

Leicestershire & Rutland  
Association of Local Councils



**ANNUAL PARISHES LIAISON EVENT 2017**  
**GREAT COMMUNITIES**

**COUNTY HALL, GLENFIELD**

**10 July 2017**



## Annual Parishes Liaison Event 2017

Great Communities

County Hall, Monday 10 July 2017

### AGENDA

Time	Agenda item
17.15	<b>Registration and Market Place</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff from a range of LCC and partner services will be in attendance to provide information and advice</li><li>• Refreshments &amp; light buffet</li></ul>
18.00	<b>Welcome Addresses</b> <i>Pam Posnett, County Council Cabinet Member (Chair)</i> <i>Guy Jackson, Chair of LRALC</i>
18.10	<b>Local Communities, Local Services, Local Leadership</b>
	<b>Devolved Services - a national perspective</b> <i>Jonathan Owen, Chief Executive, NALC</i>
	<b>Leicestershire County Council – a strategic perspective</b> <i>Tom Purnell, Assistant Chief Executive</i>
	<b>LRALC Strategic Plan</b> <i>Jake Atkinson, Chief Officer</i>
	<b>Q&amp;A Session</b> <i>With Jonathan Owen, Tom Purnell &amp; Jake Atkinson</i>
19:00	<b>Online Highways Maintenance Reporting &amp; Progress</b> Update & short demonstration
19.10	<b>Working Together to Build Great Communities</b>
	<b>Overview &amp; Introduction to Workshops</b> <i>Kristy Ball, Team Leader Communities, LCC</i>
	<b>Short Break</b> - Refreshments will be available in the breakout rooms
	<b>Breakout- Community Strategy Workshop Sessions</b>
20.35	<b>Close</b>



## **COMMUNITIES STRATEGY WORKSHOP**

### **Working Together to Build Great Communities**

Leicestershire is recognised as a great place to live. It is made up of vibrant and active communities, who have a track record of working together with public services to make a positive difference.

The savings the County Council has had to make over the last 7 years (and will have to continue to make) have changed the role the Council can play in relation to the provision of local services. In response to this, Parish and Town Councils have been at the forefront of developing new services and activities to meet the needs of their local communities.

As resources continue to be stretched and demand for services is rising, it is more important than ever that we work together effectively for the benefit of our communities. In the workshop we will be exploring the following questions:

- How do we work together to ensure our communities are supported to flourish?
- Do you have access to the tools, support and information you need to shape your local area? Where can we help?
- What do you currently do to make your community a great one?
- What would enable you to do even more?

This workshop is part of a series of engagement events with stakeholders and communities to help shape how we can work together to build great communities.



## **MARKET STALL INFORMATION**

### **2COMMUNE**

Mobile optimised websites 'fine-tuned' for the needs of Parish & Town Councils.

2commune Limited specialise in providing web technology exclusively to Local Councils. Our staff understands the legislative requirements within which Local Councils work and have an in depth understanding of their business.

We have been working with Local Councils in Leicestershire & Rutland for over ten years where we have built an infrastructure that delivers 'joined up local government'. These tried and tested web products (previously known as Leicestershire Parish Councils) were rebranded as 'UK Local Councils' (UKLC) in 2012 when they were made available to all Local Councils across the UK. UKLC is rapidly becoming the 'industry standard' for parish & town council websites.

If you would like to learn more about joining the growing community of UKLC users, please visit our stand, email us: [admin@2commune.com](mailto:admin@2commune.com) or call us on 0845 868 3975.

### **SHIRE COMMUNITY GRANTS**

SHIRE Community Grants are available for voluntary and community sector organisations, social enterprises and Town/Parish Councils to deliver community-based projects, services and activities which benefit the most vulnerable people in Leicestershire.

Eligible organisations are able to apply for small grants of up to £3,000, and/or larger grants of up to £10,000, for community based projects and activities that improve the health and wellbeing of vulnerable/disadvantaged people and communities.

We are particularly interested in funding new and innovative projects that will:

- support the most vulnerable individuals and communities in Leicestershire
- provide early intervention and prevention based solutions, which ultimately reduce demand on Council services
- complement existing services already being delivered

For more information about the SHIRE Community Grants programme, along with the online application form and detailed Guidance Notes, go to:

[www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/grants](http://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/grants)

## **SHIRE CLIMATE CHANGE GRANT**

The SHIRE Community Climate Change grants scheme has been re-launched for 2017-18.

Groups and organisations are being encouraged to apply to help them to reduce their carbon emissions by improving their community buildings.

The grant fund is for community projects in Leicestershire (not Leicester City or Rutland) that help to improve the energy efficiency of community buildings and make local environmental changes to help reduce carbon emissions.

A maximum grant of £5,000 per applicant is available for projects in any one financial year.

### **Grants are available for:**

- EPC's (Energy Performance Certificate) or DEC's (Display Energy Certificate) of community buildings
- Installation of energy efficiency measures such as new heating systems, roof or cavity wall insulation or low energy lighting
- Installation of renewable energy systems

### **Who can apply:**

- Parish and town councils
- Local community groups
- Faith groups and charities
- Village/community building management committees

### **Application forms, conditions and guidance**

Please read the Guidelines and Grant Aid Conditions before completing the grant application form.

Once completed please send it with supporting documents to the contact details provided in the Grant Application Pack.

### **Closing dates:**

The grants scheme consists of three rounds with closing dates of:

- Friday 30 June 2017
- Monday 30 October 2017
- Wednesday 28 February 2018

For Guidelines, Conditions and Application form please see link below

[www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/community-grants-and-funding/community-grants/shire-climate-change-grant](http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/community-grants-and-funding/community-grants/shire-climate-change-grant)

## **WASTE & ENVIRONMENT**

The Waste and Environment team run a range of initiatives focussed on reducing waste and preserving the local environment by encouraging behaviour change in residents.

The Love Food Hate Waste and Love Your Clothes campaigns help residents to reduce food and textile waste respectively. The home composting campaign provides subsidised compost bins to households in an effort to encourage the composting of green waste as an environmentally friendly alternative to landfill. The Real Nappy campaign is also represented within Leicestershire, with a reusable nappy lending scheme offering trial reusable nappies to encourage a drop in reliance on disposables.

To further spread the messages, the team runs dedicated volunteer schemes for residents to get involved with. The Master Composter scheme is partnered with Garden Organic, offering training to passionate composters to provide them with the skills needed to encourage and advise on home composting. Love Food Hate Waste volunteers can offer guidance and tips to help families to reduce food waste. Real Nappy Advisors look after the nappy lending kits, and provide advice on how to switch to reusable nappies. The Waste Action Volunteers (WAVs) raise awareness of waste issues, and highlight ways to reduce, reuse and recycle.

All campaigns are delivered to the public through a variety of ways; community events, talks, classes, and social media.

To enquire about attendance at any parish events, please contact:  
[wasteprevention@leics.gov.uk](mailto:wasteprevention@leics.gov.uk) or call 0116 3057005.

## **RESILIENCE PARTNERSHIP - THE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY STORES SCHEME**

The Community Emergency Stores Scheme incentive provides £600 worth of tools and equipment with which to create a Community Emergency Store. Available to communities which complete a Community Response Plan, this provides the opportunity to acquire a selection of practical resources to assist with damage containment, clear up and communications in the event of a severe weather emergency or similar event. Visit the Resilience Partnership's stand to find out about those communities which have already benefited from this incentive plus the help that is available to make sure your community can too.

Terms and conditions for the scheme, plus copies of the Aware and Prepared toolkits and templates for communities, residents and local business will be available to take away.

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING**

Neighbourhood Planning was introduced as part of the Localism Act 2011 and gives communities the ability to design the future of places where they live and work. Once adopted the plan forms part of the Statutory Planning framework for the area and is used to decide future planning applications. They must align and not negatively impact on the Local Planning Authority's Local Plan and also have to stand up to the same challenges so must have a robust evidence base.

The County Council is fully supportive of the Neighbourhood Planning process and offers dedicated officer support within the Communities Team, providing a single contact point for all Neighbourhood Planning correspondence and consultations.

In 2011 the Council supported 7 'front runner' groups (Fosse Villages, Broughton Astley, Asfordby, Watham on the Wolds, Billesdon, Lubenham and Market Bosworth) to take on a Neighbourhood Plan. As part of this initial work a network was formed to enable groups to come together for support and sharing of best practice. From its small beginnings the network continues to grow and has become more vital than ever. It provides support and disseminates information to the large number of groups we currently have in existence throughout the county. The Network provides a resource for neighbourhood planning groups in Leicestershire, offering networking opportunities, support, advice, signposting, single contact point for consultations, as well as a dedicated website service ([www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/np](http://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/np)). Twice a year we hold a Network event, specifically designed to facilitate the sharing of experiences and best practice – what works, what doesn't and lessons learnt. Events cover a variety of topics and include guest speakers. A key part is providing the opportunity to network with others groups at various stages of the neighbourhood planning process.

Membership is free, if you would like to become a member visit the 'Become a Network member' section on the website for details.

## **GRASS CUTTING OPERATION**

2 x Officers will be available to discuss the seasonal grass cutting operation.

Laptop demonstrating the new grass cutting webpage and interactive map.

Explanation of the new technology introduced this season.

Grass cutting routes will be available to understand how the rounds are organised.

## LOCAL AREA CO-ORDINATOR



Local Area co-ordination is focused on helping isolated, excluded and vulnerable people and communities to stay strong and in control. The aim is to divert people from formal services through sustainable, local individual and community solutions. Local Area Co-ordination builds the resources, networks and resilience of those who need help BEFORE they hit crisis, and helps to foster an inclusive, friendly and supportive community around them

Local Area Co-ordination is about supporting people and their families to have a good life as part of their local community.

Supports around 60 individuals/families in their local communities, across age groups and service types, including older people, those with low level of mental health needs, learning disabilities, health challenges and those who are socially isolated.

Local Area Co-ordinators are not based within Local Authority offices and are based within the community they work in, such as the local parish council office or community centre.

Supports the development of effective networks to enhance social interaction and grows supportive relationships.

Spends time to get to know and understand the person's strengths and aspirations

Local Area Co-ordination is about identifying the resources and assets within a community which can help to make the community more self-sufficient.

It is a model which looks at what individuals and communities can offer, rather than focussing on what they need.

Community Assets can be anything from existing sources of support (voluntary sector organisations, community centres, faith groups/places of worship) to the support which can be offered by individuals (families, neighbours and friends).

## **VOLUNTARY ACTION LEICESTERSHIRE (VAL) COMMUNITY CAPACITY PROJECT (CCB)**

Community Capacity Building (CCB) focuses on actions that are positive, creative and inclusive for the whole community. Instead of focusing on what is missing or causing problems, CCB concentrates on what is possible. We work with community members to improve the area they live in by supporting them to kick-start new projects and activities and develop their ideas into long-term projects.

As part of this work we look into the assets available to each community, such as:

- Individuals – the time, skills and enthusiasm people can share with their community as volunteers
- Buildings and physical space
- Resources and equipment
- Small, informal groups in the community that could support new activities or projects
- Skills, experience and resources that partner organisations could share with the community
- Ways to connect different people within the community so they can work together

Where do we work?

We are currently working in 4 target areas in Leicestershire:

- Hastings and Lemyngton wards in Loughborough
- Coalville
- South Wigston and Wigston Magna
- Measham

## **GET INTO LEARNING with LEICESTERSHIRE ADULT LEARNING SERVICE**

Help us to promote our courses to Leicestershire learners so they can embrace new learning opportunities and increase their future wellbeing and prosperity.

The Go Learn Autumn 2017 course programme offers an inspiring range of learning opportunities. Choose from part-time day, evening and weekend courses at venues across Leicestershire.

Boost your job prospects, pursue a new interest, learn IT skills, improve your health and wellbeing, or brush up on English and Maths for FREE, now's the time to get back into learning!

To help learners who find it difficult to pay there are flexible payment options, and if you are in receipt of certain benefits or have a low household income there are huge discounts, or courses may even be FREE!

There are a variety of enjoyable courses where you can learn useful new skills that will positively impact on your life. With 100s of part-time courses to choose from - some leading to a recognised qualification - discover the many ways you can improve your health and wellbeing during 2017!

- Improve your skills – join English, maths and computer courses to help you get back into work, or help your children with schoolwork Low self-esteem?
- Discover how to improve your confidence
- Need a creative outlet? Express yourself on a cookery, art, or pottery class
- Improve your health and fitness with pilates, ballet or yoga
- Inspired by fabric and textiles? Need to revamp your wardrobe? Master the art of sewing and stitch crafts
- Need to communicate for work, holidays and family situations? Take up a new language. Plus English for speakers of other languages (ESOL), or British Sign Language
- Lacking confidence with computers or need to learn Microsoft Office? Learn the basics and more!

Julie, one of our English and Maths learners has recently achieved a fantastic A\* in her English GCSE. Julie says "I joined adult learning as I wanted to try and boost my confidence after being ill for a long while and was very low in confidence. I joined Maths and English Functional Skills. My tutor, Helen, was full of encouragement and after passing these recommended me to take the GCSE. I think doing the Functional Skills got me back into studying and brushed my skills up which helped enormously. I had a lot of support from the adult learning staff who encouraged me even though there were times I doubted myself. I could hardly believe it when I got my result. All my family and friends are so proud of what I have achieved and it has shown me that age is no barrier to learning and if you set your mind and are prepared to put the work in you can achieve a lot".

Adult learning also run traineeship programmes for young people who are struggling to find employment or apprenticeships, and offer a whole range of courses for adults who have a learning difficulty or disability.

So find your ideal course and enrol now! Download a course brochure or search and enrol online at [www.leicestershire.gov.uk/GoLearn](http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/GoLearn), call FREE phone 0800 988 0308, or pick up a copy from any Leicestershire Library or Adult Learning Enrolment centre from August 2017.

## **SUPERFAST - LEICESTERSHIRE**

The Department for Culture Media and Sport who help fund the project are hoping that the UK has the best broadband in Europe with '**superfast broadband**'. Fibre broadband helps make everything happen online much faster than a standard broadband connection. The technology offers download speeds up to 330Mbps.

Superfast Leicestershire has already reached 73,000 premises in the city and county and is on course to make superfast broadband available to more than 84,000 premises in Leicestershire by the end of 2018. The rollout of the project has been steadily increasing since it began in 2012. More than 94 percent of homes and businesses across Leicestershire can access fibre broadband.

However fibre broadband might not be for everyone but there are a number of benefits and endless opportunities. It's more reliable whilst at home and lets you make video calls, do homework online and stream music all at the same time and at much higher speeds.

Many businesses that can already access fibre broadband are already using it to maximise growth, expand their customer base and improve their bottom line. By having fibre broadband, not only do you benefit from faster upload and download speeds but you can also run meetings by video link and reach customers through new, faster and easier to track methods, whilst working from home.

## **RCC- RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Help for Communities in Leicestershire and Rutland**

#### **Planning & Resilience-**

Supporting communities to plan the future of their area through offering full support packages with neighbourhood plans, community networks and forums

#### **Health & Wellbeing-**

Supporting more vulnerable members of your community through setting up Good Neighbour Schemes, fall prevention work, community development work and facilitating local networks of support

#### **Facilities and Connections-**

Strengthening connections within communities through advice and support packages to those managing community buildings, developing and maintaining recreational space and enhancing community transport and connections

#### **Bespoke Consultancy Services-**

Community consultation and engagement work, funding advice and bid writing, research & evidence gathering and feasibility studies

Leicestershire & Rutland Rural Community Council can offer your community information, advice and support across a wide range of services, including:

**Phone: 0116 266 2905**

**Email: [info@ruralcc.org.uk](mailto:info@ruralcc.org.uk)**

**Address: RCC, 133 Loughborough Road, Leicester, LE4 5LQ**

## **CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE**

A presentation providing an overview of the Customer Service Centre and the wide range of enquiries that they handle.

How technology is being used to improve and streamline services, including the new Highways "Report It Form"

The presentation will also include an overview of future developments that will enable highways enquiries to be logged and tracked.



# Leicestershire Communities

## Working Together to Build Great Communities

The Communities Strategy sets out the Council's continuing commitment to work in partnership to support strengthen and empower communities. It includes our aspirations to build on and develop the assets of the people and places of Leicestershire to achieve the best outcomes for everyone.

Leicestershire is recognised as a great place to live. It is made up of vibrant and active communities, who have a history of working together in partnership with others, to make a positive difference.

As resources have become more stretched, and demand for services increases, it is more important than ever that we work together to ensure the best possible outcomes for our residents and communities.

We know from experience that when people come together and act, they can improve their lives and solve the problems their communities face. We recognise this approach as 'social action'. The Communities Strategy seeks to build on this approach and encourage social action to help to deliver our priorities.

By working together, combining skills, resources and knowledge, we want to ***Lead Leicestershire by working with our communities and partners for the benefit of everyone***

The Communities Strategy is underpinned by 4 priorities:

- Communities support themselves, individuals and families
- Communities, in collaboration with public services, are supported to design and deliver better outcomes
- The voluntary and community sector in Leicestershire is an effective provider of services in a diverse market
- The Council continues to be outward focussed, transparent and open to new ways of working

Communities have a key role to play in helping themselves and those around them. We will continue to speak to our communities and partners to deliver our vision for Leicestershire. We are committed to building on the great communities we live in. Together, we can realise the aspirations of communities, and harness opportunities to ensure we achieve better outcomes for all.

Find out more: [www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk](http://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk)

## NOTES

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