

Protos Community Benefit Fund
Financial Statement
01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Protos Community Benefit Fund

This report presents a Financial Statement for the Protos Community Benefit Fund (Protos CBF) for the year from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

The principal activity of the Protos CBF is to provide funds for projects which benefit the local community. The Fund is run as a sub-committee of the Protos Community Forum and applications are decided by a panel of Parish and Town Councillors who represent the areas covered by the Forum. The work of the Fund is supported by a paid Secretary.

During the period 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, the panel members and Secretary were as follows:

Cllr Andy Eardley (Ince Parish Council)

Cllr Andy Canham or Cllr Pauline Reilly (Elton Parish Council)

Cllr Lizzie Wiffen (Thornton-le-Moors Parish Council)

Cllr Mark Parry (Little Stanney and District Parish Council)

Cllr Sarah Temple (Helsby Parish Council)

Cllr Jason Moorcroft (until May 2024) or Cllr Lucy Sumner (Frodsham Town Council)

Ms Jennifer Emmerson (Secretary)

Panel meetings were held on 11 June 2024, 03 September 2024, 10 December 2024 and 11 March 2025. The Panel Chairperson was Cllr Andy Canham.

A payment of £50,000 was received from Peel on 27 March 2024 (shown in the previous Financial Statement to year ending 31 March 2024) and was allocated by the panel as shown in this Financial Statement. Confirmation was received from Peel before the March 2025 CBF meeting that they would contribute £25,000 to the CBF for the next period (01 April 2025 to 31 March 2026) but payment was not received until 01 April 2025.

The Panel agreed at the Protos CBF meeting held 11 March 2025 that because the funding for the next period had been reduced, the maximum amount per applicant would be reduced from £5,000 to £2,500, effective immediately.

The Panel also agreed at the Protos CBF meeting held 11 March 2025 that it was unnecessary to pay for the services of a professional Accountant, thus removing the £500 liability for admin costs shown in the previous Financial Statement. Instead, the process of financial reporting established the previous year would be continued i.e. a Panel member would prepare a Financial Statement for review and approval by the Community Forum. After approval by the Forum, the Statement would be made publicly available on the Protos website, as undertaken in previous years.

This Financial Statement has been prepared by Panel member Cllr Sarah Temple.

Protos CBF Income and Expenditure for period 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Cash in bank on 01 April 2024	56353.85
Income from Peel	0
Amount distributed to completed projects (see List 1 below)	31456.00
Administration costs (see List 2 below)	1644.00
Cash in bank on 31 March 2025	23253.85

Protos CBF Liabilities at 31 March 2025

Unpresented cheques	0
Admin costs approved before 31 March 2025 (see List 3 below)	1500.00
Projects approved before 31 March 2025 but not paid (see List 4 below)	31728.00
Cash available at 01 April 2025 for allocation to new applicants	15025.85*

* Income of £25,000 from Peel received 01 April 2025 to fund next period

List 1: Amount distributed to completed projects 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

1st Elton and Ince Scout Group	New activity equipment	911.00
Frodsham Sailing Club	Picnic tables	4600.00
Ince Village Hall	Flooring and tiling	5000.00
Elton Primary School	Outdoor reading area	4025.00
Spirit of the Herd – Ponies helping People (Helsby/Frodsham)	Water connection	5000.00
Helsby Hillside Primary School	Climbing wall	5000.00
Beacon Gaming (at Elton Comm Centre)	Additional folding tables and storage units	1920.00
Passion for Learning	Afterschool enrichment clubs (Elton Primary School, for year July 2023 to July 2024)	5000.00
TOTAL		31456.00

List 2: Administration costs for period 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Secretary Apr to Jun 24	375.00
Secretary Jul to Sep 23	375.00
Protos CBF meetings room hire	96.00
Secretary Oct to Dec 24	375.00
Secretary Jan to Mar 25	375.00
Protos CBF meetings room hire (for next period to 31 March 2026)	48.00
TOTAL	1644.00

List 3: Administration costs approved before 31 March 2025

Secretary (for next period to 31 March 2026)	1500.00
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List 4: Projects approved before 31 March 2025 but not paid

Elton Parish Council	Outdoor benches	4609.00*
Thornton-le-Moors Parish Council	Speed monitoring display	5000.00
Frodsham Methodist Church	Solar panels	5000.00
Young Enterprise	"Learn to Earn" (Helsby High School Careers Days July 2024 and 2025, and follow-up program)	5000.00
Little Stanney & District Parish Council	Replacement noticeboards	2119.00
Frodsham Youth Club	Building repairs/upgrades	2500.00
Mersey Weaver District Scouts	Queen Charlottes Wood Centre energy efficiency project	2500.00
Helsby High School	Enchanted garden in courtyard	2500.00
Ince Village Hall	Secondary glazing and damp proofing	2500.00
TOTAL		31728.00

* Approved before 31 March 2024 and shown as liability in previous Financial Statement