

Shropshire Charity Network

21st September 2023

Connecting
people who
care with
causes that
matter



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Registered Charity Number 1200018

Agenda

- ♥ Introduction
- ♥ What is a Community Foundation?
- ♥ Background and history
- ♥ Introduction to Shropshire Community Foundation
- ♥ Year 1 – achievements
- ♥ The future – plans and challenges
- ♥ How you can help
- ♥ Questions and actions



What is a Community Foundation?

- ♥ An independent charity (national network of 47 in UK)
- ♥ Encourage local philanthropy and sustainable charitable giving
- ♥ Research and understanding of local need
- ♥ Strengthen the voluntary and community sector
- ♥ Convene community resources
- ♥ Bridge the gap in local giving - connect those able to give and those in need
- ♥ Build endowments and generate funds (sustainability) – distribute through grants
- ♥ Maximum impact, where it's needed
- ♥ Cause neutral – informed and professional channel for giving
- ♥ Expert understanding of local/hidden needs across Shropshire
- ♥ Collaborative working – stronger together!
- ♥ Vehicle for distribution of national flowthrough funding



Background and history

- ♥ Shropshire and Community Foundations to date
- ♥ The void
- ♥ The Community Foundation for Staffordshire
- ♥ Why it isn't enough



Introduction to Shropshire Community Foundation

- ♥ Why?
- ♥ Our mission – *Through philanthropy, to build a long-term source of sustainable , strategic grant funding for the good of those communities and people most in need across Shropshire*
- ♥ Our team – Trustees, Independent Investment Board, Volunteers
- ♥ Our goal
- ♥ UKCF accreditation



Our 1st year – achievements so far...

- ♥ Systems, infrastructure and governance
- ♥ Website and social media
- ♥ Shropshire Investors in Community
- ♥ Initial endowments
- ♥ Funding/sponsorship for core costs
- ♥ Grant giving
- ♥ Relationship building, networking and informing



The future – plans and challenges

Plans

- ♥ Build IIC and/or get sponsorship for an employee
- ♥ Speak to redundant/dormant/inactive trusts
- ♥ Build relationships with the business community – CSR
- ♥ Raise awareness
- ♥ Support third-sector infrastructure across County
- ♥ Develop track record for grant giving
- ♥ £3 million endowment – UKCF accreditation



The future – plans and challenges

Challenges

- ♥ Competition (conflict)
- ♥ Ambition V capacity
- ♥ Resistance to (and fear of) change in Shropshire



How you can help...

- ♥ Spread the word
- ♥ Challenge
 - Ask questions
 - Help define the direction of travel
 - Feedback (compliments and concerns!)
- ♥ Time, contacts, ideas – explore opportunities (think outside the box!)



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Questions and actions

