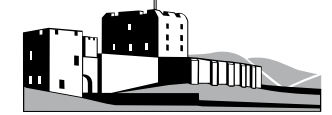


Rural Voice

December 2011

A Rural Voice for Rural Carlisle

CARLISLE
CITY COUNCIL



www.carlisle.gov.uk



Making a Difference



As part of the build up to National Make a Difference Day, local volunteers got mucked in and helped redevelop a garden at Downagate Community Centre, Warwick Bridge.

The project built on the success of BBC Radio 1's Vernon Kay's Volunteer Army which resulted in Carlisle City Council working in partnership with Downagate Community Centre, Cumbria Voluntary Service and local volunteers to make improvements to the centre and also create a

community garden. This October's event involved litter picking and gardening.

Continued on page two...

Did You Know?

Make A Difference Day is the biggest event of its kind in the UK

Can You Provide a Helping Hand?

Local councils are embarking on a new project to provide training and work experience for young people looking for a career in construction. As part of the project, the partnership is looking for work experience placements for the trainees.

There will be ten trainees starting their course in January at Carlisle College and they will finish it in May. Once they have completed the course, they will move on to an apprenticeship. The trainees will attend

college for two or three days per week and will be available for work experience for the rest of the week.

If your organisation is embarking on a programme of improvement works for early next year, and you would be able to provide placements for some or all of the trainees please get in touch to find out more.

For this project, Carlisle City Council is working in partnership with the County Council, Carlisle College, Riverside Housing, Construction Skills, and the North of England Civic Trust. For further information, please contact Caroline Powney, at Cumbria County Council on **01228 226752** or email caroline.powney@cumbria.gov.uk

Welcome to our latest edition of Rural Voice.

Thanks for all your comments on our newsletter and for your suggested articles.

Please continue to let us know what you'd like included within the Rural Voice, by emailing Carlisle City Council's Rural Support Officer, Zoe Sutton, at rural@carlisle.gov.uk or call her on **01228 817312**.

In this edition, we've got a feature on [Spotlight on Consultation](#) and [Money Matters](#).

There are also our regular sections: [News in Brief](#); [Diary Dates](#) and [Quick Links](#).

Spotlight on Consultation

Planning Carlisle's Future

Carlisle City Council is replacing its current Local Plan with a new style Local Development Framework.

The main document within this is the Core Strategy which has recently completed its second stage of production, the Issues and Options. This looked at the planning issues facing Carlisle both now and in the future and provided options on how these issues could be addressed, e.g. looking at the lack of affordable housing in the rural area and considering the impacts of climate change. Public consultation on this stage closed at the end of October. There was a great response from both the local community and the council's statutory consultees.

Since October, the council has been using your feedback to help establish what the overall 'Preferred Options', are for the District's future. These will then form the next stage of the Core Strategy, the 'Preferred Options' which will be out to public consultation in Spring 2012.



Consultation into Mutual Post Office

A consultation process has been launched to investigate how a mutual Post Office will work.

Announced by Postal Affairs Minister Edward Davey, the Government has opened the consultation following a report (Mutual Options for Post Office) produced by a Co-operatives UK and Mutuo earlier this year, which called for the network to be transformed into a mutual.

The consultation, Building a Mutual Post Office, sets out the different options for how sub-postmasters, employees, customers and local communities will have a real stake in the future of the Post Office.

The Government has committed to provide £1.34 billion of funding to the Post Office network over the spending review period to modernise the network and safeguard its future. For more information, visit www.discuss.bis.gov.uk/pomutualisation

Continued from page one...

Making a Difference

Carlisle City Council was given a variety of plants and shrubs from Dobbies Garden World. Equipment for the work was provided by the City Council and Cumbria CVS organised a team of volunteers to help on the day, which included five staff from Barclays Bank.

For more information about volunteering, please contact Judith Holmshaw at Cumbria CVS on **01228 512513** or email judithh@cumbriacvs.org.uk



Money Matters

Grant Aid from Neighbourhood Forums

Community funding is available for voluntary and non-profit-making groups who are involved in community and youth projects and initiatives that benefit the community. Funding is organised on a geographical area, based on the County Council's 17 Electoral Divisions across the Carlisle area according to the total population in each area.

For further information, visit www.cumbria.gov.uk/neighbourhoodforums/grants/default.asp

Community Initiatives Fund

Cumbria County Council, working in partnership with Carlisle City Council, has developed a grants scheme for voluntary and non-profit-making community groups.

Grants are available for groups who are involved in community based projects and initiatives that will benefit the local area. The scheme is intended to invest in communities to bring about a positive and lasting change for the benefit of the whole community.

The Community Initiatives Fund is divided between each of the County Council's Electoral Divisions and preference is usually given to local groups. Applications can be for anything from £100. Most awards are for less than £1,000. For further information, telephone **01228 226747**.

Healthy Communities Small Grants

The Healthy Communities Programme makes grants of £5,000-£10,000 available to small community and voluntary organisations and groups to support an improvement in health and well-being in their local communities. For further information, visit www.peopleshealthtrust.org.uk/index.php/apply-for-funding/local-society-lottery

Help in Kind

The Cumbria Social Enterprise Partnership has announced that their Intermediate Business Support Programme will be continued for 2011-12. The support programme funds up to two days specialist consultancy support for existing Cumbrian social enterprises. For further information, telephone Rob Randell on **01768 869529** or visit www.socialenterprisecumbria.co.uk



Supporting Community Transport

Cumbria County Council is putting in place a range of initiatives to develop community transport across the county using the one-off funding from central government's Community Transport Transitional Fund.

The improvements include: Developing new voluntary social car schemes; supporting scheduled community transport services; MiDAS and D1 community minibus driver training and Working with a range of partners to develop access to activities for young people.

An enhanced Rural Wheels service has been introduced with an increase in the hours and days of operation and improved booking arrangements.

To find out how your parish can benefit from initiatives funded by the Community Transport Transitional Fund, contact Pat Godwin on **01228 226605**.

News in Brief

Computers up for Grabs

The Arthur Rank Centre is offering to supply people that live, or work, in a rural area with a fully functioning computer for as little as £171. The scheme sees internet ready laptops and desktops with pre-installed Microsoft software, with free UK mainland delivery. The price includes a £12 donation to the Arthur Rank Centre to help cover costs for the project. For further information, visit www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk/communities-and-farming/computers-for-rural-people



Village Hall Competition – Border Kitchens

Local village halls can be entered into an amazing competition to win a £2,000 kitchen make-over.

To take part, take a few pictures of your hall; say what activities take place within your hall and why you feel your hall deserves a kitchen make-over. Also get your local community to support your application.

The closing date for applications is **Tuesday, 31 January 2012**, but you need to confirm either by email or in writing that you want to enter the competition as soon as possible. Telephone **016977 41644**, email borderkitchens@btconnect.com or visit www.borderkitchenscumbria.co.uk

Walton Village Hall Pub Nights

Approximately 30 people came to enjoy the first 'pub night' held on **Saturday, 29 October** at Walton Village Hall. Following the closure of the pub in Walton, the village hall remains the only remaining public venue for social events. The hall management committee is arranging a number of 'pub nights' following a number of requests from the parishioners. These have been organised for the last Saturday of the month. The hall management committee received funding from Carlisle City Council and the Carlisle Parish Councils' Association.

Quick Links

Neighbourhood planning regulations consultation

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/planningregulationsconsultation>

Active Cumbria – funding for local sports providers

www.activecumbria.org

Rural Community Buildings: New reports

Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) has released the final two reports in a series of six which analyse data collected from 2,355 rural community buildings across England.

www.acre.org.uk

Diary Dates

A Sustainable Future for Cumbria

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is due to be reformed by 2013. The CAP will respond to the new economic, social, environmental, climate-related and technological challenges facing our society.

Awareness raising talks, technical events, information stand and copies of a film about the land management challenges for Cumbria can be arranged by emailing

lois.mansfield@cumbria.ac.uk

Young People in Rural Isolation Conference

Wednesday 7 December - venue: TBC

Cumbria Rural Forum is holding a half day conference in collaboration with Cumbria County Council. It will deliver a perspective on Young People & Rural Isolation.

To reserve a place please contact Dani Hudson at ACT on **01768 869511, 01768 840827** or by email at

danihudson@cumbriaaction.org

Global Action for Change

Monday 20 February 2012 - venue TBC (free to all organisations)

An enjoyable one-day training day focussing on global youth work. For further information telephone **01768 800350** or email

moniquer@cumbriacvs.org.uk