

NEWS RELEASE: For immediate release



Funding for the community from Science Museum Group Wroughton Solar Park

Wiltshire Community Foundation is delighted to announce new funding for the community from Science Museum Group Wroughton Solar Park. The solar park started to generate power in July last year and has now released its first funds to benefit the community in the surrounding area.

A £55k funding pot is available for the first grants round in October and applications are now open for community groups to apply for small grants funding of up to £2k for community organisations, working to improve the lives of people living in the parish areas of Wroughton, Chiseldon, Clyffe Pypard, Broad Town, Broad Hinton, Ogbourne St George, Ogbourne St Andrew, Aldbourne and Baydon.

In addition applications are also open for two grants of up to £20k for any community organisation for projects that have a focus on science, technology, engineering, maths, environment, health, play. Examples might be the use of renewable energy, ecology or habitat conservation. Projects can be for the creation of a physical asset or for the encouragement of learning i.e. for delivering a specific benefit to the area or providing education about a particular issue. Grants can be for capital or revenue costs. The project must deliver benefit to communities within a 10km radius of Wroughton Solar Park.

To find out more about the criteria and apply visit the Wiltshire Community Foundation website at www.wiltshirecf.org.uk/grant-funds or call the grants team on 01380 729284 for more information.

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For further information contact

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Notes for editors:

- Science Museum Group Wroughton Solar Park was a joint development between Public Power Solutions and the Science Museum Group, which owns the former World War 2 airfield at Wroughton on which the solar park is situated. As part of the project a requirement was agreed by the Science Museum Group and PPS for a Community Benefit Fund and Rockfire Capital, a major investor in the project, will provide this funding which will benefit projects and communities in the area over the next 30 years.
- Wiltshire Community Foundation has been supporting voluntary groups and charitable organisations across Wiltshire and Swindon for over 40 years
- Wiltshire Community Foundation now has an endowment fund of £18.4m, raised locally from individuals, companies and trusts
- Wiltshire Community Foundation gave out **£1.03million** in grants in 2015/2016 to 119 voluntary groups and 212 individuals, **benefitting 87,625 people**
- All applications are assessed and monitored to ensure the grants are effective and benefit their community

About Community Foundations

UK Community Foundations is the national network for all accredited Community Foundations across the country.

UKCF helps people and organisations to invest in local communities where it is most needed and where it will make most impact. UKCF envisages a society where communities will be able to support all those in need.

UKCF covers the whole of the United Kingdom and we have an unparalleled reach into local communities. Each Community Foundation has an in depth understanding of their local area, what the priority needs are and how best to address these issues. They are able to direct donors to fund causes that they are not only passionate about but that will make the most difference.

For more information, visit www.ukcommunityfoundations.org



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