



Photo: Barton Community Led Plan Consultation at Parkin Memorial Hall, taken by Cyril Wilson

New ACT Video Interviews

Tebay and Orton Tourism Group, Community Heritage Project, and Tebay Church Vestry Refurbishment. Kirkby Lonsdale set up a Community Interest Company to take on the running of key community assets. See page 5

Health & Wellbeing Grant

Don't forget, the next deadline for the Community Health and Wellbeing Grant is 8th August 2013. Contact ACT to discuss your project ideas. See page 8



Twitter

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Twitter account.
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Use this QR Code and
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go direct to our website.

What's inside this issue:



Community Led Planning & Development

- ❖ Message from Lorraine, ACT Chief Executive
- ❖ New ACT Guidance Sheets and Case Studies
- ❖ Neighbourhood Planning Support Available



Community Buildings

- ❖ Case Study - St James Church Tebay Vestry Refurbishment
- ❖ Reaching Communities Buildings Programme
- ❖ War Memorials Online



ACT - Project Updates & Upcoming Events



ACRE Headlines - Articles from ACRE's website



Other News - New programmes, events, funding

Save the Date:

Getting hold of ECO funding

17 June, 12.00 - 4pm
Penrith Methodist Hall
(see page 13)

Community Energy Champions Workshop

Cumbria Rural Forum
2 July 2013
CREA, Penrith

Questionnaire Writing Training

Evening of 11 July 2013
Kendal, venue tbc

ACT AGM

20 September 2013
Low Hesket Village Hall

Contact Dani to book a place
Tel: 01768 840827

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Community Led Planning & Development



Message from Lorraine, ACT Chief Executive



Hi All,

ACT is continually looking at ways of delivering effective support to rural communities. Over the years we have developed a wide range of resources including guidance sheets, toolkits, workbooks, written and video case studies, to share best practice and useful information.

Going forward the use of these resources is becoming increasingly important as, like many others, we find ourselves affected by the difficult economic climate. We aim to continue to provide a universal, free enquiry service which in many cases will provide all the information you need. In some areas, we will be able to offer you further support as part of our contracted work. Where this is not possible, we may need to charge you for our services, however, we are pleased to be able to offer a discount to ACT Members.

To access our services please contact our support team: Dani Hudson, Graham Reed, Alison Gerke, and Alice Sandells. Where necessary they will refer you to our Development Staff: Hellen Aitken for the North of the county; Julia Wilson for the South; and Terry McCormick for projects relating to resilience, heritage, agriculture, and arts. I will also be available to assist with policy influencing, rural growth, and rural engagement.

Some of you may be aware that Carl Glynn left us in March. Claire Watters and Claire Hudson will also be leaving before August, as the four year BASIS project comes to an end. We wish them all the best for the future.

From September we will begin a programme of monthly rural engagement events, starting with our Rural Growth Conference and AGM on the 20th September.

Other news from ACT and our partners:

ACT Development Officer Hellen Aitken recently took part in the Anglo-German Rural Energy Skills Exchange trip with Cumbria Action for Sustainability (CAfS). A handbook about the trip and what was learnt can be found here: www.cumbriagreenbuild.org.uk/index.php/what-we-do/agrese

You may remember Cumbria was one of five counties awarded Rural Growth Funding. The Cumbria Rural Growth Network has now been launched. The Chamber of Commerce who are coordinating this programme with Cumbria County Council have said:

"This ground breaking £7.6m business support programme aims to help your business unleash its potential! A focal point for businesses looking to increase their competitiveness and grow, it offers a choice of advice, training, networking and more, all tailored to your needs."

Many of you run your village hall or project based on a business plan, with accounts, a budget, and income to pay for your expenditure. You too can get support from the Rural Growth Network. For more information go to: www.cumbriagrowthhub.co.uk

ACT now has a Twitter account. A message sent through Twitter is known as a Tweet and it can only be a maximum of 140 characters, which is the same as a standard text message. ACT's Twitter username is @ACTCumbria, find us at www.twitter.com

And finally, don't forget to sign up as an ACT Supporter. It's free and means we will continue to send you all our information. Please visit our website for more information: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk



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Community Led Planning & Development



New Guidance Sheets

ACT has recently produced a new Guidance Sheet for Community Led Planning groups who have completed or nearly completed their Plan.

Delivering your Action Plan replaces the previous *Implementing your Plan* guidance sheet. It contains tips on working with other organisations to deliver projects, advice on deciding who will take overall responsibility for the action plan and some ideas for maintaining momentum with Community Led Plans.

The guidance sheet is part of a suite of information which guides communities through the process of producing Community Led Plans. If you are interested in creating a Plan for your area please contact ACT for more information.

The ***Monitoring and Evaluation*** guidance sheet has also been updated. Monitoring and evaluating your work is a must for any project. It lets you know if you've achieved what you set out to do, and helps you find out if your project is on track.

This guidance sets out the differences between monitoring and evaluating and takes a simple, four step approach.

ACT has a range of resources to help community groups plan and deliver projects. For these and more guidance sheets please see our website: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk/resources/guidance_sheets



New Case Studies

Kirkby Lonsdale Community Assets video case study looks at the work of Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council and a Community Interest Company who have taken on property previously managed by South Lakeland District Council: a visitor information centre, the weekly market, and two public toilet facilities.

Northern Fells Village Agents Energy Switching Support is a written case study highlighting the support offered by Village Agents to local people helping them to switch to cheaper energy suppliers, following energy awareness workshops with ACT.

These and other video and written case studies can be found here: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk/resources/case_studies

Tebay and Orton Local Distinctiveness Resources

At the end of March the Tebay and Orton Local Distinctiveness Project ended and we said goodbye to Project Officer, Annie Hamilton-Gibney. One of the legacies of the project has been a range of resources for communities to develop similar projects in their own areas:

Video and Written Case Studies:

- Orton & Tebay Tourism Group
- Tebay & Orton Community Heritage Project
- Tebay Church Vestry Refurbishment

Guidance Sheets:

- Setting up a 'Friends of Church' Group
- Celebrating Local Distinctiveness

These resources and a project summary are available here: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk/about/distinctiveness



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Neighbourhood Planning support available

A £9.5m funding pot has been launched by the Government to support Neighbourhood Plans. Neighbourhood Planning enables communities to shape the future of land use planning for their area, within certain limits. The Department for Communities and Local Government has made funding available of up to £7,000 per community to help them draw up their plans.

The 'My Community Rights' website offers advice and links to support and guidance for Neighbourhood Planning and other localism rights: mycommunityrights.org.uk/

The first Neighbourhood Plan to be agreed in the UK is the Upper Eden Plan in Cumbria. Other communities in the county are currently working on Neighbourhood Plans, Many of them have found it beneficial to carry out Community Led Plans first.

ACT has produced a Guidance Sheet setting out the differences between Neighbourhood Planning and Community Led Planning available here: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk/resources/guidance_sheets

'Planning for Your Community' is more detailed guidance about producing a Neighbourhood Plan, written in partnership with CALC, and is available here: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk/resources/resources_for_communities

Housing Event: Solutions for Rural Communities

11am - 3pm on Friday 14 June
Rheged, Penrith

Cumbria Rural Housing Trust (CRHT) is holding an event with the National Housing Federation to highlight housing issues and opportunities for rural communities in Cumbria. For more information contact CRHT on Tel: 01768 201265 or go to: www.crht.org.uk



Community Led Planning in Cumbria

Many communities are working on producing new Community Led Plans and revising existing ones. If you would like to know who is working on Plans in your area, please contact the ACT office (see back page for details).

Newly Started Plans:

Allerdale

- Bassenthwaite
- Above Derwent

Newly Completed Plans:

Allerdale

- Embleton & District Parish Plan 2013
- Aikton Parish Council Parish Plan 2012

Eden

- Bampton Parish Plan 2012

Funding

Thanks to funding from South Lakeland District Council, Community Led Plan Groups in the district are now able to access grants of up to £1,500 to support the production of their plan. Please contact Julia Wilson at ACT to find out how.

In other areas, ACT still has grants of up to £500 available to help produce a Community Led Plan. Contact us at ACT for more information (see back page for details).

Want to see other completed Plans?

Search by district on our website: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk/what_we_do/community_plans



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Community Buildings



Case Study: St James Church, Tebay Vestry Refurbishment

The Tebay and Orton Local Distinctiveness Project, delivered by ACTion with Communities in Cumbria (ACT), worked with the communities of Tebay and Orton to provide training, events, and raise awareness of, and pride in, cultural and environmental heritage.

St James Tebay, known as 'The Railway Church' was consecrated in 1880. Tebay station was once a prosperous railway junction bringing hundreds of workers to the area. The North Eastern Railway provided land on which the church was built, to serve their spiritual needs. It was hewn from local Shap granite with railway themed interior features.

Background

With falling congregational numbers and rising heating and maintenance costs, St James Church was at risk of closure. The local history group joined forces with Tebay Primary School to produce the 'Tebay in Steam' exhibition, which followed the lives of local people, examined the history of the church, and the impact of railways on Tebay.

Following the exhibition's success local parishioners felt it was essential to encourage people to visit and become involved in church activities. Problems with damp and a broken window meant there was also an need for essential maintenance.

The Project

The 'Friends of Tebay Church' group was established, with support from ACT and Churches Trust for Cumbria. It is a non-religious group, open to anyone who has an interest in ensuring this historically and architecturally important building is maintained and continues to flourish as a community hub.

The group have worked in partnership with the Parochial Church Council (PCC) to develop the circular vestry room, directly below the baptistery, to create a new community meeting space. One of the options being explored by the group is to provide a library hub as the library bus serving the area is due to be phased out.

What has been achieved?

Churches Trust for Cumbria held a 'reviewing your visitor welcome' event at the church which enabled the group to see the building with a fresh, critical eye. Whilst making plans for the vestry refurbishment, the Friends group also launched into a programme of building maintenance.

They repaired windows where bats and birds were flying in, replaced old signs, removed outdated items from the notice board, polished the woodwork and cleaned through the interior of the building. The exterior was also improved by replacing the louvres in the church tower to prevent rain pouring in, and moss was power-washed off the church roof.

Safety aspects were also reviewed; exit signs and fire extinguishers have been installed, and in the stairwell lighting has been improved, a hand rail added, and the step edges highlighted with white paint.

Following an ACT 'fit for funding' workshop, the group successfully applied for funding from: Churches Trust for Cumbria; Cumbria Waste Management Environment Management Trust; Tebay Parish Council; the Dioceses of Carlisle; and Community Funds from Eden District Council and the Staff of Westmorland Ltd.



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Community Buildings



Adjacent to the circular vestry room was an old boiler room. This was cleared, the floor levelled, and asbestos removed so it can be re-designated as a toilet and kitchen area. The vestry room was also cleared, re-plastered and painted ready for use as 'The Hub' community facility. The group continues to seek funding to provide other facilities and furnishings.

ACT also supported the group to produce a church heritage guide. This gives information about the internal architectural features of the church, the railway heritage, and details of external features; such as the architecture of the building, the wild flowers growing in the church yard, and some of the notable people buried there.

The Learning

- There are a lot of people in the group with different skills and it is important to tailor jobs to those skills
- Seek assistance from professional organisations offering help
- Don't be afraid to work in partnership with other organisations to achieve your goals
- Explore all the options you can for community involvement
- Advertise and report each achievement of the project, the more people know about it the more they will support it.

Contact Details

Churches Trust for Cumbria
Phone: 07501 469373, Email: info@ctfc.org.uk

Friends of Tebay Church - Meryl Aspden
Email: davidaspden@hotmail.co.uk
Phone: 015396 24013

St James Church Warden - Reg Capstick
Tel: 015396 24497

The Arthur Rank Centre has information on supporting churches and the use of church buildings: www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk/publications-and-resources/rural-church-buildings#index



Reaching Communities Buildings Programme - Exceptions Route

The Reaching Communities buildings programme provides funding to replace or improve buildings where a wide variety of community activities take place.

The focus of the funding is to support people and communities most in need. Funding is currently only available to projects in the most deprived Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's) which have been identified using the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) data.

However, it is recognised that location doesn't always tell the full story. If your project is showing as ineligible on the online postcode checker but is based close to an eligible area, The Big Lottery may consider making an exception and invite you to apply for funding.

This gives them the flexibility to respond to anomalies whilst they discuss further improvements to their strategy for funding capital projects. Each case will be reviewed individually to ensure that the following principles are met. Please note that it is unlikely that eligibility of a project will be changed unless a compelling case is made.

Only projects that meet these criteria will be considered:

- The building must be near an eligible LSOA
- The building must mainly serve beneficiaries in an eligible LSOA(s)
- The majority of beneficiary numbers must be based in an eligible LSOA(s)

For more information about the questions you will need to answer and who to contact, see the information sheet: www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/exceptionsprocess.pdf



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Community Buildings



War Memorials Online

Is your community building a Memorial Hall? If so, the War Memorials Online project would like to hear from you.

War Memorials Online is an unprecedented opportunity for the public to upload images of war memorials and log concerns for the conservation of these important community and historical sources for future generations. Together, we can build a complete picture of the whereabouts, type and condition of all war memorials in the UK.

A war memorial is any physical object created, erected or installed to commemorate those involved in or affected by a conflict or war.

Anyone and everyone can start discovering and recording war memorials for future generations. For more information go to: www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk

War Memorials Online is run by War Memorials Trust with the support of English Heritage.



First World War: then and now

The Heritage Lottery Fund has a new grant fund available to communities.

'First World War: Then and Now' provides grants of £3,000 to £10,000 for communities to mark the Centenary of the First World War. For example to create a community archive or collection or research, write or perform creative material based on heritage sources.

With a grant you could make a real difference to a wide range of people by helping them understand the war and its impact better. In particular, the Heritage Lottery Fund believe that involving young people in marking the Centenary is important.

For examples of projects and details of how to express your interest and apply, go to the Heritage Lottery Fund website here: www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/programmes/Pages/FirstWorldWarThenandNow.aspx



The Marketplace

Higham Hall is pleased, at certain times, to offer spare meeting space for small groups:

- Registered Charities
- Social Enterprises
- Not for Profit Organisations

All we ask is attendees pay for tea and coffee (£2.20 each + VAT). Our bar can also be made available in the evenings.

Contact George Cooke at Higham Hall on Tel: 07903617580 Email: George.cooke@highamhall.co.uk

ACT Community Buildings Advice Service

This Service exists to help keep Village Hall and Community Building Management Committees up to date. We aim to support you to function effectively as trustees of important village assets and as valued community volunteers.

ACT will provide regular support sessions around the county along with updates in the Gazette newsletter and on our website.

If you have a query or concern please contact ACT on Tel: 01768 840827 or visit our website: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk



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Valley Planning

The Commission for Rural Communities report of 2010 '*High Ground, high potential- a future for England's upland communities*' headlined that the future of valuable assets held in our upland environment are dependent upon the sustainability of upland communities.

Valley Planning supports an equal partnership approach, between upland communities and agencies, so that future challenges can be met with maximum intelligence and resource. This Valley Planning approach, initiated by ACT in Borrowdale in 2010 and Wasdale in 2012, is currently being developed in the Ullswater catchment in 2013. ACT has been contracted by the Lake District National Park Authority to facilitate the first stages of this initiative.

82 residents and agency support officers, attended a meeting in Glenridding in February to discuss the future needs of the community. Eight key areas of work were identified and a second meeting in March prioritised actions and formed working groups to take these forward. These groups will continue to meet throughout 2013 and 2014, with the support of local National Park rangers.

The four leading concerns are:

- Management of the environment: Maintaining the balance
- Water: A common-sense approach
- Employment & Economy: Employment-led sustainable development
- Heritage: Ullswater heritage is special and needs to be protected, developed where appropriate, and communicated more widely

For further details contact Terry McCormick (see back page for details)



Community Health and Wellbeing Programme

Do you have an idea to help improve health and wellbeing in your community? This new programme offers advice, support, and grants to community-led projects, to help make it happen.

The Community Health and Wellbeing grant has already awarded £95,000 to projects across Eden and the Keswick area, and more funding is still available. The next deadline for applications is **16 August 2013**.

Go to: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk/about/community_health_and_wellbeing_project for more information or contact Julia Wilson (see back page for details) to discuss your project.

Community Transport Roadshow

On the 22 March the national Community Transport Association held a Roadshow event in Carlisle, inviting visitors from across the north.

ACT and Cumbria Community Transport Association ran the afternoon, showcasing Cumbrian projects and highlighting the benefit of building on existing solutions:

- Cumbria County Council - Voluntary Car Schemes, Rural Wheels, and the new minibus programmes in each district.
- Cumbria Community Transport Project - countywide brokerage scheme provided across the County.
- Fellrunner Buses - 15 years service in Eden.
- Northern Fells Minibus running alongside other community support services.

A summary of these presentations is available on our website: www.cumbriaaction.org.uk/news/community_transport_event_23_april

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‘New to it All?’ Workshop

The ever popular ‘New to it All’ training, for new village hall committee members who want to know more about being a trustee, attracted 11 representatives from 6 halls across the county.

At the training, held at Rockcliffe Community Centre in May, a variety of governance issues were discussed including:

- Governing documents
- Trustee duties and responsibilities
- Effective meetings
- Financial and Charity Commission reporting

The combination of new and experienced trustees ensured a good mix of knowledge and the day also provided useful networking opportunities.

Feedback given after the training indicated that everyone learned something useful and applicable to them:

“Excellent information given and guidelines to follow. Feel much more at ease with my role on the committee now.”

“This event is invaluable and has given me the confidence to put in place the correct documentation.”

“Excellent - could do with more...”

ACT will run similar events in the future, so watch this space.



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Social Enterprise Start Up Support

A Social Enterprise is a business with primarily social objectives whose surpluses are principally reinvested in the business or community. Village Halls, Community Exchanges, Village Shops and other community groups are usually social enterprise, even if they don't think of themselves in that way.

In Cumbria we have a Social Enterprise Partnership (CSEP). Until early 2015 they are running a programme jointly funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Cumbria County Council to assist individuals or groups to start up social enterprises. The programme is being delivered by the Wingspan Consulting Consortium on behalf of CSEP. ACT is part of the Wingspan consortium delivering this project.

To access support for your project to: set up a social enterprise, business planning, budgeting, and other governance issues you can contact Rob Randell or Guy Huxtable on: rob.randell@socialenterpriseincumbria.org or guy@wingspan-consulting.co.uk

There are ERDF eligibility criteria that need to be satisfied and clarity about what you will achieve with the twelve hours of business support, before we can make a formal agreement to assist you.

We have a number of rural community enterprises, including Village Halls and Community Interest Organisations (CIOs), receiving support at the moment from the team of experienced and supportive advisors.

You can read about Alston Moor who have been named national Social Enterprise Town of the Year on the CSEP website, along with a lot of other useful information.

www.socialenterpriseincumbria.org/.



ACRE headlines

A selection of headline articles taken from the ACRE website: www.acre.org.uk. Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) is the national umbrella of the Rural Community Action Network (RCAN), of which ACTION with Communities in Cumbria is a member. ACRE operates at national, regional and local level in support of rural communities across the country.

£25 million confirmed for community-led housing

The Homes and Communities Agency has confirmed that they remain committed to allocating up to £25 million to community-led housing projects, including CLTs, Cohousing and Cooperative housing projects that deliver by 2015.

The £25 million was originally announced in 2011 but this was downgraded to £15 million. Following lobbying by interest groups including the National CLT Network the Government has re-committed to the original amount to ensure that schemes in the pipeline do not miss out.

The funding has supported development of 45 schemes comprising 500 new homes so far. www.communitylandtrusts.org.uk/home

Shops owned and run by local communities reduce rural isolation

A study by the Plunkett Foundation commissioned by the Co-operative Group Central & Eastern Region outlines the facets of rural isolation and illustrates ways that community shops are reducing it.

Community shops benefit all residents but such services are a particular benefit to the elderly, those with poor health and those without access to transport. The study also looks at the ways community shops address social isolation by stimulating community and social activity by acting as a community hub.

For more information, please go to the Plunkett Foundation's website: www.plunkett.co.uk/newsandmedia/news-item.cfm/newsid/675

Community Land Trusts continue to develop homes

The forthcoming national conference on 12 June offers a good opportunity to look at housing being developed as part of the Community Land Trust (CLT) movement. According to the Cumbria Rural Housing Trust, there are now 135 Community Land Trusts (CLTs) nationally, developing 400 local affordable homes.

In Cumbria alone seven CLTs are developing 81 homes currently. Keswick Community Housing Trust's scheme is now under construction and will provide five rented, five shared ownership and one Local Occupancy home. A scheme for 38 extra care homes is planned by Brampton & Beyond Community Trust while Helsington CLT is working up a scheme for local rented homes supported by South Lakeland District Council. For more information go to www.crht.org.uk

New community shares website live

The website for those interested in community shares has been overhauled and has been tailored for three audiences:

- Community enterprises considering share offers
- Supporters interested in purchasing shares
- Advisers supporting communities and groups

There is targeted advice and guidance for all three groups while the website continues to feature the Community Shares Directory with all the key information for those considering a share offer. New community share website is www.communityshares.org.uk



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Rural Proofing guidelines published

Defra has published guidance showing how Government departments should undertake rural proofing to ensure that rural communities are treated equitably.

Policy-makers are encouraged to adopt a simple three-stage process to ensure rural proofing, which is outlined in the document. Although the guidance is relatively short, it contains quite a lot of straightforward advice to departments.

It includes giving consideration to alternative methods of delivery of services using, for example, outreach and volunteers and using rural networks and meeting points that already exist such as village halls.

Read the National Rural Proofing Guidelines here: www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-rural-proofing-guidelines

More funding for householders installing renewable heat technology

British householders will be able to get even more cash for renewable heating equipment the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) has announced.

The money off vouchers available under the Renewable Heat Premium Payment (RHPP) scheme have been increased to £2,300 for ground source heat pumps, £2,000 for biomass boilers, £1,300 for air source heat pumps and £600 for solar thermal systems.

The RHPP scheme is targeted at those living off the gas grid, where most money on bills and carbon can be saved. Launched in July 2011, it is designed to encourage householders to switch to renewable heat from traditional heating systems by offering money off the cost of the equipment. Householders can apply for the RHPP scheme on the EST website:

www.gov.uk/renewable-heat-premium-payment-scheme

New fund for northern entrepreneurs

A £2m 'incubator' fund designed to unlock northern business initiatives has just been launched. Budding entrepreneurs from across the north of England are invited to apply for a grant from Social Incubator North.

The fund is expecting over 200 applicants, of which it hopes to create 60 new investment ready businesses. The enterprises must deliver positive social or environmental impact, such as offering employment or training to vulnerable members of the community or delivering a service with Green credentials. You can apply or find out more at Social Incubator North socialincubatornorth.org.uk

New support for community pubs

A new advice line and website has been set up for communities interested in running their own pub. Using the co-operative model of ownership (one member one vote) and funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government, the new service is run by the Plunkett Foundation.

The website includes a range of information including toolkits and an online directory of existing co-operative pubs. For more information please visit the Plunkett Co-operative Pubs Online website:

www.pubs.coop

Online directory to help charities find crowdfunding platforms

Crowdfunding, the way of financing projects and businesses through small contributions from a large number of sources, has a new directory aimed at charities. Nesta has launched the online resource to help charities find suitable crowdfunding opportunities.

CrowdingIn, includes the details of 31 platforms available to people and organisations in the UK that are looking for funding. Details to be found on the CrowdingIn website:

www.crowdingin.com

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Eden Community Fund

Eden District Council is inviting community groups to apply to the new 'Eden Community Fund'. The new fund has been created by merging 3 previously separate community grant programmes: the Community Fund, Rural Infrastructure Fund, and Village Halls Grant. It has a total of £260,000 available in 2013-14.

Who can apply?

Community and voluntary groups, Parish and Town Councils, charities and social enterprises can apply. Eligible groups and organisations must have their own constitution and bank account with at least two unrelated signatories. Applications will not be accepted from individuals.

What can be funded?

Grants are available for community projects and events that benefit the residents of communities in Eden. Applicants must demonstrate how their project or event will deliver wide benefit, contributing to the sustainability, vitality and wellbeing of Eden's communities.

Applications are invited under the following:

- 1) Community (outdoor) Amenities
- 2) Community Buildings
- 3) Community Enterprise
- 4) Supporting Communities
- 5) Community Events

Categories 1-4 can apply for a minimum of £500, maximum £10,000. The Community Events minimum grant is £200, maximum £10,000. Awards towards the maximum levels will be the exception and projects and events will need to demonstrate significant community need and match funding. 20% match funding is required for all categories, however, up to 10% can be in-kind.

For more information and application forms go to: www.eden.gov.uk/edencommunityfund



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Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust

Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust (CWMET) manages the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) providing grant assistance to Parish Councils, and local community groups, for environmental projects.

The maximum grant available is £15,000 or 80% of the total project cost, whichever is the smaller. Due to the costs involved in registering a project CWMET does not normally consider grant applications for less than £2,000 and would encourage projects to look at small grant sources such as the Neighbourhood Forum or Parish Council.

As of 1 April 2013, the areas of benefit for this grant fund will focus on the two landfill sites which CWMET receives funding from:

- Hespin Wood in Carlisle district
- Flusco in Eden district

Grant applications will now only be accepted for projects within a 10 mile radius of these two sites. Projects may be eligible within a 15 mile radius of these sites if a second tax paying landfill site within 10 miles overlaps this 10 - 15 mile radius. CWMET will require the postcode of a proposed project to determine whether it is eligible.

For further details, please contact Helen Squires (Grants manager) or Laura Parfitt on

Tel: 01228 822106

Email: enquiries@cwmet.org.uk

Web: www.cwmet.org.uk

Please note: CWMET is currently staffed part time (21 Hours/week). Work will be covered mainly on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday but not all work is office based. Emails and enquiries will be replied to as soon as possible.



Other News



Help for Winter Warmth

Carlisle-based sustainability organisation, tadea, is looking for active communities across Cumbria to sign up for its rural home insulation project which aims to help residents stay warm and reduce their fuel bills.

tadea's Ian Baker says: *"The support we're offering could really benefit the people of Cumbria. We have delivered projects on behalf of the Energy Saving Trust for almost ten years and have a wealth of experience in combining impartial energy efficiency advice with local knowledge."*

"We are looking for a small number of active communities with a real interest in working with us to produce a tailor-made Community Energy Plan."

tadea plans to bring funding to the county under the Government's Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation (ECO) programmes. One ECO funding stream has a rural focus, and another will contribute to boosting the efficiency of 'hard-to-treat' properties, such as those with solid walls and difficult cavities.

Under another stream, people who own or privately rent their homes and receive certain benefits, such as Pension Credit and Child Tax Credits, can get inefficient boilers replaced and receive help with other measures, which tadea can advise on. tadea also offers Green Deal Assessments for people wanting an impartial survey on energy efficient home improvements.

To find out more about Community Energy Plans, Green Deal Assessments or to get advice on qualifying benefits for ECO improvements, call tadea on Tel: 0800 124 4320 or Email: customer.services@tadea.com, mentioning the 'ACT Gazette'. Website: www.tadea.com



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New Switch & Save Scheme

A new scheme, harnessing people power to broker lower tariffs for gas and electricity is helping residents in Eden and the rest of Cumbria, reduce their energy bills. Opt4 Community Energy is a not-for-profit organisation set up by Penrith Action for Community Transition (PACT) to oversee the scheme. It is supported by Cumbria Action for Sustainability's (CAfS) new Sustain Eden programme, with funding from the Big Lottery.

Householders have been signing up to register their interest prior to a reverse auction with UK energy companies on 3 June. Don't worry if you've missed this round as there will be more through the year. The chosen energy company pays a commission for each new customer recruited. All profits will be reinvested in Eden to help you and your community reduce fuel bills through various energy initiatives. Visit www.opt-4.org/switch_and_save.html for more information or call Tel: 0800 193 3394 to register over the phone.

Getting hold of ECO funding

**Money into your community
and work for local businesses**

17 June, 12.00 - 4pm, Penrith Methodist Hall

It's important that Cumbria receives its share of the Green Deal Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding. This event will inform you about the different components of ECO and its relevance to you as a householder. We will also highlight the opportunities for Cumbrian businesses to become ECO contractors, and an opportunity to meet Green Deal Providers. As an active member of your local community, this is an opportunity to not only facilitate local homes to have free or subsidised measures, but also to potentially generate an income for your community. For more information go to: www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/6830605525/eac2



Funding Fair - West Cumbria

Wednesday 10 July

Venue: Energus, Workington

Cost: from £10 per delegate

Funding Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for third sector organisations to meet face to face with local, regional and national funders and discuss their projects. They also provide a valuable source of training.

Places are subsidised for groups from Allerdale and Copeland and members of Cumbria CVS will receive a further reduction! Prices from £10 per delegate – an opportunity not to be missed!

Training Opportunities

Writing Successful Funding Applications

13 June - Morton Community Centre, Carlisle

Customer Care

18 June - Millom Network Centre

Running an Effective Charity

20 June - Lesser Kings Hall, Barrow

What's your Social Media Strategy?

26 June - Newton Rigg Conference Centre

Supporting and Supervising Volunteers for Volunteer Co-coordinators/Managers

27 June - Lesser Kings Hall, Barrow

Volunteers and the Law

3 July - CREA, Penrith

Volunteers and the Law

4 July - CREA, Penrith

What's your Social Media Strategy?

17 July - South Lakes Foyer, Kendal

For more information or to book a place, contact CVS on Tel: 01768 800350

Email: info@cumbriacvs.org.uk

Visit: www.cumbriacvs.org.uk



Making Culture and Heritage More Accessible

The Cumbria Museums Consortium consists of Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, Wordsworth Trust and Lakeland Arts. The project will also connect with and support other galleries and museums in Cumbria. Our aim is to take museums into communities stimulating interest in museum collections and engaging communities in their cultural heritage.

We want to meet with local communities and interest groups to determine how you want to engage and identify your particular areas of interest. We want to develop partnerships with community development workers, community champions, or anyone who has a passion for their heritage and wants to share it with others.

Working in partnership with Cumbria County Council Adult Social Care we are interested in supporting groups of people living with dementia.

Coming soon, 'The Treasures of Cumbria' a digital project, providing another opportunity for community interest groups and individuals to engage, giving their views and uploading information on community activity or projects.

Volunteer Opportunities - Enhancing the cultural richness of communities

We are seeking volunteers to work with us in rural communities mainly working with people over 50, but there will be projects working with a cross section of ages in the community.

If you are interested in museums and cultural heritage, and enjoy working with people contact Maria Toman Tel: 01228 618763 / 0755794777 or Email: maria.toman@tulliehouse.org



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Homeshare

Homeshare is simple, it's about two people sharing a home. It involves matching a homeowner or tenant who has a spare room, with someone who has a housing need, and can provide a little support or companionship.

Householders are often older people who have developed some support needs or have become isolated or anxious about living alone. Homesharers are often younger people, students, or key public service workers who cannot afford housing where they work.

The Homesharer agrees to provide a level of help and support to the Householder whilst living in their home for an established period of time. Homeshare is not a regulated service and cannot include the provision of personal care. Homesharers pay no rent but a contribution to bills and food is expected.

Age UK facilitates Homeshare matches through extensive one to one interviews; lifestyle questions including drug and alcohol questions; background checks (CRB/DBS); meetings between potential participants; support throughout the match and mediation or ending if it doesn't work out.

For more information, an application form, or just to chat about Homeshare please contact: Jo Radcliffe on Tel: 01768 863618 or Email: jo.radcliffe@carlisleandeden.org.uk

Homeshare was successfully piloted in Carlisle and Eden in 2010 and is now being funded for two years by Cumbria County Council as part of their strategy to provide a full range of services and support for individuals within an ageing population, to improve their health and wellbeing.



Eden House Children's Hospice

Eden House Children's Hospice is Cumbria's only children's Hospice. It cares for children and young people with life limiting and terminal illnesses. This care and support is extended also to the families and friends of the children and young people it cares for.

Eden House cares for children across the whole of the county. It supports families every second of every minute of every day of the year. With the support of Eden House the children and young people can live their life to the full, with smiles, fun and laughter.

Eden House is a vibrant place that offers specialist and high quality facilities that complement the committed and ongoing care and support given by its team of nursing staff and volunteers.

It costs around £1million a year to keep the hospice running.

Can you help by being part of one of the children's hospice's local support groups?

We need people in your area to help, in a number of ways, to ensure that the hospice can keep caring for Cumbria's children now and long into the future.

For more information about the services provided by Eden House or to find out how you can help, please contact Matt Boyle on Tel: 01228 817617

Email: matt.boyle@edenvalehospice.co.uk



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If you would like to speak to Lorraine Smyth, ACT Chief Executive, or have an urgent enquiry please contact ACT reception on:

Tel: 01768 840827 Fax: 01768 242134

Email: info@cumbriaaction.org.uk

We want Your News and Views!

- Do you want to celebrate your community's success?
- Could your story be a useful case study to help others with similar projects?
- Would you like to advertise in the ACT Gazette?

If so, we would like to hear from you. Please contact us on the details above.

This newsletter, and previous editions can be downloaded from the ACT website:
www.cumbriaaction.org.uk/gazette

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