Cockermouth Town Council



19 December 2022

Dear Councillor.

You are summoned to a meeting of the Climate Change Action Group to be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Tuesday 17 January 2023 at 1.00pm for the purpose of the under-mentioned business.

Please let me know if you are unable to attend.

All welcome.

Yours sincerely

5 B___

Sheila Brown

- 1. Minutes To agree as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 20 September 2022 (pages 1-2)
- 2. Apologies for absence
- Declaration of Interest Members to give notice of any disclosable pecuniary interest, other registrable interest or any other interest and the nature of that interest in relation to any item on the agenda in accordance with the code of conduct.
- 4. Public Participation
- a) To answer any questions from members of the public in accordance with the Summary of Public Rights
- b) To receive a petition from a member of the public in accordance with the Summary of Public Rights
- Climate Change Emergency To consider our list of possible actions and decide which to take forward over the next quarter (pages 3-8)
- Third Give & Take Day Update
- Green Space 2 Grow support pack for town and parish councils (pages 9-33)
- 8. Harris Park Extension To discuss allowing part of Harris Park Extension reverting to a meadow
- Greyrigg Play & Towers Lane Play areas Area To discuss planting trees on the play areas
- 10. Take Back Event To discuss planning a take back event at Cockermouth

Town Hall, Market Street

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Cumbria

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Joint Winners

Council of Europe Year 2000

Europe Prize

Previous Awards

Plaque of Honour, Flag of Honour

European Diploma

Library (pages 34-35)

11. Date of next Meeting

Press and Public Welcome

Agenda (Lem)

Minutes of a meeting of the CLIMATE CHANGE TASK GROUP held on Tuesday 20 September 2022 at 1.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth

Present: Councillor S Barnes (Chair)

Councillor I Burns Councillor A Semple Councillor R Watson

71 Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record.

Members were pleased to note that The Incredible Edible Group were planning to plant 12 fruit trees on Town Council owned land on Harris Park Extension during Big Green Week.

72 Declaration of Interest

None declared.

73 Public Participation

There was none.

74 Climate Change Emergency Action Plan

Those present discussed progress to date and which actions should be taken forward during the next quarter.

Members were pleased to note that climate issues have been added to the new Cumberland Plan as a key priority.

Councillor Watson expressed an interest in the development of a plan for all green spaces within the Town.

Recommended – a) That the update from the Incredible Edible Group be noted.

- b) That one of the fourteen carbon literate climate champions be approached regarding a talk at the library.
- c) That all interested groups be encouraged to take part in The Big Green Week 2023.
- d) That residents be encouraged to attend Askerton Castle Estate near Brampton as part of Big Green Week.

75 Give and Take Day

A second Give and Take Day was held in the Town Hall on 24 August 2022. Pre loved school uniform was also distributed.

The event was well received and left over items will be used at the next event.

Agreed – That progress be noted and that another event organised at the end of January 2023.

76 Cumbria's Bee Plan

A new **PLAN BEE** is being developed to help Cumbria's vitally important native pollinators. Cumbria Wildlife Trust want to identify a suite of achievable actions to enable everyone to take some action however small.

Cumbria Wildlife Trust were keen to gather ideas regarding how pollinators can be helped in our community.

The closing date for the consultation is 17 October 2022.

Resolved – That the plan be noted and that the Chairman respond to the questionnaire on the Task Groups behalf.

77 CAfs Newsletter

Those present discussed at length the contents of the CAfS September 2022 Newsletter.

Particular interest was shown in The Great Big Green Week. Councillor Watson gave details of events happening locally.

Members also discussed how we could utilize the newly trained carbon literate climate champions on a local level.

Resolved - That the contents be noted.

78 Date of next meeting

Resolved – That the next meeting be held on 17 January 2023 at 1.15pm.

The meeting closed at 1.40 pm

Climate Change Task Group Actions	Rank within the theme and number of points	Overall Rank	Completion Date
ENVIRONMENT			
Cease providing plastic water bottles at TC Events – IN HAND			June 2019
Express concerns about river pollution to MP/Environment Agency – ACHIEVED			June 2019
Scheme for shops/businesses to refill water bottles – ACHIEVED			June 2019
Tree-planting on council-owned land – 1212 trees to be planted Harris Park Extension			November 2021
Green pages on TC website – ACHIEVED			June 2019
Volunteers to provide advice on growing vegetables (like WW2 'Dig for Victory')			
Recycle Halloween outfits, Christmas jumpers, dressing up outfits and re-distribute through library.			Ongoing
Cease/restrict use of 'pesticides' on Council land – IN HAND – Town Clerk to write to Tivoli. Tivoli have drastically reduced the use of Glyphosate usage in Allerdale by 75% by using a residual herbicide in February/March which prevents germination. The hanging baskets we provide already contain plants that will attract bees and other pollinators			June 2019
Plant wild-flower meadow areas in Memorial Gardens and/or elsewhere			May 2022
Support carbon offset schemes run by local travel agents (tie in to tree planting) – IN HAND – No reply from Craig Travel, tree planting scheme already in existence with Cockermouth Travel			June 2019
Floral displays in town centre to use plants which attract bees and other pollinators – IN HAND – Tivoli have confirmed that they use such plants			June 2019
Encourage County Council to plant wildflower verges on approaches into town – IN HAND – Town Clerk to write to CCC about planting wildflowers on verges on approaches into town and on banking in their ownership opposite Gote Road allotments. In general the soil on the verges is too rich for wildflowers. Verges need to have the soil stripped off. A bee corridor will be will be created across North Cumbria. It mainly follows the A591 but will include the A66 from the Low Road roundabout heading out towards Workington. This will be funded through National/charitable funding to support			June 2019
bees. Quote to be obtained from Tivoli for banking opposite St Helens Street Allotments			March 22
Create a bee-garden – DELETE the creation of a single garden. Allotments Awards Evening to include 2 new categories, best bee friendly allotment and best bee friendly garden			Nov 2021

Give and Take Day – Funding available from CCC. Idea	June
supported by Town Council. Delayed due to Covid	2022
Best Pollinator Allotment and Best Pollinator Garden	November
categories to be added to Garden Competition. Delayed due	2021
to Covid	
The aim of Cockermouth Town Council is for its activities to	
be carbon-neutral by 2030 at the latest. This will require an	
audit of the council's current carbon footprint and concerted	
efforts to reduce it. Some of the measures that will be	
necessary are included above, e.g. ensuring that the town	
council buildings are fully insulated and that energy is	
purchased from 'green' suppliers	
Vocally support applications for new renewable energy in	
Cockermouth	
Write to all take-away outlets and businesses in Cockermouth	
to reduce their waste.	
Encourage paperless meetings	May
	2021
Use water retaining planters	June
	2022
Encourage members/staff to carry refillable bottles and re-	March 22
useable cups	
Work with Allerdale and CCC to convert footway lighting to	
LED and/or trial solar lighting.	
Speak to the Chamber of Trade about the introduction of a	
Cockermouth Cup for use in cafes and restaurants. Customers	
pay £1 deposit for a Cockermouth Cup, enjoy their drink and	
return the cup to any participating café to get their £1 back.	1000
Cups are then washed ready to be used again.	
Establish a tree sponsorship scheme	June
	2021
Give away 200 x 10g packets of free wildflower seeds from	
library	June 21
	Feb 22
Encourage residents to join a virtual climate change	18/6/21
Cockermouth reading group	
FOOD AND FARMING	
HOUSING AND ENERGY	
Town Council buildings – ensure insulation up to spec and	June 2019
energy from green supplier, (eg Good Energy or Ecotricity)	
PARTIALLY IN HAND – Town Clerk to write to procurement at	
CCC to find out if green energy suppliers included in their	
tender process and if they would be willing to move to 100%	
green energy. Npower supply brown energy which is	

sharp the investment of the same of the sa	
cheaper. Having said that 8.5% coal, 57.9% natural gas, 17.4%	
nuclear, 12.6% renewable, 3.6% other.	
Town Clerk to investigate potential and costs of solar panels	
on all council owned buildings	
PROMOTING ACTION AND RAISING AWARENESS	
Work with other businesses to increase recycling facilities	June 2019
(e.g. Aldi/Lidl for clothing) – IN HAND – Mayor has spoken to	Julie 2019
Lidl	
Carry out a 'green' survey of businesses asking them to score	
themselves against a set of criteria (e.g. recycling, use of	
plastic packaging etc.)	
Where possible councillors to walk or cycle to meetings – IN	June 2019
HAND	Julie 2019
Encourage shops to use paper bags	
Consider starting an Incredible Edible Group – deferred due	
to Covid	
CafS are looking to recruit 20 volunteers across Cumbria to	June 2019
help them deliver a brand new programme to boost	
knowledge about climate science solutions and inspire people	
to take action in their own lives – advertised on our social	
media 4/2/21.	
Neighbourhood Plan – specs for new builds on insulation,	
green energy etc.	
Promote bike paths, lanes, parking places, electric bike	June 2019
charging points	
Planting fruit trees on council land	
Encouraging shops to sell more seasonal produce	
Town centre litter bins with separate compartments for	
plastic, paper and general rubbish – IN HAND – Town Clerk to	
write to Allerdale to request these. No reply to date.	
Councillor Smith to chase a response	
Support the formation of an Allerdale Partnership Climate	
Change Group drawing on expertise from councillors,	
residents, young citizens, climate science and solutions	
experts, business and skills providers. The Group will consider	
actions and strategies being developed by Allerdale Borough	
Council and partnership organisations and develop a borough	
wide strategy.	
Strive to become an Earth Protector Town	
Recognise, promote and partake in:	completed
Earth Hour	in 2021
Earth Day	8
World Environment Day	Started in
- World Environment Day	2022

1 2	
	C+ 2021
	Sept 2021 & March
	2022
	June 2021
	& Feb 22
	June 2021
	August 21
	August 21
	May 2021
	Ongoing
	Election
	2023

TRANSPORT	
Modernish Allender County (business Associated as a second	
Work with Allerdale/County/business to provide electric vehicle charging points in town – Cumbria LEP is currently	ongoing
considering the approach to electric vehicle infrastructure.	
This is likely to result in the development of an electric vehicle	
strategy which would look at a range of issues including the	
future development of charging points across the County and	
the approach for installation of charges at residential	
properties. Allerdale are in discussions with Charge my Street.	
TC encouraged residents to take part in the charge my street	5. 12 p
on line survey which ended on 8/1/21. Electricity North West	
are introducing a £1million Reinforcement Fund to enhance	
their network in the next 2 years where connection requires	12 12
extensive re-inforcement.	
Support/encourage cycling-friendly businesses	June 2019
Continue Town Bus Service	June 2019
Promote safe walking routes through TIC	
Encourage car sharing	Put add
	on social
	media July
	2021
Liaise with ABC & CCC to Improve cycling provisions	
Purchase a speed indication device	Nov 2021
OTHER ACTIONS	
Support the Local Electricity Bill – the Bill, if made Law, would	June 2019
empower local communities to sell locally generated clean	
energy directly to local customers by establishing a statutory	
right to supply. This is currently impossible because of the	
huge set up and running costs involved in doing so –	
SUPPORTED 18.03.20 TC MEETING	
Support the Climate & Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill –	June 2019
SUPPORTED 20.01.21 TC MEETING	
Ensure we know the climate change or nature implications of	
our decisions before we make them.	
Be aware of planning and climate change legislation	
Lobby Government for the development of a country wide	
food and farming strategy	
Do an audit of what activities/groups are already taking	Ongoing
action to address climate change.	

Continue to budget yearly to help us fund our aspirations	£1000 in
	budget for
	2022/23



Green Space 2 Grow Support Pack Town & Parish Councils Cumbria



Kate McGibbon
CALC
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Introduction

Green Space 2 Grow is a CALC initiative to support Town and Parish Councils in Cumbria to increase the use of available green space in their areas for a range of growing and greening activities.

Green spaces and growing give a range of benefits to our health and wellbeing, our environment and our communities.

As we know Parish Councils have the power to obtain and supply land for allotments, so allotments are the obvious 'available' green space that could be identified. However, there are lots of other potential green spaces that can be used for growing and greening activities in our communities such as:

grass verges along the roadside and in carparks, commons and open spaces, parks, footpaths and bridleways, village greens, and green space around community buildings.

This information pack has been produced with support from partners, organisations, and community groups whose activities are related to climate action, sustainability, growing and greening activities that we hope will help and inspire you.

We know that some town and parishes in Cumbria are already very successful in this area, and we hope that by showcasing some of their activities will encourage you and give ideas to get growing and greening!

CALC can support town and parish councils to:

- Identify available green space in their areas to:
 - · create their own growing and greening activities
 - connect with growing and greening community groups and organisations who would like to use your green space

Growing and Greening activities can:

- encourage people to reduce their carbon imprint and join local climate action
- support communities around the increased cost of living in relation to food, healthy eating, sourcing food locally and reducing food miles
- support health and wellbeing
- encourage good neighbourliness AND
- be achievable in available green spaces in <u>both our rural and urban</u> town and parishes

CALC will do this by:

Asking town and parish councils with available green space to complete this
form to give us more information and details and to see how we can best support
them:

<u>Green Space 2 Grow: Contact details and information of available Green Space in your area</u>

- Providing town and parish councils with the support they require including:
 - connecting with community groups who want to create community growing/greening activities
 - supporting town/parish councils with ideas and resources to create and lead their own community growing/greening activities (included in this information pack)
 - providing support where possible to make the green space available to start activities

Kate McGibbon, Resilience Project Officer
Cumbria Association of Local Councils
November 2022.

Local councils' existing powers relating to Green Space & Greening and Growing Activities

Allotments and markets: [Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908, ss 23, 26 and 42] (Food Act 1984, s. 50)

- This allows the promotion of local produce and healthy eating
- This can help to reduce food-miles
- Allotments powers also enable the provision of communal food-growing sites and initiatives, run by associations and cooperatives.

Commons, ponds, open spaces, recreation etc (Open Spaces Act 1906, s.15; Highways Act 1980, ss 47]

- Scope to practise good environmental management, accommodate recycling facilities etc on the council's land
- Scope to plant trees on, and maintain, highway verges

Neighbourhood planning [Localism Act, 2011; Neighbourhood Planning Act, 2017 and National Planning Policy Framework,)

- Scope to include environmentally friendly planning policies re design, routes, landscaping etc
- There is a continuing need to ensure that Neighbourhood Plans have 'teeth', and that they can be more than just land-use allocation policies.

Permitted development rights (Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015, part 12):

- Councils may erect and operate, without the need to seek planning permission, a wide variety of small buildings, equipment, and other structures on their land, for the purposes of any of their functions or public services.
- -This can include a range of small 'green' developments

Future opportunities- identified by NALC

Recommendations for NALC policies and services: 'legal advice' on the creative use of the powers already available to local councils

- Local councils should be given a direct power to undertake tree planting and other eco-friendly activities on a much wider range of land, beyond just their own recreational spaces and highway verges.
- The 'section 137' expenditure limit on community energy facilities and activities should be removed
- Local councils should be given the power to promote and operate facilities and services to recycle waste and re-use resources.
- The role and effectiveness of neighbourhood plans in relation to Climate Change should be protected and given more weight in decision-making.



Ideas for local green spaces

- Community orchards including avenues of fruit trees along grass verges https://www.slorchards.com/
- Woodland projects- Cumbria Woodland, Woodland Futures Project offers support and training, see page 8
- Fruit bush hedges (e.g., blackcurrants or gooseberries) also consider more traditional fruits, (sloes, bullace, gages, crab apples, quince etc.)
- Wild Harvest hedges Free Trees for Schools and Communities Woodland Trust
- Flowering herbs instead of flower beds e.g., marjoram, rosemary, mint, thyme, chives etc.
- Community allotments for vegetables
- Encourage would-be gardeners to grow vegetables in other people's gardens (with their permission of course!) This could be particularly beneficial for older people who are no longer physically active and cannot maintain their plot.
- Consider access to water and where you could store tools etc.

Think about the produce:

- Ways of storing excess fruit and vegetables e.g., jams, chutneys, dehydrating, juices, flavoured gins etc https://www.slorchards.com/press-hire
- WI 'how to...' event.
- Ways of sharing excess veg swaps or trading local produce to be used in pubs and restaurants for vouchers for a meal out.
- Donate surplus from allotments to Food Banks or local 'meals on wheels' type initiatives supporting vulnerable members of the community.
- School harvest / foraging day

Get people involved:

- Ask people what they would like to see and advertise for volunteer gardeners
- Encourage a sense of 'civic pride' and healthy exercise
- Promote the gardens as way to meet your neighbours and cut down on food costs / your carbon footprint
- Help reduce loneliness and isolation Age UK | The UK's leading charity helping every older person who needs us
- Social Prescribing team
- Think about benches, places for people to sit, and interpretation boards that explain what the initiative is all about (e.g., 'eat local, grow local' 'please do walk on the grass!')

What else could you do?

- Set up a community composting scheme to enable people to get rid of their food waste <u>Cumbria Master Composters | Garden Organic</u> provide information and training on individual and community composting
- Use the space to promote active transport e.g., bike racks or improved footways to access
- Think about accessibility opportunities for wheelchair users / people with sensory impairments
- What about a beehive (yes, I can hear the health and safety alarm bells ringing!)
 Rent a Beehive | Hosting a Beehive in Your Backyard (kinnibees.com)
 https://thebeecentre.org/or insect hotels?
- Bugingham Palace, Muncaster Castle Conservation Matters at Muncaster Castle

^{**}Ideas for local green spaces was kindly produced for CALC by Nick Lancaster and Helen Attewell, Cumbria Action for Sustainability 22.8.22**

Organisations and Groups who can offer Information, Support or Training related to growing and greening activities

*Cumbria Woodland, Woodland Advisory Service: Cumbria Woodlands

Benefit from their FREE Woodland Advisory Service, which provides impartial advice to those looking to create or manage woodland. This can be whether you are looking after ancient woodland, applying for woodland creation grants, information on the Cumbria Coastal Community Forest or getting started with Agroforestry.

Contact info@cumbriawoodlands.co.uk for a free consultation.

*Cumbria Master Composters: <u>Cumbria Master Composters | Garden Organic</u> to see how you can get involved and for information on training and events

*Garden Organic: Organic growing advice | Garden Organic

*CAfS (Cumbria Action for Sustainability): There's so much inspirational action going on in towns and villages across Cumbria, as local people come together to raise awareness, support each other, and develop projects to cut carbon emissions.

On this page, <u>Sustainability groups in Cumbria - CAfS</u> you can find out more about some of the local sustainability groups across Cumbria, but you can also get in touch with CAfS to find out more about setting up your own group if there isn't one near you, and the support we can offer. If you're looking to set up your own activities or groups, <u>funding is available</u> to help you get started. Email helen.attewell@cafs.org.uk

(Also see our guide on how to go about making a community more sustainable.)

*ACTion with Communities Cumbria: Rural and community development charity for Cumbria - Action with Communities in Cumbria, Penrith, Cumbria (cumbriaaction.org.uk) ACT can help connect town and parish councils with community groups who are involved with growing and greening activities and also help set up new ones with information and resources available on their website.

*Incredible Edible: Start a group - Incredible Edible

'Community is at the very heart of Incredible Edible's work and our growing patches are edible attractions to get people talking. From its inception, Incredible Edible sought to show how ordinary people can transform their own landscapes and turned disused plots into abundant sources of healthy food. Working with whoever is willing, we create powerful connections through food, which lead people to believe that when we act together each of us is stronger for it'.

They have created 10 steps to being Incredible as a handy tool if you're thinking about starting a group in your local community. Once you sign up, you'll get access to their full Get going guide and resources, with everything you need to get started

*Mental Health Foundation: Thriving with Nature | Mental Health Foundation

They have created a report outlining activities and resources of how to connect people to nature.

*Royal Horticultural Society: Tips on gardening in a changing climate / RHS Gardening

Have lots of great gardening tips and resources to improve wellbeing, tackle climate change and improve biodiversity.

*Hubbub Foundation: Tips for getting started with growing | Hubbub Foundation

*West Cumbria Rivers Trust: West Cumbria Rivers Trust (WCRT)

West Cumbria Rivers Trust has a crucial role to play in raising awareness and increasing understanding of West Cumbria's rivers and lakes. They do this by connecting with people locally to make a positive difference to the health of rivers, lakes, people, and wildlife.

*Woodland Trust: UK's Largest Woodland Conservation Charity - Woodland Trust

*Lake District National Park: <u>Local communities: Lake District National Park</u>
Community support is available through the <u>Lake District Communities</u> Fund.

Area Rangers work with residents, businesses, community groups, landowners, and farmers. They are the first point of contact for:

- new local initiatives or community projects
- the Lake District Communities Fund
- access and recreation enquiries
- more information about any aspect of the LDNPA's work

*Eden Rivers Trust: Your Eden - Eden Rivers Trust

- Connect people with rivers- increasing understanding of how rivers work, encouraging people's enjoyment of the amazing wildlife and special places and inspiring them to take action and help care for our rivers.
- Improve the natural processes within the Eden catchment, on land as well as in the river, nurturing wildlife habitats, reducing flood risk and providing cleaner water.
- Protect the Eden's unique and iconic biodiversity, ensuring our native plants and animals survive and thrive.

*Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre Homepage - Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre (cbdc.org.uk)

Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre brings together, analyses and shares information on Cumbria's natural history, wildlife sites and habitats for education, research and to help people make sound decisions when planning to develop and manage land sustainably.

*Cumbria Local Nature Recovery Strategy - Pilot Scheme <u>Cumbria Local Nature Recovery</u> Strategy - Pilot Scheme | Cumbria County Council

In August 2020 the government announced that Cumbria will be 1 of 5 Pilot areas trialling the development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS).

The purpose of the LNRS is to restore and link up habitats so that species can thrive, and agree the best places to help nature recover, plant trees and woodland, restore peatland, mitigate flood, and fire risk, and create green spaces for local people to enjoy.

With an agreed LNRS in place, the nature recovery work of everyone in Cumbria - from the designated landscapes and large conservation partnerships, to farmers, local businesses, and community groups- can help to deliver a bigger, better, and more joined up nature recovery network across the whole of the county.

Cumbria County Council is leading this project. Working with a wide range of partnerships, organisations and individuals that have an interest or influence in nature recovery will be key to developing an effective strategy for the county.

To sign up for updates or for more information on how to get involved with the Cumbria LNRS please contact the Cumbria LNRS project manager:

Angela Wakefield Telephone. 07818809885

Email: angela.wakefield@cumbria.gov.uk

*Natural England Tackling Barriers to Nature www.gov.uk/natural-england

Natural England's Connecting People with Nature Work (CPWN) in Cumbria:

Natural England (NE) have a national CPWN programme, which is all about Tackling Barriers to Nature. This stems from NEs commitment to delivery of the 25-year environment plan, of which this is a fundamental part.

'We know that many people are not connected with nature. We also know that simply putting nature back does not solve the disconnect.

We know that strong connections at a local level are essential to understand the obstacles and find ways to address them'

The national connecting people with nature programme is ambitious, aiming for everyone to be able to enjoy nature's benefits and act for the environment, wherever they live.

The programme is broadly structured around three themes which encompass work around:

- Health and well-being, from promoting the physical and mental health benefits of the natural environment, to supporting nature-based solutions such as social prescribing
- Our work around community-led regeneration is important to reach out locally to different groups and to really understand and respond to peoples wants and needs around the natural environment
- And social inclusion, which is a foundation for the entire programme, by considering how we can help more people connect with and feel connected with the natural environment we can inspire more people to care for it which ultimately helps us to achieve our conservation goals.

Claire Green, Inclusion Senior Advisor, Connecting People with Nature, Claire.Green@naturalengland.org.uk, would be really interested in hearing from you about how we may be able to work together to understand the local issues and barriers around connecting with nature and local greenspace and explore potential opportunities and ideas to tackle some of these and look at ways we may be able to bring partners together to create meaningful opportunities for people to connect with nature.

*Cumbria In Bloom Cumbria In Bloom - Keeping Cumbria Clean and Welcoming (cumbria-in-bloom.org.uk)

Their main purpose is to engage with groups in Cumbria, encouraging participation in a range of competitions that promote improvement of horticulture, floriculture, and environmental issues in our region.

Closely following Britain in Bloom's campaign guidelines, their cohort of judges visit all projects over the summer to evaluate achievement and offer guidance.

Every Autumn, an awards ceremony is held to recognise and publicise the efforts of those who have taken part. We also nominate finalists for national recognition in the Britain in Bloom Competition.

*Zero Carbon Cumbria <u>Home - Zero Carbon Cumbria - Carbon reduction action across the county.</u>

A new hub for climate action in Cumbria opens its online doors in November. The new Zero Carbon Cumbria website brings together all the great things happening across Cumbria to cut carbon emissions and help Cumbrians play their part in global action to stop the climate crisis.

*Cumbria Wildlife Trust

Our Community Development Team is here to help people connect with wildlife $\underline{\text{Meet the}}$

The team works with community groups and schools to make Cumbria wilder

The Community Development Team wants to enable individuals and groups to play their part in creating a *Wilder Cumbria*. We do this by enabling people to take action, by creating opportunities to volunteer, and helping people learn about nature and wildlife.

The team supports community groups to take action for Cumbria's wildlife & wild places. Discover how you can help Cumbria's wildlife through simple acts you can take at home and in your local area. Browse our list of action pages that give you simple instructions on 'How to' make a difference for wildlife. You'll find all sorts of inspiring and easy ways to help wildlife at home, including 'How to create a hedgehog hole' to 'How to build a pond'.

The team works with schools and other groups to help people learn about Cumbria's wildlife & wild places

We're an experienced team of educators. We're currently developing our specific programme for 2023. In the meantime, please contact us if you've an educational enquiry. In particular, we're looking at Forest Schools training as part of our offer.

We'd love to hear how you want to be part of *Wilder Cumbria* and take action for nature. Please contact any of the team by emailing <u>community@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk</u>

Join the conversation using #WilderCumbria

The Community Development Team is building a network of people who want to be involved in creating a *Wilder Cumbria* and always pleased to hear about what you're doing. So, please do share your images and stories with us, using #WilderCumbria in social or via email community@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk

Some of the Growing and Greening initiatives that are taking place across Cumbria- to inspire you!

*Ulverston Town Council: Ulverston in Bloom is a voluntary group which looks after all planting in Ulverston. This includes all tubs and planters, Jubilee gardens and planted beds around the town. The group have an allotment at Dragley Beck and grow and recycle some of their own plants. An orchard has been planted at Dragley Beck and beehives are to be installed enabling the group to harvest and sell its own honey. The planting is as wildlife friendly as possible.

<u>Ulverston in Bloom - Ulverston Town Council (ulverstoncouncil.org.uk)</u>

Find out more about how Rotarians from the Rotary Club of *Brampton & Longtown together with residents and community organisations have set up a community gardening initiative based on the "Incredible Edible" model.

Their aim is to enhance some areas of the town whilst introducing residents to the opportunity of growing their own fruit and vegetables.

<u>Incredible Edible in Brampton and Longtown - Brampton & Longtown Rotary (rotary-ribi.org)</u>

*Windermere Town Council: Cumbria Windermere Town Council has declared a climate emergency and is implementing strategies to increase the biodiversity of the local woods. Windermere Town Council manages thirty acres of woodland and has worked to actively cut back the overgrown and densely packed woods, intending to bring the woodland floor back to life. The bluebells are reviving and clear of small mammals are returning with the sound of birdsong

Ellleray Wood & Orrest Head - Windermere Town Council (windermere-tc.gov.uk)

Jubilee Garden, *Greysouthen Parish Council - this area is being planted with herbs and fruit trees for community purposes.

Parish wild flowering project is taking place in *Oughterside and Allerby Parish Council

*Loweswater Parish Council have created a wildflower meadow on part of Mockerkin Green.

*Coniston PC: Local group Get Coniston Buzzing, is a project to reintroduce a wildflower meadow in Coniston:

Get Coniston buzzing - Project Update on this exciting project to reintroduce wildflower meadow in Coniston. - Lake District Foundation

Silloth Green is maintained by Silloth-on-Solway Town Council. The Friends of Silloth Green work alongside the Town Council and its grounds maintenance team in ensuring their green spaces are kept to a high standard which has helped them achieve a Green Flag Award for the last 10 years in succession. 'We also allow them to use an allotment at our allotment site free of charge which they use to cultivate things for the Green and to teach the volunteers new skills'.

*Egremont Town Council provides an allotment free of charge to Calderwood House, a hostel in Egremont, helping homeless people get back on their feet.

https://youtu.be/QwTqF_Vuv8s

*Great Salkeld Parish Council: A small field known locally as Otteriggs field in Great Salkeld. 'We will continue to develop the field in any way that will encourage biodiversity and provide a pleasant spot for local residents to enjoy'.

*Workington Town Council: 'Grow Well have a small building and plot within our park'.

Grow Well | Facebook

'Groundworks use our community room; we are working on projects to use our building as a 'living building'.

*Sedbergh Parish Council: A Community orchard is on land provided by Sedbergh School. The Sedbergh in Bloom group plants and attends to flowers and bushes around the town including a small garden adjacent to the Information Centre

*Penrith Town Council: Green Spaces - (penrithtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Their Green Spaces initiatives under Climate Change include:

Grow Nature Fund

The purpose of the Grow Nature Fund is to encourage and support local green projects and its value represents the approximate number of people in Penrith £15,500.

Funded projects must deliver a clear and demonstrable benefit to the natural environment.

Here are some examples:

- Conversion or restoration of community greenspace to wildlife habitat: community orchards, ponds, wildflower meadows/verges, native hedges, street trees or woodlands
- Environmental improvements to a community centre or village hall grounds: installation of bee bricks, bug hotels, swift boxes, nest boxes, tree planting
- Initiatives to reduce single use plastics
- Local wildlife training and monitoring schemes
- Schemes to reduce invasive species, litter, noise, or light pollution in the environment
- Environmental aspects of a heritage restoration scheme
- Initiatives to help local people to connect with their environment.
- Activities which encourage people to grow nature and increase the public understanding and enjoyment of wildlife and heritage

Penrith Woods Project

It's our ambition to significantly increase all forms of canopy cover throughout Penrith, whilst strengthening the protection of our existing backbone of trees, woodlands, and hedges. Penrith Woods is an ambitious tree planting project with the principle aim of fighting climate change.

Value our Green Open Spaces

The Town Council has developed a draft Neighbourhood Plan and Objective 3 purpose is:

To protect green spaces that have been identified as important to both wellbeing and the local community.

*Cummersdale Parish Council: The Cummersdale Copse provide a relaxing area, which was created in 2004. The Copse provides the community to become involved with growing and conserving wildflowers etc.

https://cummersdaleparishcouncil.org.uk/community-information/local-walks/

The PC are hopeful that volunteers will get involved in conserving it.

The PC are supportive of the local Village Hall, that is planning to develop an adjoining garden.

- *Millom Town Council: There are plans to introduce community growing activities i.e., fruit trees/sensory garden (including herbs etc) in Millom Park.
- *Cockermouth Town Council: Trees have been planted in Harris Park extension
- *Lowca Parish Council: 'We have a green space that we have taken over from the Council. It's at the southern approach to the village. It's a combination of short cut grass, flower beds and a designated wildflower area. We took part in the GET CUMBRIA BUZZING initiative in May'.
- *Beck Bottom Community Garden in Hensingham is run by a small group of local volunteers from all age ranges and backgrounds who share a passion for gardening and take great pride in the upkeep of the area.

'We meet up every Saturday morning at 10am (weather permitting) to carry out gardening duties and general upkeep of the area. We welcome anyone, they do not have to have any horticultural knowledge.

We have helped transform a derelict area of former parkland into a cared for and attractive green space accessible to all. We have planted seasonal formal flower beds, rose beds, wildflower meadow areas and blossom trees to attract birds, bees, butterflies, insects, and other wildlife.

We have also constructed our own composting area so we can recycle all of our gardening waste and we practise organic gardening.

Our aim is to maintain and enhance the area known as Beck Bottom, Hensingham for the local community while promoting horticultural education, physical and mental health through gardening in partnership with Copeland Borough Council Open Spaces Department.

We also hope to help people suffering from loneliness and social isolation, we all enjoy a good chat whilst gardening and formed many new friendships. We are also now pleased to announce we are part of Copeland Borough Council's Social Prescribing Programme and can accept referrals from The Joy App.

Beck Bottom Community Garden Group have many plans for the future including herbaceous borders, further wildflower areas, herb garden, footpath improvements to name a few'. For more information look at their FB page: Beck Bottom Community Garden Group | Facebook

*Planting 4 Pollinators Project: Planting for pollinators | Cumbria Wildlife Trust

Cumbria Wildlife Trust together with <u>Cumbria County Council</u>, are working to reverse pollinator decline across north & west Cumbria.

The Planting for Pollinators project will cover over fifty sites. They will create, improve, and connect a mosaic of pollinator-friendly habitats, in turn providing food, shelter and nesting places for the likes of bees, butterflies, wasps and other insects.

Pollinator-friendly habitats include hedges, species rich grassland, scrub, deadwood, banks, glades, and flower rich gardens.

The sites are varied and include roadside verges, farmland, community green spaces, orchards, church grounds, and public & private gardens.

The project is looking to extend to the South West of Cumbria with sites across Barrow and Copeland receiving funding from Cumbria County Council's Environment Fund.

Funding Opportunities

The funding opportunities below relate to the themes of climate change, greening and growing activities.

It is not a definitive list and is as up to date as the most recent version of this document. Each funder has their own application eligibility requirements.

Please click on the relevant links provided to find out more information.

American Express - Community Giving Programme

Grants are available for not-for-profit organisations to help empower more diverse and inclusive workforces and communities, build inclusive economic growth and financial literacy, and advance climate innovation and action.

Funding body: American Express Company

Maximum value: Discretionary

Application deadline: None specified

American Express - Community Giving

https://about.americanexpress.com/corporate-sustainability/community-giving/community-giving-mission/default.aspx

Grant applications

https://about.americanexpress.com/corporate-sustainability/how-to-apply-for-agrant/default.aspx

BA Better World Community Fund (with Crowdfunding)

Grants are available for charities, community benefit societies and social enterprises in the UK who can raise their initial funding through a crowdfunding campaign to support projects that deliver benefits for climate, communities, and nature.

Funding body: British Airways Plc

Maximum value: £ 50,000

Application deadline: None specified

BA Better World Community Fund (with Crowdfunding)

https://bacommunityfund.co.uk/eligibility-

criteria?utm_source=intercom&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=cf_ba-betterworld&utm_content=launch-eligibility

Benefact Trust - General Grants

Grants are available for churches of all denominations and Christian charities in the UK and Ireland that are repairing, restoring, protecting, and improving church buildings, cathedrals, and places of Christian workshops, and helping the most vulnerable by tackling pressing social issues, including homelessness, poverty, climate change and cultural cohesion.

Funding body: Benefact Trust

Maximum value: Discretionary

Application deadline: None specified

Benefact Trust - General Grants

https://benefacttrust.co.uk/which-grant-is-for-me/general-grants/

Trees for Climate Fund

Trees for Climate is a woodland creation fund focusing on the Cumbria Coastal Community Forest area which covers the west coast of Cumbria, from Barrow in the south to Carlisle in the north. It is part of Defra's Nature for Climate scheme which is a national initiative for natural solutions to climate change. A Trees for Climate grant is for anyone wanting to plant trees. The grant is highly bespoke and is open to all - whether you are a parish council looking to add some shade to a green space or a farmer looking to diversify income streams.

Cumbria Woodlands are the Delivery Partner for the Cumbria Coastal Community Forest. Their Woodland Advisory Service can help to identify if your land is suitable for woodland creation within the remit of the Cumbria Coastal Community Forest region. This free service allows landowners to receive advice and site visits to assess the suitability of their land and how it can contribute to the Community Forest.

Funding body:	Cumbria County Council
Maximum value:	No maximum - depends on size of scheme
Application deadline:	Fund now open for planting projects for winter 22/23 and beyond

Visit Cumbria Woodlands' website for more information about the project.

To find out if you are eligible for Trees for Climate funding please complete the <u>Cumbria</u> <u>Woodlands Online Enquiry Form</u> or get in touch by emailing: <u>info@cumbriawoodlands.co.uk</u>.

To download a copy of the application form, please visit: <u>Cumbria Coastal Community Forest | Cumbria County Council</u>

Cumbria County Council - Community Grants

Grants are available to locally based voluntary and not-for-profit groups for local community projects and initiatives that make a difference to communities in Cumbria.

This year Cumbria County Council has committed another £1.2m to fund Environmental Projects in each of the 6 local committees. This is on top 2021/22's £1.2m which was matched with a further £1.2m from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund, this means each Local Area Committee has received a total of £600,000 to spend on projects that enhance the local environment.

The purpose of this ring-fenced fund will be to support a range of environmental improvements or enhancements, covering for example: - enhanced verge maintenance; tree maintenance and replacement; footpath maintenance; nature recovery; biodiversity improvements; and improving the environmental conditions and quality of life 'on the doorstep'.

So far there have been a range of environmental improvements including footpath and cycle path improvements, tree and pollinator friendly planting, educational support into schools and community growing events. Some schemes have secured match funding to bring more funding in to the county, including over £220,000 Forestry Commission funding for tree planting on Barrow's highways.

The councillors have worked closely with district councils, communities, charities, parish, and town councils to consider various schemes and have enabled over 150 schemes being approved for funding to-date.

Funding body:

Cumbria County Council

Maximum value:

£ 1,500

Application deadline:

None specified

Cumbria County Council - Community Grants

http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/yourcommunitysupport/communitygrants.asp

Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust

Grants are available to community groups and organisations for environmental and community projects that are within a 10-mile radius of either Hespin Wood or Flusco Pike landfill sites (in parts of Eden, Carlisle and Allerdale).

Funding body:

Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust

Maximum value:

£ 30,000

Application deadline:

10/01/2023

Cumbria Waste Management

https://www.cumbriawaste.co.uk/environment-trust/

Cumbria Waste Management Environment Trust

https://www.cwmet.org.uk/

Copeland Community Fund

Grants are available for non-profit community organisations carrying out charitable activities which improve community life in Copeland for a significant number of people and address a specific community issue or need.

Funding body:

Copeland Community Fund

Maximum value:

Discretionary

Application deadline:

None specified

The Copeland Community Fund

https://www.copelandcommunityfund.co.uk/

Eden Council - COP26 Community Fund

Grants are available for charities, community and voluntary groups, and other not-for-profit organisations in Eden to support projects and activities that address climate change, and biodiversity, and help local communities to achieve net-zero.

Funding body:

Eden District Council

Maximum value:

£ 30,000

Application deadline:

None specified

Eden Council - COP26 Community Fund

https://www.eden.gov.uk/your-environment/zero-carbon-eden/cop26-community-fund/

Energy Redress Scheme - Carbon Emissions Reduction and Innovation Fund Grants are available to not-for-profit groups in Great Britain for projects that empower householders to reduce their carbon emissions and engage positively with the transition to net zero and for the development of innovative products and services related to energy.

Funding body: Energy Saving Trust

Maximum value: £ 1,000,000

Application deadline: 06/10/2022

Energy Saving Trust

https://www.energyredress.org.uk/announcements

E-Mail: energyredress@est.org.uk

England Woodland Creation Partnerships (WCP) Grants

Grants, incentives and other support are available for woodland creation by farmers, landowners/managers, and community groups, as part of the England Woodland Creation Partnerships.

Funding body: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

Maximum value: Discretionary

Application deadline: None specified

England Woodland Creation Partnerships (WCP) Grants

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/england-woodland-creation-partnerships-grants-and-advice-table

FCC Community Action Fund - England

Grants are available to not-for-profit organisations for public amenity projects eligible under Object D of the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) and located within 10 miles of an eligible FCC Environment landfill site.

Funding body: FCC Communities Foundation (formerly WREN)

Maximum value: £ 100,000

Application deadline: 07/12/2022

FCC Communities Foundation

https://fcccommunitiesfoundation.org.uk/

Freshfield Foundation

Grant for charitable organisations in the UK undertaking projects in the areas of sustainable development, climate change mitigation and overseas disaster relief.

Funding body: Freshfield Foundation

Maximum value: Discretionary

Application deadline: None specified

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Paul Kurthausen

Freshfield Foundation

B W MacFarlane LLP

Castle Chambers

43 Castle Street

Liverpool

L2 9SH

Tel: 0151 236 1494

E-Mail: paul.k@bwm.co.uk

Friends of the Lake District Landscape Grants

Grants are available to charitable organisations, voluntary and community groups, schools, social enterprises and local councils or conservation agencies for projects and activities/events that focus on protecting, enhancing, and experiencing the landscape in Cumbria.

Funding body:

Friends of the Lake District

Maximum value:

£ 2.000

Application deadline:

None specified

Friends of the Lake District - Grants

https://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/Pages/Category/landscape-grants

Green Heat Network Fund (GHNF)

Public, private and third sector organisations in England can access capital grant funding to help new and existing heat networks move to low and zero carbon technologies, such as heat pumps, solar and geothermal energy.

Funding body:

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

Maximum value:

Discretionary

Application deadline:

25/11/2022

Government Announces Green Heat Network Fund (GHNF)

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-generation-of-heat-networks-to-power-uks-green-revolution

Green Heat Network Fund (GHNF)

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/green-heat-network-fund-ghnf

John Gilpin Trust

Small grants are available for small local charities undertaking general charitable activities in Cumbria, Merseyside, or Suffolk.

Funding body:

John Gilpin Trust

Maximum value:

£ 2,000

Application deadline:

None specified

The application process is ongoing and interested applicants may apply at any time in writing.

Contact the John Gilpin Trust for further information.

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Enquiries

John Gilpin Trust

Margary & Miller Solicitors

73 High Street

Southwold

Hubbub Foundation

Offering Grants to Develop Community Food Hubs.

Funding for Community Fridges to increase their social and environmental impact.

As part of its partnership with the Co-op, Starbucks Foundation and Rothschild Foundation, Hubbub will be launching a new Community Fridge Food Hub Fund to expand community-based food activity provision.

Constituted non-profit organisations in the UK can apply for the funding providing they:

Are operating a Community Fridge which is currently open to the public.

Are registered members of the Community Fridge Network

Funding body:

Hubbub Foundation

Maximum value:

£ 6,000

Application deadline:

The fund will open on 3 October 2022 and close at 23.59 on 7

November 2022

https://www.hubbub.org.uk/the-community-fridge

50 grants of £6,000 will be available to cover activities which fall into at least one of the following categories:

*Skills - providing access to training and knowledge-building activities.

*Affordable food - supporting collaborative purchasing and/or local food retail.

*Community Connection - providing opportunities for communities to come together around food.

*Growing - increasing the amount of food grown locally.

There will be a Q&A webinar on 20 October 2022, 1pm to 2pm.

The fund will open on 3 October 2022 and close at 23.59 on 7 November 2022.

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust - Sustainable Future Programme

Grants are available to enable organisations in the UK to develop and promote sustainable, low-carbon alternatives to the current consumerist and growth-based paradigm.

Funding body: Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

Maximum value: Discretionary

Application deadline: 14/11/2022

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

http://www.jrct.org.uk/home.aspx

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust Funding

http://www.jrct.org.uk/funding-priorities#sthash.ubisAC8e.dpbs

Magic Little Grants Fund

Small one-off grants are available to small local charities and community groups for community projects in Great Britain that address themes set out by the funders.

Fund Information

Funding body: Postcode Community Trust

Maximum value:

£ 500

Application deadline:

31/10/2022

Localgiving - Magic Little Grants

https://localgiving.org/about/magic-little-grants/

Mortgage Advice Bureau Foundation (with Crowdfunding)

Grants are available for registered charities and Community Interest Companies who can raise their initial funding through a crowdfunding campaign to support sustainable community projects based across England, Scotland, and Wales.

Funding body:

Mortgage Advice Bureau Foundation

Maximum value:

£ 5,000

Application deadline:

None specified

Mortgage Advice Bureau Foundation (with Crowdfunding)

https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/funds/mortgage-advice-bureau-foundation

National Lottery Awards for All - England

Grants are available for charities, voluntary groups, schools and local authorities in England to carry out projects that will improve their local community.

Funding body:

National Lottery Community Fund

Maximum value:

£ 10,000

Application deadline:

None specified

National Lottery - Awards for All England

https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/national-lottery-awards-for-allengland

National Lottery Community Fund

https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/

National Lottery Community Fund - Reaching Communities

Large grants are available to voluntary and community organisations in England for projects that make positive changes in their communities.

Funding body:

National Lottery Community Fund

Maximum value:

Discretionary

Application deadline:

None specified

The National Lottery Community Fund - Reaching Communities England https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/reaching-communities-england

Ocado Foundation for Good

Grants are available for registered charities, community interest companies, local authorities, and other organisations to support skills development or sustainability projects that bring benefit to communities across the UK.

Funding body:

Ocado Group

Maximum value:

£ 1,000

Application deadline:

31/12/2022

BizGive - Ocado Foundation for Good

https://www.bizgive.app/#/sharable/company/programme/566d0256-2547-47f2-9e8d-b689e9865f92/ca7e8992ee568a5c3eb39c634b8094174b6806c3e438d7aca080a7a80d858af35268fff152c09e9e9efd3a812dc2b6ccc438437abfe8c62998c6339b2aad1d41

Ocado Group - Corporate Responsibility

https://www.ocadogroup.com/our-responsible-business/corporate-responsibility

Patagonia International Environmental Grants

Grants are available to small grassroots activist environmental organisations in the UK and Ireland that are working to protect local habitats and frontline communities through bold, original actions.

Funding body:

Patagonia Europe

Maximum value:

£ 13,500 (15,000 USD)

Application deadline:

30/09/2022

Patagonia - Funding

https://eu.patagonia.com/gb/en/how-we-fund/

Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts - JJ Charitable Trust

Grants are available for organisations undertaking charitable projects focusing on literacy and sustainability of the environment in the UK.

Funding body:

Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts

Maximum value:

Discretionary

Application deadline:

None specified

Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts

http://www.sfct.org.uk/

Sellafield Ltd Social Impact Fund

Grants for local community projects addressing social or economic issues in West Cumbria.

Funding body:

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

Maximum value:

Discretionary

Application deadline:

None specified

of over £10,000, an email must first be sent to the Social Impact team to check that the project meets the criteria.

Sellafield Ltd GOV.UK website

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-sellafield-ltd-grants-and-reusable-equipment

Tree Council - Branching Out Fund

Grants are available to assist schools and community groups in undertaking well-planned tree planting projects across the UK, preferably during National Tree Week.

Funding body:

Tree Council

Maximum value:

£ 2,000

Application deadline:

04/12/2022

The Tree Council

https://www.treecouncil.org.uk/

The Tree Council - Grants

https://treecouncil.org.uk/take-action/grants-for-trees/

Walney Extension Community Fund

Grants are available to a range of not-for-profit organisations for new or existing community and environmental projects that benefit local residents off the Cumbria and Lancashire coast.

Funding body:

Ørsted's

Maximum value:

£ 50,000

Application deadline:

06/01/2023

GrantScape - Walney Extension Community Fund

https://www.grantscape.org.uk/fund/walney-extension-community-fund/

GrantScape - Walney Extension Skills Fund

https://www.grantscape.org.uk/fund/wecf-the-skills-fund/

Zero Carbon Cumbria - Community Climate Grants

Grants are available to local not-for-profit groups supporting community initiatives to raise awareness of climate change and reduce carbon emissions in Cumbria.

Funding body:

Cumbria Action for Sustainability

Maximum value:

Discretionary

Application deadline:

31/01/2023

Cumbria Action for Sustainability

https://cafs.org.uk/climate-grants/

Community Garden Grants - National Garden Scheme (ngs.org.uk)

The National Garden Scheme gives grants to help community gardening projects.

Funding body:

National Garden Scheme

Maximum value:

Individual grants are between minimum £500 and maximum

£5000.

Application deadline:

Currently open

What's all the commode-tion in Keswick Library?

Keswick Library is hosting a take-back event with a difference from Wednesday 2 - Wednesday 9 November. For one week only, people can bring back unwanted aids to daily living to the local library from where they will be collected, cleaned and sanitised for reuse.

Items can be dropped off at the library between 10am and 1pm Monday to Thursday, and 10am to 12pm Friday and Saturday.

Due to supply difficulties, as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, as well as a desire to reuse valuable equipment rather than throwing it away, Cumbria County Council's award-winning Waste and Community Equipment Services have joined forces to appeal for people to return equipment such as commodes, toilet frames, bed levers, over-the-bed tables and shower chairs.

The Council has already introduced a service so people can deliver aids to daily living to their local Household Waste Recycling Centre, but the Library Service has also stepped forward to provide a convenient central location in Keswick for a third pilot take-back event, following successful events in Kendal and Barrow Libraries earlier in the year.

Cumbria County Council's Community Equipment Service provides free equipment across Cumbria to support people to help with normal daily tasks. This helps people stay independent in their own homes, and the service desperately needs returns of equipment no longer in use.

You may have forgotten about no longer needed equipment, or do not know what to do with it, either way you can free up some space by returning the equipment easily and conveniently to Keswick Library from 2-9 November, or to a local Household Waste Recycling Centre after the take-back event has ended.

Walking aids should still be returned to your local hospital. Details of how to do this can be found at: https://www.ncic.nhs.uk/news/for-crutch-sake.

Councillor Celia Tibble, Cumbria County Council Cabinet Member for Environment, said:

"Our aim is to reduce, reuse and recycle as much as possible and this excellent award-winning service does just that. By setting aside this equipment for cleaning and immediate reuse we reduce the energy and transport miles required to get these much-needed resources back into circulation.

"I encourage anyone who has aids for daily living that they no longer need to bring them back to the library or alternatively to take them to their nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre after the take-back event has ended."

Kate Vernon, Service Manager for the Community Equipment Service, said:

"People across the country are facing shortages of the essential equipment they need to stay as active and independent as possible. By creating an easy way for people to return equipment that is no longer needed such as commodes, shower stools and over-bed tables, in a good, clean condition we will be able to help many more people continue to live in their own homes."