

The Clyde Windfarm scheme has been launched and there will be one funding application round this year, opening now and closing on 30th June 2012. There will be two rounds in 2013 opening at the turn of the year for the first and towards the end of the summer 2013 for Autumn payment of grants. These will be publicised towards the end of 2012.

We would encourage anyone, if they think their organisation would qualify for any of the grants, be that Micro Grant, Small, Medium or even large that they contact either the Scottish Charities Foundation, (SCF), or Thornhill Community Council (special e-mail address – thornhillwfgrants@yahoo.co.uk . SCF's web site details appear on the Fund Information Sheet and the Poster. They are also in place to give advice. Application forms are available electronically from their web site, and paper copies should be available shortly from Thornhill Library.

Please note that your application needs to be with SCF by the closing date and this includes having it signed by Thornhill Community Council as the Panel Representative.

It is important to recognise that these Grants are a substantial amount of money. Thornhill Community Council does not have control of the funds. They are merely the conduit through which residents in this area can apply for grants. Thornhill Community Council can also apply on behalf of any Community Schemes it identifies itself.

Other than the small amount open to be applied for each year as a micro grant all funds are held by SCF, applications are processed by them and after their due diligence checks they are sent to a panel of members made up of one member of each of the 12 Community Councils, Village Councils and Community Trusts who are the beneficiaries of this fund. These 12 panel members have the final say on the granting, or not granting, of any funds. It is set up in this way to ensure impartiality and further ensure that no individual can apply undue pressure to receive a grant or ensure a grant is made.

We would anyone who knows of any individual or organisation who could benefit from this fund that you forward these details to them.

These grants are to benefit our Community so let's try and ensure that we make to most of them, if not in this first round then certainly over the next 18 months.