



NEWS RELEASE

Issued 13 July 2010

Environment Trust shares out £140,000 in grants

Cumbrian community groups benefited from £140,000 in grants to support their environmental projects last year and Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust (CWMET) wants to hear from more projects near active aggregates quarries needing support.

15 projects across the county received grants from CWMET, which administers the Cumbria Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund, helping to create and protect a high quality environment for local communities. The community led projects received grants ranging from £625 to £25,000 to improve; community buildings, sports facilities, play areas, and landscaping, biodiversity and access for green spaces.

Helen Squires, CWMET Grants Manager commented on the grants saying “Although £140,000 for 15 projects may seem a small amount, it can make all the difference for some quite ambitious projects, and has enabled groups to access over £1 million of national and local funding last year.”

One of the largest grants of £20,000 went to Cleator Moor Youth and Community Centre, towards building improvements making it ‘fit for purpose’. The Community Centre, near Eskett and Rowrah Quarries, is now totally refurbished with new kitchen and toilet facilities and an excellent community space now well used by the local youth group and other community groups.

Paul Rowe, Youth Development Officer at Cleator Moor said “We received a total £32,000 from CWMET from the two grant funds they administer. This enabled us to fully refurbish Cleator Moor Youth and Community Centre as the funding was matched with another £200,000 of funds. The total package transformed an unfit for purpose centre into a state of the art youth and community centre.

“The finished product is beyond any expectations that we had at the start and we’d like to say a big thank you for CWMET’s substantial contribution. They came in at an early stage and the funds received were key to finding match funding for the project.”

Other grants were awarded to Millom Network Centre, Lamplugh School Play Area, Cleator Moor Methodist Church, Newbiggin Village Hall, Kirkby Stephen Cricket Club, Upper Eden Rugby Club, Reagill Village Hall, Burton Playground Project, St Michaels & All Angels Church, Beetham, Blindcrake, Thornhill Community Social Club, Wath Brow Hornets Rugby Club, Holmrook Biodiversity Project and Miltonrigg Woods near Hallbankgate.

CWMET, a project hosted by Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT), administer the Cumbria Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund on behalf of Cumbria County Council. Another £140,000 of grants are available this year with applications welcomed up until the final deadline of 13th August

2010. Eligible projects need to be completed by 31st March 2011 and be within the vicinity of and affected by active aggregates sites. Maps showing eligible areas are available from CWMET.

If you think that your community could benefit from a grant, and you would like to find out more about the Cumbria Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund or the Landfill Tax Grant Scheme, also administered by CWMET, please contact Helen Squires, CWMET Grants Manager, on Tel: 01768 242140 or Email: enquiries@cwmet.org.uk.

- Ends -

Photo:



Paul Rowe at new Cleator Moor Youth and Community Centre

Further press information available from:

Helen Squires, Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust (CWMET) – Grants Manager (Tues to Fri, 9.30am – 4.45pm) Tel: 01768 242140 or Email: helensquires@cwmet.org.uk

Notes to Editors:

Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust (CWMET)

- CWMET is a project hosted by Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT) as part of working in partnership to sustain communities.
- Since April 2005 CWMET has distributed £722,340 from the CALSF to 78 projects in Cumbria.
- CWMET provides grant assistance to local community groups and organisations in Cumbria for environmental projects.
- CWMET administers 2 funding streams:
 - Cumbria Aggregates Sustainability Fund (CALSF) from Defra via Cumbria County Council. This amounts to £140,000 per year (for 2010/11)
 - Landfill Tax Grant Scheme (LTGS) from Cumbria Waste Management Ltd and Lakeland Waste Management Ltd. This is in the region of £350,000 per year.

Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT)

(Previously known as Voluntary Action Cumbria)

- ACT is Cumbria's Rural Community Council and a registered charity.
- ACT is working with people and communities to improve the quality of life in rural Cumbria.
- ACT is an independent organisation able to work with a wide range of partners on an open and equitable basis.
- Established in 1948, for over 60 years ACT has been supporting communities that are socially, economically and environmentally vibrant where the needs of all are considered.
- To find out more information, please visit ACT's website: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk