

VILLAGE HALL FUNDING

The government has announced that the Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Fund had opened for applications.

The fund is managed by the charity Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) and village halls in England can now apply for grants to improve and modernise their facilities.

Village halls interested in applying can request grants from £7,500 to £75,000, and up to a maximum of up to 20% of eligible project costs. Capital grants will be allocated to support infrastructure improvements, the refurbishment of facilities, such as kitchen and toilets, and measures to improve energy efficiency.

Please note that to be eligible the village hall must serve a community with population below 10,000 people and must be registered as a charity with community management.

The application window will close on 20th January 2023, with successful applicants being able to draw on the funding from April 2023.

More information, including how to apply for the fund, can be found linked below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/village-halls-to-see-major-revamp-as-platinum-jubilee-fund-opens>

<https://acre.org.uk/platinum-jubilee-village-halls-fund/>

CHRISTMAS WASTE AND RECYCLING

Changes to bin collection dates over the Christmas and New Year period will only affect customers used to having their bins collected on a Monday.

Monday customers will need to follow the same routine as normal when a bank holiday falls on a Monday and put their respective bins on the preceding Saturday instead. Bins due to be collected on January 2nd will be collected on December 31st.

Side waste next to bins is unable to be collected, however households can take any additional waste instead to their local Household Waste Recycling Centre. For opening times see Lincolnshire.gov.uk/recycling-waste

Garden waste customers are reminded that collections of these bins reduce in December and January. There shall be no garden collections between the period of Monday December 19th through to Friday January 13th. Collections shall resume again from week commencing 16th January 2023.

Residents can find the latest information at n-kesteven.gov.uk/recycling and check their bin day anytime.

TREE PLANTING OPPORTUNITIES

We are now in tree planting season, the time of year when it is best to plant young trees, and a number of opportunities are available to local groups and landowners.

Please share with interested residents and please keep ClimateAction@n-kesteven.gov.uk informed are undertaking planting in the area.

Please get in touch with The Woodland Trust

COMMUNITY TAI CHI SESSIONS

On 25th November, North Kesteven Community Team from GLL (their leisure providers) hosted a Tai Chi session in Heckington Village Hall.

Heckington was selected because 66% of the parish population do not achieve the minimum WHO guidelines for activity, which are 150 minutes of moderate activity a week (or 75 minutes of vigorous activity). A whopping 45% of the parish population do not complete 30 minutes of activity a week!

Whilst a fantastic service is offered in their leisure centres, not everyone is able to travel to those locations. GLL aim to branch out further and offer services/sessions to people in their local communities, ensuring those who find it difficult to travel don't miss out.

If you would like to see a similar session within your local; community, please feel free to contact GLL's Health and Community Manager for North Kesteven, Shaun Fisher for more information on shaun.fisher@gll.org

LANGUAGE LINE

Language Line is a translation service the Council has available to help support those who do not use English as their first language. It is used to arrange an interpreter to support through a face to face interaction over the phone.

Additionally NKDC can provide translated documents. These can be requested by emailing equality@n-kesteven.gov.uk

There is also the option to automatically translate the council's website into different languages. The 'Select Language' button appears at the top of every page.

If residents may experience language barriers when contacting the Council, please let them know that these services are available.

NEW FUNDING REINVIGORATES UKRAINE APPEALS

The Lincolnshire Community Foundation is pleased to announce the re-launch of the "Big Lincolnshire Welcome Fund", alongside the new introduction of the "Ukrainian Refugee Intergration Fund".

This is thanks to a £150,000 funding boost from Central Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme via Lincolnshire County Council.

Funding is available to give a displaced person from Ukraine the opportunity to choose for themselves what item(s) up to the value of £150 for any individual or £300 for a family unit, they need to make their lives better here in Lincolnshire.

More than 50 Ukrainian guests accessed the fund earlier in the year and this new funding will allow even more people to benefit.

For a full guidance and details how to apply, please visit the Lincolnshire Community Foundation website. Please note that the new applications will be reviewed from this month January 2023.

Ukrainian Refugees Integration Fund opens for community group applications.

Grants of up to £10,000 will be available to any new, emerging, or existing community groups and not-for-profit organisations in Lincolnshire to strengthen their ability to support Ukrainian refugees and help them better integrate into local communities.

Project funding will be awarded to those requests that help reduce isolation, vulnerability and promote cohesion; meaningful activities which have a positive impact on mental health and wellbeing; support around employment and learning, including English language lessons.

Find out more on the Lincolnshire Community Foundation website and please help to spread the word to community groups in your local; area. The closing date for receipt of completed bids for the first round of funding is 31st January 2023.

ROUGH SLEEPERS: SEVERE WEATHER EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

Help is available for rough sleepers across North Kesteven during the winter months with their annual SWEP provision (Severe Weather Emergency Protocol) and other services.

The co-ordinated resource of Change for Lincs, their local Rough Sleeper initiative, supports North Kesteven, West Lindsey and South Holland and provides specialist services for those who may be street homeless or at risk of street homelessness.

Our housing Options Team works in partnership with Change 4 Lincs to identify for all those who may require emergency assistance and assure this is made available, together with appropriate advice and support in terms of any statutory homelessness duties that NKDC will provide.

NKDC aim to provide an emergency placement for any person with a local connection who may be sleeping rough and where from another District, they support to reconnect them to appropriate services.

Should you have any concerns about an individual who may be rough sleeping or wish to report the location of a rough sleeper, the links below can be used to alert Change4Lincs Services or the Housing Options Team to enable emergency contact, and the NK out of hours service is available should any individual require emergency assistance outside usual emergency hours: 01529 308308 Chage4lincs@southkesteven.gov.Uk or housingoptionsteam@n-kesteven.gov.Uk

CALL FOR WARM SPACES TO REGISTER

Please help NKDC develop a list of warm spaces this winter. In common with other Lincolnshire Councils they are encouraging people to register their warm spaces on the warmwelcome.Uk website

Warm spaces are being set up all around the county to help people find respite from cold weather if struggling or preferring not to heat their own home, or simply finding company and fighting isolation during the ongoing cost of living challenges.

www.warmwelcome.Uk/register-your-space

At this time, it is essential that we recognise those who will be working quietly, tirelessly, and often voluntarily, behind the scenes during this year's festivities, for example the Salvation Army, Samaritan's, providers of food banks and homeless accommodation and various crisis and helpline services and come to our rescue in times of need.

Our thoughts too are with the Armed Forces, at home and abroad, and our specialist intelligence services protecting our country from terrorism.

2022 has been a year of substantial change and challenge as a nation, with the loss of Queen Elizabeth II, the war in Ukraine and its global repercussions, climate extremes and ongoing economic pressures.

Characteristically, and in many ways, District residents and community groups have responded to these situations through expressions of generosity, kindness and voluntary endeavour both as individuals and on a community scale, by opening their hearts and in a number of cases their homes to refugees and those in greatest need.

As every act of kindness seeds another and can make the world of difference to those in receipt of the thoughtful gesture, I encourage everyone to consider how they personally could spread a little light, joy and hope within their street, neighbourhood or community in the New Year.

It just leaves me to say to you all have a Happy New Year and a healthy 2023.

Very Best Wishes
Lucille



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www.n-kesteven.gov.uk

There's a range of services available at

n-kesteven.gov.uk

*You can check eligibility for help,
report a problem near you,
find your bin collection days,*

*change Council Tax details,
look at recycling advice and more,
all on our website.*

