



1st Anniversary Celebration Tuesday 5th February 2019

Introduction Jan Garrill, Chief Executive, Two Ridings Community Foundation

Lord Lieutenant, The Worshipful the Mayor of the Borough of Harrogate , the Right Worshipful The Mayor of the City of Ripon, ladies and gentlemen welcome and thank you for coming along tonight.

As you can see I am Jan Garrill Chief Executive of Two Ridings Community Foundation and I am so pleased and proud to be here tonight to talk about the first year of the local fund.

What a year

Goodness what a year. I can hardly believe it is only 1 year ago almost to the day that we launched the fund in the Old Swan hotel.

Of course whilst there is much to celebrate in terms of what has been achieved, I can't allow this moment to pass without marking the contribution but also the sad passing of Barry Dodd, who as the then Lord Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, made such a positive speech at that event and behind the scenes helped make the first year such a success. I am very pleased that the new Lord Lieutenant, Mrs Jo Ropner is attending tonight. Thank you for your support. I hope you enjoy the evening and find the content interesting.

The two major kick starters to the fund happened early in 2018:

The trustees of the Harry Bolland Charitable Trust agreed to transfer their fund to Two Ridings to act as the first major donation to the local fund. This endowment fund of £355,000 means we have the start of a permanent fund for the Harrogate District so that whatever the vagaries of public sector funding we can hand on heart know that we can continue funding in the district in perpetuity.

But whilst £355k seems like a lot (and it is) as we only spend the income on grants each year it does mean that the second major kick start to the fund was HBC agreeing to transfer their £30k a year grants fund to the local fund.

Taken together with a multitude of small donations from the Oscars, Christmas Market and others it all meant that in Year One we could award £42,000 to 22 groups. This is a 36% increase on what was previously available. Which is a great start....**but only a start**...our ambition is by hook or by crook we secure funds so that we can distribute £100,000 pa to groups in the Harrogate District every year. That way we know it becomes the go to fund for groups in the district.

What's so special about THE LOCAL FUND?

So what you may ask? Well I hope you don't but if you did I would say that the district needs a fund of its own for a number of reasons...

- It's a **local fund addressing local needs** – other funders without our local understanding would not ever really seriously consider applications from many groups in Harrogate district as it is never going to be top of others lists. But it is top of our list
- **Decisions are made locally** – with assessments of groups made by volunteers who know the district, the groups and the issues and a panel of people with deep knowledge of the district – you can be confident every penny is wisely spent.
- Every **penny donated stays locally** - so that money goes further and has bigger local impact

And finally a key tenant of the fund is that everyone in the district can make a difference and play their part in making the local fund a success

So, if you are fortunate to have the wherewithal to support the fund with a large donation or set up a fund under the local fund umbrella – fantastic – and your fund can support the issues and areas that matter to you.

Or, if you want to make lasting legacy but not sure which charity to support or if that charity will still be around when your legacy is left – don't hesitate – leave a legacy to the local fund in your will.

And, if your office or group want to do a fundraising event – thank you - you can donate to the local fund or make us your charity of the year like the Majestic

And if you just have a few pounds to give – sign up to the local lotto and as Richard said be part of an amazing way to support local good causes and the local fund at the same time.

Thank you to those of you who have supported the local fund in any of these ways, because with your help we have helped over 7000 people in the last year enjoy living in the Harrogate district that little bit more.

2018 awards

As I mentioned earlier we awarded over £42000 to 22 groups in 2018 and as you can see from this image – which is a capture of some of the words used by applicants to the fund – it was all about helping and supporting people who live in the Harrogate district.

The fund helped many people...

- Whether it was to be less lonely and have positive places to go
- Whether it was to feel less anxious and have a friendly face to talk to or
- Whether it was to have a helping hand when life for whatever reason got too difficult

THE LOCAL FUND for the Harrogate District has supported 22 groups & 7000 people across the district do just that and much much more.

2018 awards

On your tables are copies of some statistics about the first year of the fund – please take the time to look at them but right now I'd like you to hear from some of the groups the local fund supported as their words will tell you much more powerfully and eloquently why 2018 was such a great start....**but it's only a start.**

Thanks to Rebecca Gallon a volunteer with Two Ridings who made the film with the assistance of Geoff Dunning another volunteer and a massive thank you to the groups who participated.

Introduction to David Warner

It now gives me great pleasure to introduce our keynote speaker. David Warner.

David has worked at a senior level in a number of national charities but most recently he was Director of the London Funders – a network of funders large and small, charitable and public sector from across every borough in London. Under his leadership London Funders became a positive force for change, encouraging innovation and cross sector collaboration amongst funders – not always the most easy bunch to get to work together. One of his last tasks was helping to coordinate the funders response to the Grenfell Tower fire in June 2017.

I met David in 2018 as he had taken a very sensible decision and decided to semi retire to Scarborough to enjoy the bracing sea air and fine fish and chips. Having someone like David on our doorstep means I have used him as a sounding board as we developed the local fund. As we found out from some recent research our fund does mirror similar place based funding initiatives, most notably Islington Giving. There are copies of a recent evaluation of place based giving where the local fund gets high prominence. David has opened my eyes to the potential of THE LOCAL FUND and I hope tonight he will do the same for you.