

Intelligent Energy Charitable Trust

John Storer Charnwood



"...With 176 volunteers, JSC is a multi-faceted community centre providing leisure and social activities for older people and adults with learning disabilities"

Intelligent Energy's Charitable Trust first launched in January 2019 with the aim to make a positive impact on the local community it operates within. The Charitable Trust supports charitable and voluntary organisations, local to Intelligent Energy's headquarters in Loughborough, which support and aid amongst others; community groups, young people, sport and lifelong learning.

The Trust currently distributes £100,000 per annum and several organisations have already benefited from funding awards.

John Storer Charnwood (JSC) is an independent charity which has been serving the Borough of Charnwood for over 50 years, providing high quality services for some of the most vulnerable people of Loughborough and surrounding areas. With 176 volunteers including 16 adults with support needs, JSC is a multi-faceted community centre providing leisure and social activities for older people and adults with learning disabilities, attracting over 1,000 visitors per month.

The not-for-profit organisation hosts on and off-site activities including well-being sessions, crafts, cooking, choir, drama and lunch clubs. It also has an award-winning allotment on the local Mountfields site, based in Loughborough.

One of the popular aspects of JSC is its café which opens six days a week providing fresh,

high quality home-cooked food at a reasonable price. It is a valuable social space where people go to meet, chat and make new friends. The café is also well used by local support services to hold meetings and allow adults with disabilities to experience 'café life' in a supportive and relaxed environment, where people are made to feel at ease and encouraged to be themselves. All refreshments are offered at very reasonable prices, to make it accessible to all members of the community.

To continue to provide this level of service, JSC reached out to Intelligent Energy for funds to help them upgrade their kitchen facilities and maintain their 5* food hygiene rating as part of application funding. JSC were advised to upgrade the facilities within the next 3 – 6 months to ensure that all food preparation surfaces, splash backs and storage facilities were replaced. In addition, the funding will enable JSC to provide an improved meal service, which would result in attracting a wider cross section of the community and help increase the charity's income, allowing them to further invest in the valuable services offered. Intelligent Energy was delighted to award a grant of £10,577 to enable the necessary upgrades to be completed so that the charity can continue to offer this valuable service.

The new upgrades included an improved kitchen layout, which will help them to create a safer, efficient and more user friendly work space.

To find out more about Intelligent Energy's Charitable Trust and to download an application form visit: <https://www.intelligent-energy.com/about-ie-intelligent-energy/charitable-trust/> or email charitable.trust@intelligent-energy.com