Potential funding sources for village halls in Shropshire,



Telford and Wrekin

April 2024

<u>Shropshire and Telford Community Energy</u> (STCE) are a Community Benefit Society dedicated to facilitating the establishment of community-owned clean energy schemes and distributing the arising financial benefits across the whole community. STCE offer grants generated by the Twemlows Solar Farm near Whitchurch. These grants fund energy saving and renewable projects across Shropshire and Telford. Preference is given to organisations with a turnover under £60k, but larger organisations may be funded.

STCE have already funded work at Park Lane Community Centre, the United Reformed Church (URC) in Shrewsbury, Harmer Hill and Rushbury Village Halls, the full list of past beneficiaries can be found here: <u>https://stcenergy.org.uk/community-benefit-funding/</u>

To receive updates from STCE, please sign up to the newsletter at: <u>https://stcenergy.org.uk/sign-up-to-our-newsletter/</u>

STCE have also commissioned Sharenergy to produce this list of other funding sources available in the Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin areas:

The Centre for Sustainable Energy have some good resources, see their page on "Funding for your community project or building" here:

https://www.cse.org.uk/resource/funding-for-your-community-project-or-building-2/

There is a VCSE (Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise) Community Building Energy Efficiency grant scheme run by the Government which offers funding for advice (including independent energy assessments) and capital grants for energy efficiency measures. This is open to charities or similar organisations, but not Parish councils. For guidance on applications, see:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vcse-energy-efficiency-scheme/applicationform-and-guidance-on-portal

There are various Lottery funded schemes also available (not necessarily for energy projects), in particular Awards For All, which from the 15th November 2023 are increasing their grant level to £20,000 to fund projects running for up to two years. See:

https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/national-lottery-awards-for-allengland

Veolia offer grants towards projects that make improvements to community facilities. The next funding round opens on 30th November 2023. To check your project is located in an area they fund, go to their website:

https://www.veoliatrust.org/funding/

Little Wenlock Village Hall have undertaken several improvements, inc LED lighting, PV panels, batteries and 2 heat pumps (one air to water one air to air), for more information see:

http://www.littlewenlockvillagehall.uk/community/little-wenlock-village-hall-15549/eco-friendly/

Shropshire Council's website has information about the Place Plans, which bring together information about infrastructure needs within the 18 Place Plan areas of the county. Where they can, they identify partners and funds to deliver this infrastructure. However, there are projects where funding has not yet been identified, and communities may have to look for funding themselves if they want to deliver a particular project. Links to potential funding opportunities and information can be found here:

https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/place-plans/supplementary-information/potential-fundingsources/

Telford & Wrekin Council run a Telford and Wrekin Climate Change Fund from time to time. This doesn't appear to be open currently, but it is worth checking back to see if it is to be re-opened:

https://www.telford.gov.uk/downloads/file/17291/guidance_for_applicants

T & W Council also offer a service to signpost community groups to potential funding sources, see this webpage:

https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20349/community_support/3370/local_grants

It is also worth contacting Marches Energy Agency who can arrange for an energy survey to be carried out:

https://mea.org.uk/

Also Dave Green Energy Services (Dave particularly focuses on advice around heat pumps):

www.davegreenenergy.co.uk

> For EV charging points we recommend contacting Charge My Street, see:

https://chargemystreet.co.uk/

Community Resource Shropshire are able to give more detailed advice on funding options to members. Membership for village halls costs £35 per annum. See:

https://community-resource.org.uk/support-us/

Community Energy England also provide information on funding. See:

https://communityenergyengland.org/pages/funding-opportunities-2

Paper produced by Fran Hunt, Sharenergy, for Shropshire and Telford Community Energy with thanks to Howard Betts, STCE and Graham Betts, Shropshire Community Resource

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