

Norton Community Trust

Newsletter No 11

June 2022

Well, we really have got some momentum going now on the project to convert the church building into a community hub! All the necessary planning consents have been granted and the legal agreement to acquire the building has been signed. So, we are now able to really get moving on the work. This means that there are going to be lots of opportunities for Norton residents to become more actively involved. First up, in the next few weeks the building will need to be cleared, including the fixed pews - this is the first major step in creating the necessary space for community use. As you can imagine, we will need some help with these activities, and residents who have registered as volunteers will be contacted shortly with a date for starting on this. If you haven't already registered as volunteer and would like to offer to help, just go to our website and complete the volunteer form -

<https://nortonhub.uk/volunteering/> Thanks in advance to anyone who is going to offer to help with this vital work - we'll try to make sure it's fun!

Meanwhile, we're not done with the behind-the-scenes work yet - a Building Regulations application has been made to Powys Council and when approved this will be the basis for preparing detailed build specifications and inviting tenders for the adaption work from suitably qualified developers.

And on the funding side, work is nearing completion on the grant application to the National Lottery Community Fund for £75,000 to help fund the planned capital work. This has been a big piece of work and we're very grateful to our funding sub-group for putting in the hours and effort on this.

As well as these major applications, we also rely on local donations and fundraising initiatives - including recently a fabulous donation of £1500 from Lingen Arts All Inclusive. Thanks also to everyone who

organised and took part in the tombola and raffle at the Jubilee party and the Treasure Hunt over the same weekend - these raised a wonderful £470 in total for the Hub project. We're really grateful to everyone who has already made individual donations - if you would like details on how to donate it's all here -

<https://nortonhub.uk/donations>

And by the way, if you would like to purchase a pew, now is the time to express an interest. The price guide is £100 and the sale proceeds will be shared between the local church PCC and the Hub, with our share going directly towards the cost of new tables and chairs for community use. If you are interested, please contact John, NCT Treasurer (01544 267048 or at jrefausse@yahoo.com)

Also remember the Craft Fair planned for Wents Meadow on Bank Holiday Monday, 29th August - only a couple of months away now. This is a big fundraising opportunity for the Hub - as well as the Craft stalls there will be family-friendly activities, refreshments and information about the project. Please volunteer if you are able to help out on the day, or come along and enjoy the day and help us raise funds. Again, if you haven't already and would like to register as a volunteer please do so on our website -

<https://nortonhub.uk/volunteering/>

We're really keen to meet all of you who have registered as patrons and volunteers, so we're planning a get-together in the Hub - and yes, we mean the former church building which we're getting used to calling "The Hub"! We want to share plans and ideas about how the Hub will operate when it is ready to function, and provide an opportunity to meet other residents and ask any questions about how the project is developing. We'd also really like it to be a springboard for setting up a Hub management committee to concentrate on putting in place the various Hub activities and associated plans which will be necessary - the community consultations over the last four years have already given us a clear indication of the most favoured activities by residents, so lots of ideas to work with. So if you're a patron or volunteer, please pencil the provisional date of 10th

September in your diary - more details will be coming to you. And if you're not but would like to be included, please do register on our website.

Don't forget you can always find more details about the history and progress of the project on the Hub website - www.nortonhub.uk
Which leads me neatly onto the final exciting piece of news which is - we've recently updated our Privacy Notice which is posted on the website. OK, maybe not so exciting! - but vital of course that you all know how we use your details.

Contacts: For enquiries about this Newsletter, contact Maggie James on 01544267109, or email nortoncommunitytrust@gmail.com

Website: www.nortonhub.uk

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The Norton Community Hub project is managed by the Presteigne and Norton Community Trust, a registered charity No: 1195888. It is supported by funding from the Architectural Heritage fund, the Presteigne and Norton Town Council, the Church in Wales and the Norton community.