grants programme** offering grants up to a maximum of £4,000. It is envisaged the majority of grants *will normally be awarded up to £2,000*, towards:
* Community activities;
* Venue improvements / minor capital works (Nb not in schools which is a statutory responsbiblity);
* Recurring costs for a programme

1. **Multi Year Fund**

**A Number of Multi year grants may be awarded for up to a maximum of three years**

**These awards may be for;**

**Strategic Projects -** (£3,000 - £5,000 pa over a 3 – 5 year period) working with a range of organisations across the Area of Benefit, which will make a significant contribution towards one or more of the following:

• Community Education Classes

• Community First Aid / Defibrillator Initiative – aimed at improving access and support;

• Organising / Hosting Cross-Community Events;

• Improve access to services, via a Community Volunteer Driver Scheme;

• Environmental improvements

• Renewable Energy;

• Improving Mental Health.

**Cornavarrow Wind Farm only**

In addition to the revenue grants outlined above the Fund is inviting organisations to submit an application form for Strageic Capital Legacy Projects in the area

**Strategic Capital Legacy Projects** – providing grant aid up to £25,000 per annum, over a five year period or equivalent amount over a longer period, which will make a significant contribution to improving the health and wellbeing of the local community.

An initial outline application requesting support towards a strategic capital project will be considered. If successful in passing this first stage of the application process – the project promoter will then be invited to go to the second stage of the process. To be considered for this funding, on submission of the Full application the project promoter must have the necessary statutory permissions in place.

**Nb – an organisation can only hold one grant award from the Fund at any one time. Partnership applications which includes an organisation in receipt of another grant at the time will be considered. The Fermanagh Trust will not discuss, or fund applications submitted by professional fundraising consultants on behalf of local groups. We are committed to building the capacity of grass roots organisation's and are here to help voluntary committee members directly.**

11. Proposals will be accepted from all aspects of community life – economic, social, and educational and environmental. Eligibility for schools: We welcome applications based on the following – eco-environmental – initiatives which encourage outdoor education, creativity and performing arts.

Grants will ***NOT*** be provided to finance;

* Salaries
* Fund Raising initiatives
* Projects which do directly benefit the local community
* Projects operated by individuals / private sector organisations
* Music Equipment
* Projects which directly promote or advance a particular religion or any political party
* Retrospective Funding
* Recoverable VAT costs
* The relief of **statutory responsibilities** (including capital projects within schools).

12. All applications must be submitted on an official application form. Failure to do so will disqualify the entry. Application forms are available from The Fermanagh Trust, Fermanagh House, Enniskillen, BT74 7HR. via the website [www.fermanaghtrust.org](http://www.fermanaghtrust.org) Tel: 028 66 320 210 or email: edel@fermanaghtrust.org

13. The Closing Date for receipt of completed applications is Monday 6th November 2023, 12 noon. Applications received after this date will not be considered. It is essential that the contact person nominated in the application is available to clarify points raised in the application.

14. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. **Awards**

15. Award winner(s) names may be published on the Fermanagh Trust website.

16. In all matters, the decision of The Fermanagh Trust shall be final and no correspondence or discussion shall be entered into.

17. For revenue grants over £1,500, 50% of the amount awarded will be paid by cheque to the successful applicant with the balance being paid upon receipt of the required progress report.

18. Awards are made at The Fermanagh Trusts discretion and no awards will be made as a result of misrepresentations or illegal acts or omissions by or on behalf of any applicant. Retrospective applications cannot be accepted.

**Data Protection and Publicity**

19. It is a condition of accepting an Award that grant recipients will agree to co-operate with a reasonable amount of related promotional activity whereby The Fermanagh Trust may publish grant recipients names and non-detailed addresses, photographs and audio and/or visual recordings.

20. Any personal data relating to applicants will be used solely in accordance with current data protection legislation and will not be disclosed to a third party without the individual’s prior consent.

**Information required with completed application form**

21. A copy of your organisation’s constitution

 Written confirmation of charitable status if you are a registered charity

 A copy of your organisation’s latest accounts & most recent bank statement

For capital projects the following information is also required

Proof of VAT status (if applicable)

Quotations for proposed project

Two references (your referees should demonstrate their knowledge of your organisation & support for your proposed project within their references)

A copy of all match funding confirmation letters received (if applicable)

**How to contact us**

23. You may contact us in relation to the Cornavarrow and Slieveglass Wind Farms Community Benefit Fund by writing to The Director, The Fermanagh Trust, Fermanagh House, Enniskillen, BT74 7HR. Visiting the Trust website [www.fermanaghtrust.org](http://www.fermanaghtrust.org) Tel: 028 66 320 210 or email: edel@fermanaghtrust.org