

OFFER YOUR HELP TO PHASE TWO OF THE HUB

Due to the continued fantastic support of our community, the recent request for additional financial support brought in an extra £33,000 of funding to allow the Ennerdale Hub to continue and grow, but we still need your help.

Volunteering your time or expertise to help our Community is one of the ways in which you can respond to our call to support the Board. There are a range of other volunteering opportunities as well so please read on:



**YOUR
COMMUNITY
NEEDS YOU**

OPEN EVENT

**Monday 13th August
from 7pm
in the Community Room
Upstairs at The Gather**

TO LET US KNOW OF YOUR INTEREST
PHONE (01946 862453)
EMAIL (ENNERDALEHUB@
THEGATHERENNERDALE.COM)
OR DROP IN TO THE GATHER;
LEAVE YOUR NAME AND A CONTACT
TELEPHONE NUMBER WITH THE TEAM THERE
AND, IF YOU CAN MAKE IT,
ASK FOR A RESERVED SPACE AT THE OPEN
EVENT ON 13TH AUGUST.
IF YOU CAN'T, ONE OF US WILL CONTACT
YOU DIRECTLY.
THANKS

FOR
**" THE HUB
PHASE TWO "**

EVERYONE WELCOME



OPEN EVENT AT THE GATHER
MONDAY 13TH AUGUST - 7PM

Ennerdale Bridge has been through an extraordinary phase that makes our community stand out as a very unusual one. We have won plaudits from Royalty, politicians, organisations, the media and from visitors from across Cumbria and far beyond.

Villagers came together back in 2011, to help deliver a village plan devised by the Parish Council. In order to do the entrepreneurial things that were needed and beyond the legal remit of the Council, we formed a cooperative (an Industrial and Provident Society for Community Benefit) to give it a legal framework and The Ennerdale Hub Limited was born.



To finance the first of these projects, the successful reopening of the Fox and Hounds Inn, villagers (and others) bought shares in the Cooperative raising over £70,000: a large majority of the community are Shareholders and supporters.

The Ennerdale Hub had two projects:

- to retain the Fox and Hounds as a village pub (whilst the running of that proved too much for us to manage successfully, we did indeed save it, kept it open for 7 years before handing it on to a new tenant)
- to open a new village facility, now called "The Gather", with community meeting spaces, shop, café and showers/toilets. This is proving to be a huge asset to the community and others, has a high reputation for the services it provides and is a viable business.

The Cooperative is still our legal Framework and has to be run according to a set of rules agreed with the Financial Services Authority. This is managed by a Board who meet every couple of months to ensure that we, and any businesses we run, meet these legal requirements. The Board is made up of local volunteers from the community and sometimes people co-opted to work on the Board because they offer specific skills, experience or knowledge.

WAYS IN WHICH YOU CAN HELP IN PHASE TWO

- **Would you like to stand for election to The Board?**

You have to be a shareholder with a minimum shareholding of £100; if you would like to do this then let us know and come along to an open event when you can find out what is involved.

We would welcome some "new blood" or some "old hands" who perhaps want to return to The Board.

- **If you have skills that you would like to offer, for example if you have a financial or HR background, please let us know and come along to the open event to see how your offer might fit.**

- **You don't have to engage in this formal way; villagers of any age can volunteer to help at The Gather.**

We need people to help us, particularly at busy times and at weekends, to do various front of house and backroom jobs; anything from baking cakes at home, waiting on table to filling shelves or washing up.

It's a great opportunity to feel involved with your local community, meet people, make friends and know that you are making a real difference.

INTERESTED?

**THEN COME ALONG TO AN
OPEN EVENT WHEN YOU CAN
FIND OUT WHAT IS INVOLVED**

Board members generally commit to a term of 3 years, and across more than 7 years since the first Board met a considerable number of local people have helped in this way. Others co-opted to the Board serve for just one year (though they can continue with their ad hoc co-option). We have learnt a lot in 7 years about how to, and how not to run the Board. We have a subcommittee to support the Manager with the day to day business, so the task of Board members in the future is mainly strategic and much less onerous.

Local Employers, especially those involved with Sellafield Sites, welcome their employees volunteering to help their communities; if you work in this and related industries, talk with your employer about how they might support you, perhaps with paid leave on occasions to encourage you to meet the commitment you make to helping out.

Learning from the disappointment of losing the Fox and Hounds, the Board has two new objectives – which is why we refer to it as Phase Two:

1. We have to continue our successful work in building the sustainability of The Gather. As well as the Board, we have a committee of local people who support the Manager to ensure the day-to-day smooth running of the venture.
2. The Hub was founded on the proposal that "The objects of the Society shall be to carry on any business for the benefit of the people of the District of Ennerdale by acquiring and developing facilities for the community which promote social gathering, employment and tourism within the community and provide services and events". Whilst we first have to ensure the sustainability of The Gather, we need to sound out the views of the community for ways we might develop this remit.



Picture courtesy of The Whitehaven News