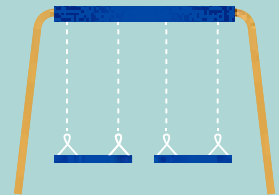


Protos is a destination for energy, innovation and industry. This community newsletter provides an update on progress at the site, what to expect over the coming months and an update on local community projects completed with help from the Protos community benefit fund.



AT A GLANCE

Since the community fund was launched in 2016 we have contributed over £85,000 to local community causes – further details can be found inside!



We've just launched the first two nature areas at Protos, with logos created by children from nearby Elton Primary School – find out more on the back page!

LATEST NEWS



PROTOS SUPPORTS WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH BY BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Plans to create a world-class observatory in Cheshire have been given the green light by Cheshire West & Chester Council. The project will see around 50 boreholes drilled down to 1200m, with nine on land at Protos, enabling scientists to gain the clearest picture yet of the underground environment. It will help to unlock new clean, green, low-carbon energy technologies.



BIOMASS FACILITY IS FULLY OPERATIONAL

The Ince Bio Power biomass facility is now fully operational. Owned by Bioenergy Infrastructure Group it uses waste wood to generate enough electricity to power over 40,000 homes and the savings in greenhouse gas emissions equates to taking more than 40,000 cars off the road.

COMMUNITY FUND HITS £85K



Councillor Sarah Temple,
Chair of Protos Community Forum

"The Protos Community Benefit Fund is Protos' way of giving something back to our community each year. It was launched in 2016 and since then has funded more than £85,000 of good causes.

"It's a pleasure to see the positive difference these grants have made, not just to their respective organisations, but also the wider community.

"The community benefit fund is open to bids for funding from organisations and causes in the parishes of Ince, Elton, Helsby, Frodsham, Thornton le Moors and Little Stanney and District.

"Funding is still available, and applications are encouraged from a wide range of schemes – check out the details at: protos.co.uk/community

"We look forward to hearing from you!"

HELPING PLAY IN ELTON

We're proud to have made school even more exciting for children at Elton Primary.

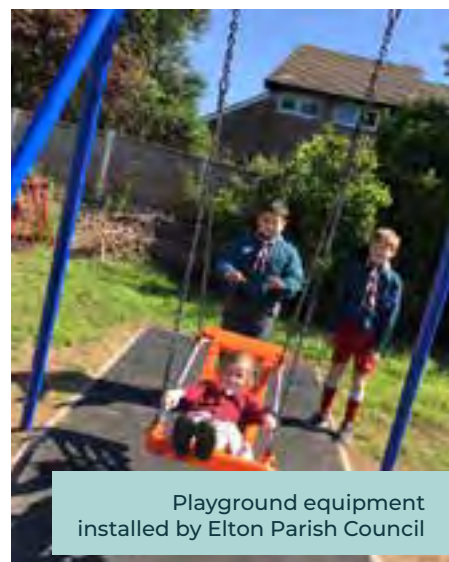
The fund has helped the school make a number of improvements over the years. They include painting the playground and installing an interactive screen and a new multi-use games area to boost sports provision and playtimes for pupils. We've also recently helped the school with some new carpets following a successful grant. The fund also helped Elton Parish Council install new play equipment in Elton.

"We have been so grateful to be recipients of funding from the Protos Community Benefit fund.

The Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) has been greatly appreciated by the children and staff. It's great to see the teamwork from the children playing team games both during sports lessons and throughout break and lunch times.

The new carpeting in some of our junior classrooms has helped to create warm and inviting learning environments for our children."

Kev Manning, Headteacher



Playground equipment
installed by Elton Parish Council

SERVING UP SUPPORT FOR HELSBY

Helsby Tennis Club is also among valuable local groups to have received support from the Protos Community Benefit Fund. The club, which has adult and junior teams, needed new markings and nets for courts at Castle Park, Frodsham. The improvements will help the club continue its great work in encouraging more people to take up tennis

The club has been able to offer free tennis events to the local youth club, started a Thursday club night and free tennis activities supported by the coaching team on Sundays 2.30-4.00pm. For more information contact Helsby Tennis Club at membership@helsbytennis.co.uk or ring Jo on 07714325356

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN INCE

Successful grants have contributed towards Ince Village Hall's refurbishment, funding repairs to the roof, new windows and the sanding of the floor - enabling local groups such as indoor bowling and yoga classes to launch. Also in Ince, the community fund has covered the costs of tree thinning on Station Road, new flooring for an outside play area as well as adventure, creative play and playground equipment, following grants to Ince Parish Council.

FUNDING IN THORNTON LE MOORS

The Parish Council successfully applied for funding which has enabled new playground equipment to be installed in the parish. The equipment was installed in 2018 and has proved a big hit with local children.

"The village has sadly been neglected for a number of years and as a Parish Council we are striving to bring the village back to life.

We needed to seek funding for new playground equipment. We are hugely appreciative of Protos who provided support to complete this project.

The new play area has been a huge hit with local families and enjoyed by children of all ages."

Councillor Claire Jakeman



Playground equipment installed by Thornton Parish Council



Frodsham Bellringers

RINGING THE BELL FOR FRODSHAM

The St Laurence Frodsham bellringers are a group of people who meet every week to ring the church's historic bells. The eight bells ring for a wide range of services and as such dedicated practice is required. When the group needed some new practice equipment, we were happy to support their application for a grant to fund it.

Bellringing sessions are held at St Laurence on a Friday evening at 7.45pm. Please contact frodshambellringers@yahoo.com for further information.

WHAT'S COMING UP?

PLANS SUBMITTED FOR BIO-GAS FACILITY

Progressive Energy has submitted plans to deliver the UK's first commercial scale Bio-Substitute Natural Gas (BioSNG) plant at Protos. It will generate renewable gas from up to 175,000 tonnes of bio-resources, including unrecyclable wood and refuse derived fuel (RDF). This gas will be used in the transport sector, generating enough gas to power up to 1,000 low carbon HGVs and buses every year.

PLASTICS TO HYDROGEN FACILITY PROPOSED

We are working in partnership with Waste2Tricity to deliver a 'UK first' waste plastics to hydrogen project. It will use pioneering technology that was developed by Powerhouse Energy at the University of Chester Energy Centre next door to Protos. The facility will take unrecyclable plastics, that would otherwise end up in landfill, and use them to produce hydrogen. This clean and low-cost hydrogen could be used to initially power buses and Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) in the area, before being rolled out to hydrogen cars, helping to reduce air pollution and improve air quality on our roads.

Did you know?
Almost 1.2 million tonnes of waste plastic goes to landfill every year.



GOLDFINCH MEADOWS AND SNIPE HAVEN

As part of Protos we're creating over 50 hectares of new habitat for wildlife. Whilst some of these areas have been fenced off to ensure that the wildlife within them is protected, other nature areas are open to the public to enjoy. We've been working closely with Cheshire Wildlife Trust who are helping us to manage the new habitats on Protos which include ponds, marshland, flower rich margins and small pockets of woodland.

We've just unveiled new information signs which will help people enjoy and learn more about Goldfinch Meadows and Snipe Haven, including the winning entries from our logo competition.

To keep up-to-date on the nature areas visit protos.co.uk/nature

Did you know?

Over 2600 trees have been planted at Protos so far.



Jessica Plummer and Jack Rhodes, Age 10, Elton Primary School, winners of the logo competition

WHAT IS PROTOS?

Protos is Peel L&P Environmental's destination for energy, innovation and industry. Located at Ince, the £700m strategic energy hub clusters complementary businesses, including resource recovery and energy intensive industries, associated supply chain and energy generation.

Over £170 million has been invested in Protos to date.

PROTOS



Get in touch for more information on Protos

Visit: protos.co.uk

Email: community@protos.co.uk

Call: Freephone 0800 689 1095 (During office hours Mon-Fri).

You can also follow us on Twitter @ThisIsProtos