



The Community Foundation for Shropshire

Our year in review

2023





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Foreword

Thanks to the hard work and commitment from our team and fantastic support from our donors and trustees, this year we've helped provide vital local support to community groups and made a real difference to the lives of local people.

This yearbook will take you through some of the services we offer, some of the people that we have supported and helped, and more importantly, some of the plans, initiatives and new grants schemes we have lined up that will launch over the next few months.

With increased grant-giving and a higher value endowment fund, as well as lots of new projects in the pipeline, there come increased challenges. With the support of our donors and trustees, I have no doubt that we can meet those challenges head-on, providing more in-depth and vital local support to our local communities than ever before.

Steve Adams
Chief Executive
The Community Foundation for Shropshire

01

Who we are

“

*We connect
people that
want to support
their community
with those that
need help and
support*





About the Community Foundation for Shropshire

Connecting People

We connect people that want to support their community with those that need help and support – that could be private philanthropists, local business, local authorities or statutory bodies, or individual donors.

We can help to mobilise local resources quickly, efficiently and effectively to help to deal with those needs, whether they are long-standing or emerging needs.

The Community Foundation for Shropshire has been working across Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin intermittently since 2014, and continually since 2016. We are the officially recognised, accredited and legitimate community foundation for the ceremonial county of Shropshire. The name Community Foundation for Shropshire is used as an operational name of the Community Foundation for Staffordshire and Shropshire, and we have operated across Staffordshire since 2001. We have two offices – one in Stafford and one in Telford, and a team with links to both Staffordshire and Shropshire. We have in-depth local knowledge of our communities, and we can identify needs that exist within them.

Exceeding standards

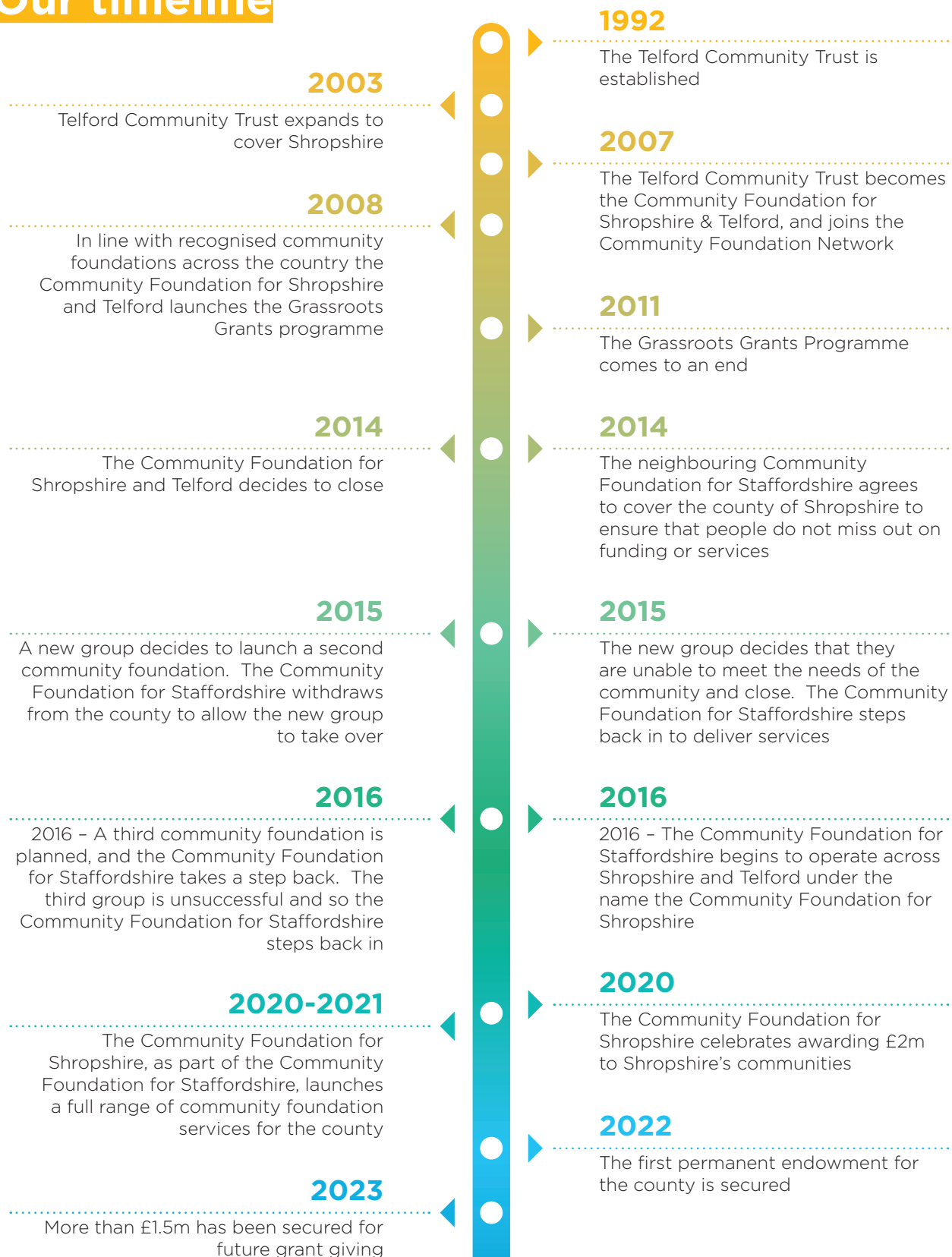
As a custodian of funds that are designed to benefit our local community, it is important to us that we exceed the standards required and expected of us.

We are a member of UK Community Foundations (UKCF), which represents the interests of all recognised community foundations across the UK. We are accredited by UKCF which assesses community foundations across a range of standards focused on management of grants, endowments, partnership working, and community initiatives. We have also achieved ISO9001 accreditation, and are registered with the Charity Commission, Companies House, Fundraising Regulator, the Information Commissioner, and the Living Wage Foundation as a Living Wage accredited employer and funder. We are currently undertaking Living Hours accreditation.





Our timeline



Shropshire statistics

The county has an area of 1,346 sq miles and is rich in agriculture and industrial heritage.

Population

Shropshire
324,700

Telford
185,600



Ethnicity

	Shropshire	Telford
White	96.7%	89.9%
Asian	1.3%	4.6%
Black	0.3%	2.4%
Mixed Race	1.2%	2.3%
Other	0.4%	0.8%

Religion

	Shropshire	Telford
Christian	55.5%	49.8%
Muslim	0.5%	2.3%
Hindu	0.2%	0.6%
Sikh	0.2%	0.5%
Buddhist	0.2%	0.3%
Jewish	0.1%	0.0%
Other	0.5%	1.3%
No Religion	37.0%	39.7%



Unemployment

Shropshire
3.3%

Telford
4%



Average Salary

Shropshire
£28,424

Telford
£29,000



Average Age

Shropshire
43

Telford
40



Life Expectancy

Shropshire
80

Telford
78



Passport

18% of the population of Shropshire do not have a passport

21% of the population of Telford do not have a passport



Our team

Meet our fantastic team and trustees



Steve Adams
Chief Executive



Adam Berrisford
Head of Operations



Leanne Macpherson
Head of Programmes



Faye Williams
Endowments
Development Manager



Nikki Winmill
Programmes Officer



Jo Cooper
Projects & Partnerships
Officer



Sian Emery
Programmes Officer



Craig Graham
Programmes Officer



Benjamin Hilton
Operations Officer



Joe Palmer
Programmes Officer



Yasmin Hargrove
Programmes
Administrator



Suzy Cole
Programmes
Administrator





Tara Costello
Programmes
Administrator



Roger Lewis
Chairman



Jonathan Andrew
Vice Chair



Simon Price
Vice Chair



Ashley Brough
Trustee



Charlotte Almond
Trustee



Jeremy Lefroy
Treasurer



Charles Bagot-Jewitt
Trustee



Alan Durose
Trustee



Judy Scott-Moncrieff
Trustee



Terry Walsh
Trustee

Join Us

Could you be one of our new trustees?

We are looking for people from across the county to join us. We are particularly interested in applications from people who are traditionally under-represented on charity boards, including younger people, people from BAME backgrounds, and people with protected characteristics.

If you would like to have an influence on the delivery of support to our communities please call us for an informal chat, and to learn more about what being a trustee entails.

02

Our impact



The Community Foundation is probably most well-known for our grant giving, having awarded more than £2m over the last few years to help support causes across Shropshire.

GRANTS REVIEW



465
applications funded



16,000
beneficiaries



£1,883,040
awarded

727 applications received, 67% success rate. £3,080,321 requested, 61% awarded.

TOTAL GRANTS BY AREA		
Area	No. of Grants	Total amount
Telford & Wrekin	195	£828,000
Shrewsbury	108	£465,000
Oswestry	45	£252,000
Bridgnorth	45	£167,040
South Shropshire	48	£105,000
North Shropshire	24	£66,000

Largest grant
£26,000

Smallest
grant £190

Average grant: £4063

Supporting causes across Shropshire

The Community Foundation is probably most well-known for our grant giving, having awarded more than £2m over the last few years to help support causes across Shropshire.

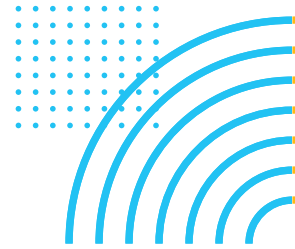
Our grant giving is drawn from many different sources—some from government provided schemes, which is distributed through the Community Foundation due to our local insight, knowledge and connections; some from local statutory authorities, who work with us due to our reach, connections and our way of providing a high quality grant giving service that is cost effective; from national and regional charities, who want to reach local people; and through our endowment fund, which is made up from donations and funds from businesses and local individuals who want to give something back to their local area or communities.

Most of these funds are highly specialised, and they all have their own criteria and terms and conditions, but the Community Foundation helps to bridge the gap between the needs of the funder, and the needs of the community.

Thoughtful Funder scheme

The Community Foundation regularly reviews its grant giving guidelines, procedures and practices, to ensure that we are still meeting the needs of the communities that we serve. In 2020 we signed up to the Institute for Voluntary Action Research (IVAR) managed 'thoughtful funder' scheme. It is based around eight commitments that make things easier, clearer, and transparent for grant applicants.

1. *We will not waste applicants time and we will explain our priorities clearly, and be open and transparent about requirements*
2. *We will only ask relevant questions and only collect information that is necessary*
3. *We will accept our share of risk and be realistic about how much assurance grant applicants can provide*
4. *We will act with urgency working at a pace that meets the needs of applicants and make our decisions as quickly as possible*
5. *We will be open about our decisions giving feedback and publishing success rates and providing reasons for unsuccessful applications*
6. *We will enable grantees to respond to changing needs by giving unrestricted funding where possible, and making any restricted funding as flexible as possible*
7. *We will be clear about our relationship from the start, being realistic about time commitments to ensure our contact is positive and purposeful*
8. *We will use light touch reporting where possible ensuring that our formal reporting requirements are well understood, proportionate to the amount of funding awarded and meaningful*



Grant Case Study: South Shropshire Youth Forum

Fund: **#iwill** | Amount: **£4615** | Area: **South Shropshire** | Category: **Social Action**

South Shropshire Youth Forum aims to offer some form of youth provision for each market town in South Shropshire. They were awarded a grant through the #iWill Shropshire programme to deliver their “Arms Up” project in Ludlow.

This grant supported 20 young people aged 10-14 with youth social action focused activity sessions, such as organising a community event; arranging an afternoon tea party for local elderly residents, delivering an enterprise activity; making and selling products and completing a personal challenge such as a sponsored walk. The sessions were designed to give each participant opportunity to explore roles within the activity, and find something they were good at which helped them to contribute to a fundraising target.



Grant Case Study: CEIA

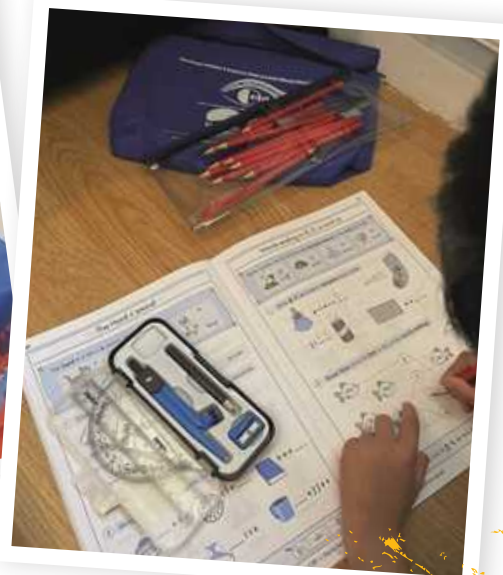
Fund: **Emergency Response Fund** | Amount: **£10,572** | Area: **Telford** | Category: **Education**

CEIA aim to promote the benefit of Ethnic Minority citizens in Shropshire, by the advancement of education and training, the relief of financial hardship, the promotion of good health and the relief of unemployment.

During the pandemic, the government suggested that home-schooling should be adopted by parents. BAME communities found this extremely challenging, with parents, most who do not converse in the English language, finding it difficult to support their children's education.

CEIA were awarded a grant from our covid response programme and they decided to launch a new initiative in the Wellington area specifically targeting children and families from Black Asian Minority Ethnic communities for 8 weeks. The project provided families with a support package, which consisted of key learning resources and stationery for children between the ages of 5 to 10 to assist the family to be able to educate their child at home.

Following the success of this project CEIA have now launched an online "family educational forum" and they will continue to promote, encourage and support parents with their children's education.





Grant Case Study: Derwen College

Fund: **Emergency Response Fund** | Amount: **£995** | Area: **Oswestry** | Category: **Employment**

Derwen College is a residential, vocational college for young adults aged 16-24 with Special Education Needs and Disabilities. It was established as a training college for people with disabilities in 1927 by Dame Agnes Hunt.

Students attend the college to learn work skills and independent living skills to enable them to live happy and independent lives when they leave college.

Unique to Derwen College is an on-site retail area, where students work and train, learning work skills in an environment that is geared to take them through a planned learning journey enabling them to gain confidence and belief in themselves.

They were awarded a grant which enabled them to open a new and exciting charity shop on the college campus. This aimed to offer students realistic retail work experience opportunities, learning all aspects of retail from stock control to serving visiting customers.



Grant Case Study: HMM Arts (The Hive)

Fund: **Tampon Tax** | Amount: **£5000** | Area: **Shrewsbury** | Category: **Equality**

The Hive in Shrewsbury provides a safe path to personal and community growth, supporting young people and those who are disadvantaged.

Women and girls are under-represented nationally in music technology and with the low numbers of girls taking up tech-based opportunities and the larger numbers of young women becoming and remaining NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training), The Hive decided to launch a “Music Tech for girls” project. The project was awarded funding from the Tampon Tax programme and aimed to educate girls on music technology and igniting possible career aspirations.





Grant Case Study: Buildwas Village Hall

Fund: **Co-op Emergency Fund** | Amount: **£1000** | Area: **Bridgnorth** | Category: **Social Isolation**

Buildwas Village Hall based in Severn Valley support their local community. Many of their local residents are elderly. Some live alone and don't have family, friends or neighbours to support them.

They were awarded a grant through the Covid-19 Emergency fund for their "Meals on Wheels" project. They provided hot meals and cold desserts on weekday lunchtimes to local residents. They had a dedicated team of volunteer drivers and a fully qualified chef who prepared the meals, which were then delivered to doorsteps across the village.

They are located in a very rural area between Telford and Shrewsbury with few amenities and limited public transport. During the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown period, many residents were left isolated and vulnerable.



Grant Case Study: Wistanstow Village Hall

Fund: **Let's Create Jubilee Fund** | Amount: **£1765** | Area: **South Shropshire** | Category: **Creative Arts**

The parish of Wistanstow comprises a number of small villages and hamlets, and over the years the hall has been the focal point for community events.

They were awarded a grant from the Queens' Platinum Jubilee programme which supported them in their celebrations. Activities to suit all ages were provided, including craft sessions to make crowns, which were worn on a parade through the village, the planting of a tree under the Queen's green canopy scheme and the village's main event was the lighting of the Beacon.

Many new friendships were made during the event and new residents now feel very welcome in the parish and understand the importance of what village life can offer.



03

Help give back

We offer unique and tailored ways for you to help to give back

Legacy Endowments

You can leave a gift to a cause or area you care about by working with the Community Foundation. We will support you to ensure that your chosen cause continues to benefit after you have gone. *Learn more on page 21.*

Personal Endowments

You may want to establish your own tax efficient fund, in your name, or the name of something that you care about. An endowment fund is particularly good for long-term, sustainable benefit, that will ensure you help people long into the future. *Learn more on page 22.*

Business Endowments

Like a personal endowment fund for your business. A fantastic way to show your commitment to your local area, workforce or customers. A great way to build employee buy in and loyalty, and enhance your businesses reputation. Tax efficient giving options are also available. *Learn more on page 24.*

Contribute to an existing 'place-based' fund

You might want to give something back but don't want to establish your own dedicated fund, or you don't want to give a significant sum of money. You can support one of our place based funds, which pools similar donations to have a greater impact than working alone. *Learn more on page 26.*

Held Fund

You may want to retain personal financial responsibility for your fund, but you may need some help with the administration of it. We can support you every step of the way, so that you can spend time on the things that you care about, whilst leaving the legalities to us. *Contact us to learn more and discuss your options.*

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and everyone's approach
to is different.***



At the Community Foundation we recognise that charitable giving is a deeply personal decision, and everyone's approach is different, based on whether they are giving as an individual, a business, or as a legacy. It will vary dependent on whether people want to have an immediate impact, or whether they want to set up something that lasts long into the future. That's why we work closely with you to create a unique and tailored plan that aligns with your needs and aspirations, allowing you to support communities in your area of choice in a manner that resonates with your values.

We understand that donors come from diverse backgrounds and circumstances. While some may possess significant wealth and resources, we also recognise that many individuals simply have a strong desire to make a positive impact

and support causes they care deeply about, regardless of their financial means. We value and appreciate the contributions of all donors who share a passion for creating meaningful change in their communities.

By working with you, we ensure that your philanthropic support is tailored to your specific interests, enabling you to see the tangible and life changing difference that your support can make. Our team is here to guide and support you through the process, using our expertise and resources to maximise the effectiveness of your charitable giving.

Types of funds we manage

Flowthrough Fund

This is a fund where a set amount of money is donated to, or managed by, the Community Foundation. It is not invested. It is awarded as grants over a pre-agreed timescale, and usually to a pre-agreed remit, and so is very good for short-term giving where people want their impact to be more immediate.

Long-Term Endowment Fund

Long-term endowment funds work in a similar way to a permanent endowment fund, but have a fixed time horizon, usually of at least 10 years, but less than 25 years. The capital sum that is invested can be spent at the end of the period.



Permanent Endowment Fund

Donations to permanent endowments are 'locked in', meaning they cannot be spent. Instead the fund is invested, and the returns and dividends generated are used to award grants. This type of fund generates less in the first few years, but much more as time goes on, and so is very good for long-term sustainability.



Expendable Endowment Fund

An expendable endowment is where a sum of money is invested within our endowment fund, but is designed to be spent over a fixed time period, perhaps five years as an example. The fund is spent equally each year, but accrues income from the investment, allowing more funding to be awarded than was originally invested.



Held Fund

A held fund is invested in a similar way to the endowments but is designed to benefit specific named organisations. The aims of the beneficiaries must still be charitable. A Held Fund could also be where we manage the administration of a charity on behalf of others, but it does not 'belong' to the Community Foundation.



Legacy Endowments

There was a time when discussing legacies was frowned upon. However, we want to change that.

Nowadays more and more people are leaving a gift to charity in their will and it is especially important in the circumstances to ensure that their wishes will be followed when they are no longer here to see them through. It used to be the case that people had to leave a gift to the 'best fit' for their wishes, but the Community Foundation offers a new option.

The Community Foundation can establish a legacy fund in your name, or add your contribution to one of our existing funds if you would prefer. Your wishes will be carried out after your death, ensuring that people benefit from your gift, in the way that you want them to. We can even provide the relevant wording for you to include in your will.

There are 2 key types of legacy - a pecuniary legacy, where a fixed sum is left as a gift, or a residuary legacy, where a certain proportion of your estate is left to charity. In both instances the amount of inheritance tax the estate is liable to pay may be reduced. In addition, any donation made to us in the seven years before your death is exempt from inheritance tax.

CASE STUDY

THE TERRY WALSH FUND

Having been drawn up through a Will, the Terry Walsh Fund will be created after his death, with a legacy from his estate. The purpose of the fund is to help individuals who are caring for a friend or family member.

Terry recognises that unpaid caring can be a stressful role, and it's not unheard of for a carer to die before the person they're caring for. Terry wants to do something that will provide support and respite to carers, who spend so much of their time supporting others.

The Terry Walsh fund will be used to cover the cost of a holiday for the unpaid carers and pay for a respite carer to take over their caring duties whilst they are away. If a carer is in difficult financial circumstances, then holiday spending money can also be provided.





Personal Endowments

Sometimes when you give, you want people to be aware of your passion or cause. It might be that you want to set up a memorial fund in a loved one's name to support something that they cared about.

It could be that you've worked hard and are now in a position to give something back, and you want to bring attention to a particular cause, or something that you care deeply about. Perhaps you think there is an imbalance in society and want to do something to address it.

The old solution used to be setting up a charity or trust, but this can be arduous, lead to further work, and add costs to your charitable giving. Most people want to give something back and spend their time helping people, rather than producing endless reports or completing endless due diligence.

We can establish a fund in your name, the name of a loved one, or, within reason, any name that you choose. We can handle all of the set-up administration and the continual reporting to the Charity Commission, and to you. We can manage the administration of the fund, ensuring that your funds go to where you want them to.

You can have as much or as little involvement as you would like. You may want to be involved every step of the way and consulted at all times, or you may not want any involvement at all. The Community Foundation can work with you to ensure that your money goes to where you want it to, in a way that you want it to, without having to set up a separate charity, and incur the costs or time commitments that go with it.



CASE STUDY

PERSONAL ENDOWMENT

In 2021 a new endowment fund was established by a private donor who wished to remain anonymous. He was particularly interested in supporting his local area and had spent many years supporting various causes where they brought a benefit to the local community. However, he was concerned that if he started to publicly give funds to charities then he would be inundated with requests. He didn't feel that he was able to handle the approaches that he would receive, but he wasn't clear about how he could ensure that his money would go to the right places, to those people and organisations that needed it the most, and where it could have the most impact.

We met with him several times to discuss his interests and passions, and the causes that he cared about. We also discussed the amount of money he wanted to use to establish a fund and how that could be used to generate grants each year, without him having to continually 'top up' the fund. Following some in-depth discussions to learn more about exactly what he wanted, we established a fund for him. It is effectively like him having his own charitable trust, but without having to pay all of the associated fees – for marketing, for promotion, for due diligence completed by legal representatives, for accounts prepared by accountants and so on. It means he can spend his time on what he cares about – supporting his local community, whilst leaving the rest of the fund management to us.

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Business Endowments

More and more businesses are looking to give something back to their local community through Environmental, Social and Governance aims, or through their social responsibility policy.



Supporting charitable causes makes good sense, from a fiscal point of view as well as a community point of view. It can be an excellent way to show customers and suppliers your charitable credentials, and many people prefer to support socially responsible businesses. It can be a good way of taking advantage of positive local publicity, and having a direct impact in the area in which you are based, where your workforce is drawn from, or where your customers come from.

Many people think that giving away money is easy, but if you want your money to have a significant local impact, and you want to ensure that you are supporting organisations and charities that are properly set up and managed, as well as having appropriate safeguarding and insurance policies in place, it can be a time-consuming task. Many businesses want to support their community, but need their employees to work their day jobs, without being distracted by activities that won't financially support the business. The Community Foundation can take care of all of that for you, and work with you to ensure that your giving is tax efficient, maximising your impact, whilst minimising your workload.

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Supporting charitable causes makes good sense, from a fiscal point of view as well as a community point of view.



CASE STUDY

TOPCASHBACK

TopCashback, the UK's leading cashback shopping website, established the *TopCashback Sustainability Fund* with the Community Foundation in 2022. Based in Stafford, they have a particular passion for addressing the environmental challenges facing our planet. They wanted to invest in schemes that simultaneously benefit the environment and their local community, and position themselves as agents of positive change. The primary focus has been to support activities that benefit the natural environment and address broader environmental issues. We also sought projects that actively engage individuals and promote healthy living within our local communities.

We look forward to continued collaboration and innovation, leveraging our shared passion for environmental preservation and community well-being. Together, we can create a more prosperous and sustainable future for all.

"We have always taken our commitment to our local community very seriously and this year we really want to ramp-up our impact. We want to create a positive future for the community we exist in. We want to support people and organisations local to us, and we want that support to have a beneficial and sustainable impact. One of the ways we can do this is by helping our environment. Everyone knows the environmental challenges facing our planet, and we hope by investing in schemes that help our planet and benefit our local community, we will have a positive impact."

Olly Ragg, Founder and CEO of TopCashback

“

We have always taken our commitment to our local community very seriously and this year we really want to ramp-up our impact.





‘We Love’ place-based funds

Our ‘We love’ place-based funds create connections between businesses who want to offer support to their local area and local people who need it.

They are not just about supporting the county, they are about supporting your area of the county, ensuring that the support you give stays local. They help to support causes and communities that hold personal significance for you, your business, your staff teams, and their families.

They are a way of directing charitable giving to those that need it most, and the Community Foundation ensures that all due diligence and legal requirements have been met. It means that businesses or people supporting our place-based funds get all the good stuff – the credit for supporting their local community, photo opportunities with funded organisations, invitations to presentations and grant giveaways. But it also means that they don’t have to deal with the time consuming or labour-intensive side of the work – sourcing applications, vetting organisations to make sure that they are able to deliver what they say they can, making sure they have all appropriate insurances in place, the list goes on. It means that people supporting our place-based funds get all the good stuff, but none of the bad.



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they are about supporting your area of the county, ensuring that the support you give stays local. They help to support causes and communities that hold personal significance for you, your business, your staff teams, and their families.



Under the banner of We Love Shropshire are a range of sub-funds for a specific area of the county, including;

we love

- BRIDGNORTH
- NORTH SHROPSHIRE
- OSWESTRY
- SHREWSBURY & ATCHAM
- SOUTH SHROPSHIRE
- WHITCHURCH



When you engage with the Community Foundation for Shropshire, you join a collective effort to build a better future.Together, we can help to shape a community, so that it thrives, ensuring that our actions today lay the foundation for a stronger tomorrow.

Many local businesses have a vested interest in the communities in which they operate, as it is these communities that are the source of their workforce, and often their valued customers.

Businesses and local people often receive requests for support from many notable and worthy causes, ranging from raffle prizes to financial contributions and donations. It can be difficult for a business to support all of those requesting help, and difficult to decide which ones to support. What makes one charity or cause more worthy than another?

There is also the issue of philanthropy versus charitable giving. Some people want to make a long-term change, where results are not seen for a few years. They are prepared to invest in that and forego the immediate impact for longer term benefit. This is a more strategic way of giving and has its own unique approach.

On the other hand, some people want to address issues currently affecting our community. They want to deal with current

issues and make an immediate impact on their own doorstep. They want to look around and see the improvement in lives or the elimination of those immediate problems.

At the Community Foundation we balance one with the other, so we can make the long-term strategic changes, whilst also dealing with the immediate need.

When you engage with the Community Foundation for Shropshire, you join a collective effort to build a better future. We can foster a nurturing environment where people can make a lasting and positive impact. Together, we can help to shape a community, so that it thrives, ensuring that our actions today lay the foundation for a stronger tomorrow.



Solicitors and wealth advisers

It is commonplace for solicitors, accountants, banks and wealth advisers to be approached by clients who are looking to give something back to their community, or to establish a charitable fund.

This can then lead to referrals over to STEP (Society of Trust & Estate Practitioners) registered solicitors or advisers. When looking to meet a client's needs this will often involve finding a charity that acts as a 'best match' for the client's wishes or is somewhat close to what the client is trying to achieve.

Sometimes it can lead to professional advisers setting up a new charitable fund, which brings extra costs for the client and laborious administrative duties for the adviser. The Community Foundation provides a recognised and recommended alternative to the establishment of a new charity.

The Community Foundation is cause neutral, meaning that we can support any cause or charitable concern within our communities. This gives the flexibility to offer a tailored package of options to clients, and a greater range of specificity in their charitable giving.

As we invest our funds en masse, we may even be able to achieve a better return than if a single fund was invested by itself.

The Community Foundation is a charitable giving specialist and can work with professional advisers to establish a fund within its portfolio. This helps to ensure that clients can achieve their personal giving aims, and that advisers are able to maintain their professional impartiality. We can even work with advisers so that they act as a single point of contact - the adviser retains their relationship with the client, but we handle the administrative duties behind the scenes. This can help to reduce a client's costs, an adviser's workload, and make it is easy for advisers to do the best for their client, ensuring the welfare of the fund and charitable giving is the primary concern.



Revitalising trusts



Many people know of the work of the Community Foundation through our many grants programmes, and through our efforts to encourage local philanthropy and sustainable giving, but unlocking assets of other trusts and charities is just as important.

Revitalising Trusts is a partnership between the Charity Commission and the Community Foundation's national membership body, UKCF, and by extension with recognised and accredited community foundations across the country.

It seeks to help and support those trusts and charities that may be facing difficulties in their operations by facilitating a transfer of management to the Community Foundation. Existing trustees can remain involved, but the bulk of the burden of work will pass to the Community Foundation.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Charity Commission acknowledges that community foundations have a reputation for the effective management of charitable funds in order to maximise their impact at local level.

The Charity Commission and community foundations have worked closely in recent years to ensure that trustees seeking to revitalise moribund (dormant) or ineffective trust funds (and who are looking for an effective way of carrying on their good work in future years) can release their funds to a community foundation as part of their appraisal of options. The Charity Commission welcomes and supports this initiative and encourages all charities to ask themselves whether they should work with community foundations as an alternative to continuing, particularly if they agree with one or more of the following statements:

1. *We find it difficult to identify beneficiaries*
2. *We cannot spend the income of the charity*
3. *We find ourselves providing money to the same people or groups every year*
4. *We find it difficult to attract trustees*
5. *We would like to be involved in how the money is spent but we do not want the legal responsibility of being a trustee*
6. *The work of administering the charity and its investment is becoming onerous or disproportionate to the level of funding*
7. *We wish that we knew more about local issues and opportunities and who else was funding what*

CASE STUDY

REVITALISING TRUSTS

The Community Foundation has worked with many local trusts and charities to help release their assets and increase their involvement in the local community. Altogether, more than £5 million has been brought back into use.

The smallest trust transfer was for £1890, whilst the largest was for more than £1.5 million.

The size of the trust is less relevant than the commitment of the existing trustees to ensure that their impact is maximised, that they can make the biggest difference to the people that they wish to help, and that the local community continues to benefit from their efforts, and those of their forebears, for years to come.

If you would like to learn more about how a trust could be transferred to the Community Foundation, so that you can increase your local impact, please call us on 01743 295900.

The Godolphin Edwards Fund

The trustees transferred the management of the trust, and its assets, to the Community Foundation in 2021. Since the transfer the fund has already grown by at least £70,000. The trustees have remained in place as advisers, so they still make decisions about how the fund is spent, without having to carry any legal responsibility.

“

the local community continues to benefit from their efforts, and those of their forebears for years to come.



Godolphin Edwards
Fund

04

Coming up

“ In total we have secured funds worth more than £1.5m for distribution over the next couple of years.



New grants funds

We have been busy working to secure new grants funds to benefit people across Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin. In total we have secured funds worth more than £1.5m for distribution over the next couple of years.

Grants for Community Groups

Godolphin Edwards Grants – Community Groups

Grants of up to £2500 for community groups working to improve their local area and provide services which might otherwise not be available to the local community.

MPFT Mental Health Grants

Grants of up to £10,000 to organisations that are able to help people access mental health services.

Inclusive Communities Grants

Grants of up to £250,000 for community groups and consortia who are offering community facilities and access to sports, health, fitness and exercise.

Warm Spaces

Grants of £1000 to community organisations that might want to open their facilities to help people stay warm.



Grants for Individuals

Godolphin Edwards Grants – Individuals

Grants of up to £500 available to support individuals in education, or in social, financial, or medical need.

SWEF Enterprise Fund

Grants of up to £1000 for young people who have a business idea that they would like explore.

Youth Opportunities Fund

Grants of up to £250 for young people 18 – 25 where they may be experiencing a barrier to fulfilling their potential.



Initiatives

The Best Kept Village & Community Initiative



The Community Foundation has been managing the Best Kept Village & Community Initiative across Staffordshire for several years. This competition is a way for local communities to showcase the work they are undertaking in their village or community, how they support local residents, and why their area is the best to live, work and play in.

A trial competition was held in Shropshire in 2021, under the name of Shropshire's Outstanding Community. Unfortunately, the group responsible for running the competition were unable to continue running it, and so your local Community Foundation is now taking it back in house.

We will relaunch the competition in 2024, with prizes for best small community and best large community across four areas of the county. We will also be presenting awards for volunteer of the year, community group of the year, and community initiative of the year. Winners will receive a trophy, a certificate, and a cash prize allowing them to buy something for their local community.

This event will not only showcase the aesthetic beauty of our county but will also serve as a testament to the remarkable community spirit that thrives within its towns and villages. With a rich history Shropshire is an amazing county, and we want to make a commitment to preserving its heritage for future generations, whilst embracing all that is new.

The initiative will bring together people from all walks of life, uniting them under a common goal: to showcase the best of their village or community. It will be a true celebration of togetherness, where neighbours can come together as a collective force, working to enhance their surroundings and create a sense of local pride.



Donate IT

We recognise that many people are digitally excluded, simply by being unable to afford IT equipment. The Donate IT scheme will take donations of old IT and computer equipment, wipe the existing data, refurbish them, and distribute them to local people and communities who need them.



**Together, we can help to shape a
community, so that it thrives,
ensuring that our actions today
lay the foundation for a
stronger tomorrow.**



The Community Foundation for Shropshire

Get in touch

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Social media

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