



Bicker Trust

The Bicker Trust Grant Scheme for Environmental & Energy Projects

The **Object of the Trust** is to promote renewable and efficient energy and not-for-profit projects that conserve or improve the environment within a ten mile radius of Bicker Fen in the Borough of Boston, *although priority may be given to projects within five miles.*

Funds:

We aim to distribute around £18,000 a year. Grants may be from £250 to £5,000.

Applicants can be individuals, community groups or social enterprises as long as the project benefits the community. They should not be statutory agencies or for equipment that would ultimately lead to individual gain (eg solar panels, wind turbines on private homes). Thus, an application to fund a school project should come from the Parent Teachers Association, for example, and not direct from the Education Authority.

Process:

The grant scheme is managed by the Lincolnshire Community Foundation (charity number 1092328), a grant making Trust. The Bicker Trust operates under the umbrella of the Foundation and is made up of an elected member from Boston Borough Council, 4 representatives from the Parishes of Bicker, Swineshead and Donington and a representative from the Foundation. The Panel meets twice a year to consider grant applications. Closing dates are on 1st April and 1st October in each year.

Application are processed and presented to the Panel by the Community Foundation. Forms are available from Sue Fortune at the Foundation (sue.lincolnshire@btconnect.com) on 01529 305825.

Guidelines:

Generally, grants are available for practical or educational projects that either contribute to conservation, energy efficiency or environmental improvements or raise awareness in those areas.

Examples of Fundable Projects:

Education: Attending environmental courses, workshops and events. Cost of materials for schools projects.

Community Facilities: Ground improvements (ponds, wildlife, ecology, sensory gardens); environmental schemes (recycling, composting, worm farms); energy efficiency for community buildings; reduction in car use (bicycling, health walks).

Energy Efficiency Promotion: Ground source energy schemes, rain harvesting, solar panels and cost effective heating systems (including top up grants).

Biodiversity: Species support (bats and bird boxes); habitat creation (hedges, woodland, fens, ponds, meadows)