

Community Fund Policy

Quinton Parish Council receives an annual grant from the Community Fund established by the operator of Roade Wind Farm Ltd. It is anticipated that payments will be made for up to 25 years, the expected life of the wind farm. Payments are not made as of right; there are terms and conditions contained within the Community Fund Agreement that restrict how the money may be used. Each year, the Council is required to submit a costed plan or programme to the operator, who then considers that against the criteria and (hopefully) approves payment. The proposal can contain more than one element and can also be a multi-year project covering up to 3 years.

At the March Parish Council meeting The Council considers projects for inclusion in that year's application and will be pleased to receive suggestions from any resident as to how the money (£3780.00 index linked from 2014) might be spent and / or bids from community groups or organisations to support projects. All proposed projects are discussed at the Annual village Meeting. Please note that payment is made to the Council by the wind farm operator to fund or assist with specific costed projects; the Council (and therefore the ultimate recipient) cannot receive a simple cash payment that is not linked to a project and the donor reserves the right to demand verification that the funds have been used for the purpose requested.

On the advice of the Council's internal auditor a separate bank account has been set up by the Parish Council entitled "Trustees of Quinton Parish Community Fund". Although cheques are signed in line with the Council's bank signing mandate the funds are deemed to be outside of the Parish Council and therefore not subject to the spending constraints of the Council.

At each Parish Council Meeting the Clerk presents an update report on the financial position of the fund and Councillors report on the progress of the projects currently being supported.

The finances of the Community fund are checked by an internal control Councillor and all cheques are signed by 2 signatories as per the Council mandate.

Full details of the utilisation of the fund will appear on the Quinton Parish Council website.

Adopted July 2015

Reviewed March 2019