



Dorset's Community News

The Latest Community News, Events & Offers from DCA

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This month holds our Village Hall event, sponsored by Hallmaster - who offer "Seamless Bookings For Your Venue" - You can gain a 90 day trial from them by clicking here.

Join us on the 12th September for this exciting event, more information below, although spaces are running low now so don't delay in booking your place. Don't forget we also have the upcoming Trustees Breakfast Club too, so there is plenty to get involved with!

Enjoy reading and please do share across your organisation or community if it might also be of benefit to others.

Get in Touch:

 01305 250921

 info@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk

 [@dorsetcommunityaction](https://www.facebook.com/dorsetcommunityaction)

News around Dorset

Click the underlined words to link to more information.

Update from NAVCA - What you need to know when responding to violence in local communities: A comprehensive guide to support local infrastructure organisations in navigating these difficult times.

Gift Aid Awareness Day 2024 Toolkit and Survey: Get involved on Thursday 3 October and encourage donors to #TickTheBox! CFG (Charity Finance Group) has launched its new Gift Aid Awareness Day campaign toolkit.

Start for Life Toolkits on:

- Breastfeeding
- Introducing Solid Foods
- Home Learning Environment
- Parent/Infant Relationships

The Start for Life website and the Start for Life email programme both offer NHS trusted advice and support, tailored to the stage of a mother's pregnancy or baby's age.

Have you taken thenState of the Sector survey yet? This 30-minute online survey will help shape the future of the VCS in Dorset. Get started and make your voice heard!

Claiming benefits such as Pension Credit, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support is going to be even more important in the coming months, as it will mean that **pensioners will continue to receive the Winter Fuel Payment**. Across BCP, 383 households not claiming their entitled Pension Credit equates to £10,578,877 in unclaimed benefits, according to data from Policy in Practice. The DWP estimates that £1.7 billion of Pension Credit went unclaimed by up to 1 million pensioner households in the financial year 2021/22. Citizens Advice BCP are encouraging people to help clients, patients, family, friends and loved ones to check their eligibility. Anyone who needs more information can contact <https://citizensadvicebcp.org.uk/get-advice/>

Health Literacy Awareness Raising Session. A final thought provoking and highly informative face-to-face awareness raising session is to be delivered by Dr Mike Oliver, coming up on Tuesday 10th September; the Eventbrite booking page is here. Click to read more from Public Health Dorset.



Scan the QR code to report it online

**Don't stay silent.
No Place for Hate
Report it.**

If you are a victim of hate crime or a witness to it, don't just stay silent.

Show that hate doesn't belong here and report it.

Don't stay silent.

Report it.

Go online:

www.dorset.police.uk/hatecrime
 www.report-it.org.uk

Call Dorset Police: 101

Non-Emergency:
Minicom/textphone 18001 101
SMS/Text 67101
Sign Live (via BSL interpreters)

Emergency:

If a crime is in progress, call 999
SMS/Text 999 (pre-registered)
Minicom/textphone 18000

Training & Events

Click the underlined TITLE of each event to read more and book your place.



Trustee Breakfast Club

Date: Wednesday 11th September

Time: 8.30am, with a 90 minute duration (Informal networking from 8.15am)

Where: Online via Zoom

The best way of finding out about the role of a trustee is to meet other trustees. This quarter's networking meeting will be discussing roles and responsibilities of charity trustees. Whether you are new to this, or have been doing this a while, this run through of what is expected of trustees will be useful. We will look at what is legally required - and what is good practice. The session will explain the guidance from the Charity Commission. We will be discussing how to talk about the role to prospective trustees so that it isn't off-putting. There will be a giveaway of a template trustee role description. Plus, an "ask the experts" session where you can share your questions with the group, news and other updates.



In Person - Village Halls Event

Date: Thursday 12th September 2024

Time: 2pm to 5pm

Where: West Moors Memorial Hall, BH22 0HZ

Read more about this event in full detail on the next page, plus bonus information from Utility Aid too.



Supported by:



Artisan Makers Market

Date: Saturday 28th September 2024

Time: 10am to 3pm

Where: Wimborne Community Centre, BH21 1EA

Local Produce, Artisan Crafts and Gifts, friendly cafe, plus dogs allowed.



Save the Date - Funding Festival

Date: Wednesday 13th November 2024

Following on from the success of last year's event, pop this date in your diaries. Including talks and workshops both online and in the room. Last year participants heard about AI and funding, met the funders and '10 new ways of raising money' (Several talks are still available to view at [Funding Festival 2023](#)). To help us shape this event click [here](#) and complete a brief questionnaire before Saturday 7th September 2024.



Our events page has all the latest timetabled activity and updates, so check it out for up to date information.

Village Hall Updates

September Village Hall event further details:

12th September at West Moors Memorial Hall

Our event dedicated to Village Halls.

[Book here](#) to ensure your place.

Supported by:



Included:

- Keynote speech ACRE: What the policy environment will be like going forward, Martyns Law and what support will there be for Village Halls from government
- Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service will speak about the how about the Building Safety Act 2022 changed the requirements for organisations such as Village Halls on fire safety checks and records
- Village and Community Halls - a net Zero Guide A presentation on the new resource and information on Carbon Literacy training
- Presentation of Hallmark awards and announcement of winner of cake fundraiser*
- Presentation on the main issues faced by Village Halls - and announcement of a new training programme

If you are not able to attend, you can reserve a free place to listen to the one or more of the presentations online by clicking [here](#) - this will necessitate a brief free sign-up process and then the "purchase" of the resource. We will confirm the Zoom links for the presentations a day or two before the 12th September.

What would you do with £100?

As part of the event, we are holding a Cake fundraiser. Organisations attending the event can bring with them a "pitch" for a piece of work they want to do.

Your pitch should include:

- Who you are and the community you serve
- What you want to do with the money
- The difference it will make to those using your Village Hall (this is the key one!)

Hand your pitch in at the welcome desk when you arrive and it will be displayed for people to vote on. The pot is raised by everyone purchasing cakes at £1 per portion. Everyone attending the event will be given 5 spots to vote for their favourite pitches. The one that gets the most votes wins the whole pot of money, a tie is decided by the judge.

(We ask the winner to send us a picture of the work when it is completed please.)

Our social media pages are the places to find out the most up to date news and information!



Utility Aid offers a range of services to all sizes of buildings within the third sector, such as Invoice Validation, Net Zero, and Carbon Reporting, which can save you valuable time.

Support:

Our experts check you're not being overcharged by your current supplier, offer honest advice on the current energy markets, and can help you plan for changes in energy charges and how they may affect your budget, in the short and longer term.

Procurement:

Bespoke quotations based on accurate information. Our services are tailored to your buildings, budget, and vision as an organisation.

Net Zero & Carbon Reporting:

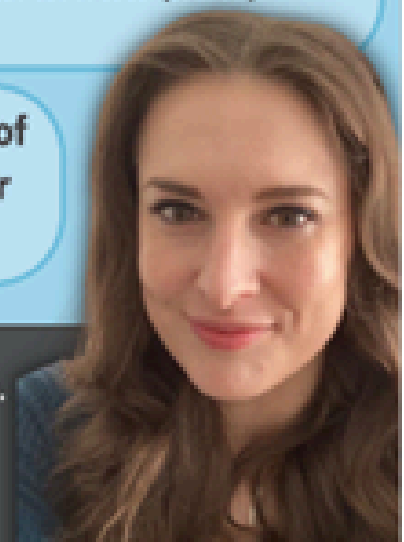
Our in-house assessors can support your organisation with making strategic decisions on investment to reduce energy use.

- Determine the potential for microgeneration across the estate and the impact on Carbon.
- Set building energy targets and reduce the performance gap.
- Decide on a timeline of improvement measures to align with maintenance/improvement budgets.
- Display Energy Certificate (DEC).
- Energy Use Investigation.
- Smart Export Guarantee (SEG).

You can be assured that you will be in safe hands with our team of customer-focused experts. We were awarded the Best Customer Service 2022 (Energy Live Awards).

Get in touch with our Partnerships Manager, Emily Berry, to find out more.

M: 07913519358 T: 0808 178 2021 E: eberry@utility-aid.com



Jobs & Adverts

Click the underlined TITLE to read more.

Patient Safety Partner at NHS Dorset

Information: Patient Safety Partners will help NHS Dorset to ensure the NHS in Dorset can become the best place for patient care.

Can you help us make that happen?

We are expanding our initiative to involve the public in our aim to ensure we review services to make them as safe as possible for patients, public and carers. We are seeking to recruit someone to work alongside our existing Patient Safety Partner, Patient Safety Specialist and the wider Integrated Care System. Our main areas of involvement are in our patient safety and Quality Improvement (QI) work. We are looking for people who are able to consider our work from a public perspective and who will ask how our plans meet the needs of our patients.

If you are motivated to help future patients, carers and families then apply today and see what difference you could make.

There is a flexible time commitment of around six hours a month primarily through online virtual meetings and communications.

The role is voluntary and not paid. Expenses are covered and IT equipment is provided. Further information about the role and an expression of interest form are provided at: <https://ourdorset.org.uk/psp/>



DCA Trustees

Information: Trustees required within our team.

Volunteer role, with many opportunities.

Closing Date: When ideal candidates found.



Room Availability in Wimborne

Information: Openings for flexible hire or 4 hour slots, Mondays & Evenings.

Providing the community with affordable venue hire either for regular classes, meetings, events or training sessions. The centre is an accessible Dementia Friendly facility with fully equipped rooms suitable for a variety of activities.

Contact Jayne on 01202 847 600 or email roomhire@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk



WANT TO ADVERTISE YOUR OWN JOB VACANCY OR EVENT?

Reaching all across Dorset's VCSE and statutory sector community!
[Click here to read more on our advertising options.](#)

NCS Updates for Young People

We have been successful in securing NCS funding to work with young people aged 16 – 17 (16 – 24 if the young person is a care leaver and/or has an EHCP) on employability skills/social action projects.

This offer gives participants the opportunity to work in small groups alongside a coach to design, develop and launch a community/ social action project that will have a positive impact on their community and/or your organisation. Additionally, the project will cover topics such as planning, budgeting, promotion and are designed to support a participant's personal development by improving their confidence, communication and team working skills as well as building connections and opportunities within their own community. Delivery of this project is flexible and can work around the young people and their organisation.

Events have included raising funds for a common room, a celebration event, a children's charity and an animal rescue. All these ideas involved planning, organising and running an event. We have enjoyed a wii bowling tournament, a film event and a cupcake sale among many others.

Participants have told us that their confidence has improved, they have enjoyed learning how to run a successful event and how to work well in a team.

We have fully funded limited places available with projects to be delivered throughout the BCP and Dorset County area. Is this something that you feel might be beneficial to the young people or groups that you work with?

To get in touch, please email Lydia directly here:
lydia.harvey@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk



ATTENTION

Are you 16-17 or 16-25 for those with SEND, care leavers and those experiencing mental health difficulties

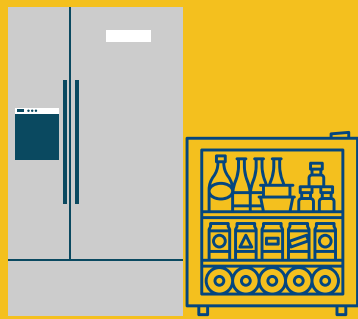
Want to boost your skills, make new mates, do some good and make a change in your community?
YES?
Then our new young peoples team challenge, has you covered!



LYDIA.HARVEY@DORSETCOMMUNITYACTION.ORG.UK
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Dorset Community Action, The Little Keep, Barrack Road, Dorchester, DT1 1SQ.
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Our social media pages are the places to find out the most up to date news and information!



Wimborne Community Centre

COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Food collection
from 8am
Monday to Thursday



WHAT WE OFFER:

- Free to all
- Short date or short life items
- Self-collection from our Fridge within the main seating area of our Cafe
- Preventing food waste and items going to landfill

Our community lounge
is for everyone, come
and be in it!

FIND OUT MORE:



@wimbornecommunitycentre



www.dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk/community-centre/

Resources & Extras

Click the underlined part as the link to read more.

NEW Funding for work with community spaces:

We are very pleased to say that DCA has been funded by Dorset Council to offer support and training for community spaces of all kinds from Village Halls to faith spaces to community centres. We want to help you to beat the challenges of rising prices, less available funding and fewer resources.

NETWORKING:

From next month we will be holding a series of tea-time, online networking meetings with speakers on the subjects that are most useful for you. The first one is on 30th October at 5.30pm and the topic will be financial challenges faced by community spaces and how to tackle them You can reserve your space [here](#). We will be discussing future topics - and the timings of the meetings at this first one.

TRAINING:

We are re-launching our popular FREE bite-sized live training courses. Covering issues specific to community spaces such as fundraising, policies and legal issues, you can attend live and/or see the video of the presentation afterwards. There will be loads of templates and other give-aways to help make life easier for you. The sessions will build up into a bundle of information that committee members of community spaces can access free as needed.

The first session is on 17th October 2024 and will cover:

- **The “must have” policies** – An introduction
- **Marketing for Village Halls & community spaces**
- **Managing a tight budget** in difficult circumstances

Please sign up [here](#) for this session through our training academy. You can join the live session for one or all of these presentations as you like, the times each will start are given above. The recordings of the presentations will be available afterwards.

SUPPORT:

We are able to offer 1:1 appointments for community spaces on any issue that you have. We can have a 45-minute Zoom meeting to discuss the issues in detail and then our consultant will send you the information, links and resources that you need.

Contact Caro Hart at caro.hart@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk for an appointment.

Our Training Academy requires you to set up a FREE account, once complete you'll be able to see all training available!

Funding in Brief

News from Grant Providers

Our members gain exclusive e-bulletins with **fuller tailored funding** information. [Click here](#) if you wish to find out more about this and the other benefits of becoming a DCA Member!



Funder: Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Fund

Who can apply: Those working on a renovation or improvement project (not repair or maintenance), the work must be completed by March 2025.

How much? Grants up to £75,000, broken down as 20% of eligible project costs minimum £7,500 (project value £37,500), maximum £75,000 (project value £375,000).

Important dates: Closing in March 2025 - but applications should go in sooner rather than later.

Funder: Capital Leverage Fund (Round 5)

Who can apply: 'Not for profit' community organisations. Projects need to meet at least one of the [Dorset Council priorities](#) and at least one of the [Cultural Strategy](#) priorities if you are applying as a cultural organisation.

How much? Capital grant of between £1,000 and £25,000, to fund up to 20% of their total project costs. Successful applicants will be required to secure the remaining 80% of costs before any grant is made available to them.

Focusing on: Projects which will provide new and improved facilities for communities and residents in the Dorset council area. The grants can help with funding towards a diverse range of projects, including village hall or community building enhancements, renovations, adaptations, or new build projects, including car parks, play areas, multi-use games areas, theatres, community sports clubs, sports pitches, and landscaping. The council also welcome applications for capital projects that helps to address climate change themes, art, culture, and heritage projects including accredited museums.

Important dates: Applications for this round need to be completed no later than Sunday 8th September 2024.

Applications can only be accepted via the [online application form](#). Find out more on our [website](#).

If you need to speak to someone regarding your application, contact a member of the team by emailing us at communities@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

If you find this snapshot of our funding news useful then why not sign up as a Member to gain the fuller tailored funding information bulletins we offer each month.

Share your stories and join the conversation!

Click on the images for handy quick links to our socials, news and jobs listings.



Did you know?

Out of all twelve months of the year, September is the only month have the same amount of letters as their number in the calendar year.

Also, you can click here to sign up as a DCA Member and start benefiting your Organisation today!

We'd love to know your thoughts and opinions on our service, this insight will help shape our offering and enable us to tailor our priorities to your support.

So do get in touch and let us know what you think

info@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk

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