



Community Links Network

Quarterly Update

April 2025

Welcome to the 3rd edition of the Community Links Network Quarterly Update,

The purpose of this document is to keep you informed with the latest and most relevant information, while also highlighting groups to help promote your hard work.

As with our meetings, we value your feedback and will continue to tailor our content to best meet your needs

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Community Links Network Meeting

3rd April 2025

Location: Horizon Centre – South Norfolk and Broadland District Council

We were thrilled to welcome our highest number of attendees to date, with representatives from a diverse range of South Norfolk and Broadland based initiatives – we're going to have to get a bigger room soon...

We chose to prioritise networking more than ever before, and were repaid with a loud, enthusiastic room of conversation. We are very grateful to all CLN and Wellbeing Champions that continually make the effort to attend our events!

Special Guests – Talking Therapies

Advertising:

Partnership working, job pairings, community events, networking, social media, word of mouth

The main aim of the session was to consider how VCSE sector individuals can continue to best promote the wellbeing of their community - with an informative presentation by Kelvin from [Norfolk and Waveney Talking Therapies](#) (formally The Wellbeing Service) - who are also working hard to provide free, local social events.

As a group we discussed encouragement of open conversation, potential barriers to accessing groups, how to advertise wellbeing and how collaboration can strengthen a group. (Word clouds pictured are taken from notes left by attendees).

Barriers to groups:

Lack of confidence, fear of the unknown, accessibility issues, time poor, neurodivergence, stigma, social isolation, cultural differences, financial difficulty

How to collaborate:

Share network, create a talking culture, social media, newsletters, create a database of : volunteers, resource, contacts etc, agree a common meeting place, whatsapp channels.

Attendees were also invited to take a look at CEVan (our Community Engagement Van), and to talk about how their group may benefit from a visit...

Click [here](#) to see some more photos from the session.

Encouraging open conversations:

More shared spaces, normalise mental health, talk about a range of topics and invite men into wellbeing conversations

Please mark your calendars for July 10th 2025, where we will be taking a closer look at planning and managing community events... [grab your free ticket now!](#)

Thank you to [Clarion](#) for sponsoring this session.

Feedback is important to us. Thankyou to those of you who have previously left feedback, below are some of the lovely comments we received after our most recent CLN session.



Got a spare 2 minutes? - Please consider clicking [here](#) to tell us about what you enjoy about our sessions, and how we could make them even better. We find this incredibly valuable when planning for future sessions.



Grants

You will already be aware that there are numerous grants available out there. We've selected a few to share with you, some of which have upcoming deadlines. This selection is quite general, so if you would like us to conduct a more tailored search for your needs, please get in touch.

Police Property Act Fund

Max Value - £2,500 – Deadline – 23/05/2025

Norfolk's Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Sarah Taylor, is inviting applications from organisations which help local communities, to be utilised for local voluntary and community groups who are working to improve people's lives in Norfolk. This fund has been created where monies are paid in from the proceeds of all sales of property and/or confiscated goods or by order of the court that have been recovered by the Police and which cannot be returned to their original owner. <https://www.norfolk-pcc.gov.uk/services-we-provide/grant-funding/funding-opportunities/>

Shackleton Foundation Grant

Max Value – £15,000 – Deadline – 28/04/2025

Seed funding grants and support are available to inspirational leaders and early-stage social enterprises in the UK to establish their own non-profit ventures with the potential to provide solutions to intractable social problems faced by disadvantaged and socially marginalised young people.

Norfolk County Council Arts Project Fund

Max Value - £500 – Deadline – 31/05/2025

Grants are available for voluntary organisations and community groups to develop and promote a wide range of arts activities and events throughout Norfolk County.

Concertina Charitable Trust

Max Value – £250 – Deadline – 30/04/2025

Small grants are available to registered charities in England and Wales to provide musical activities and related facilities for the elderly community in need.

Warburtons Families Matter Community Grants Programme

Max Value - £400 – Deadline – 05/05/2025

Small grants are available for local projects, activities and organisations that have charitable aims and that will be of real direct benefit to families in England, Scotland and Wales.

[Screwfix Foundation](#)

Max Value - £5,000 – Deadline – 10/05/2025

Grants are available to UK registered charities and not-for-profit organisations for projects that improve, fix, and repair buildings, homes and facilities specifically used by people in need across the UK.

[Asda Foundation - Local Community Spaces Fund](#)

Max Value - £20,000 – Deadline – 28/05/2025

Grants are available for grassroots groups to create, improve or repair local community spaces where people can socialise and reduce loneliness, and boost wellbeing. Improved accessibility to the community space is also funded.

[Bupa Foundation Green Community Grants](#)

Max Value - £2,000 – Deadline – 30/06/2025

Grants are available for schools, registered charities, and not-for-profit organisations across the UK and Republic of Ireland for projects that make a positive difference to the health of local communities.

[Network Rail Community Tree Planting Fund](#)

Max Value - £15,000 – Deadline – N/A

Grants are available for community groups, charities, community interest companies, schools, and other organisations to support tree-planting projects across the United Kingdom.

[Biffa Award Main Grants Scheme – Community Buildings](#)

Max Value - £75,000 – Deadline – N/A

Grants are available for not-for-profit organisations to provide and improve community buildings that are located within the vicinity of a Biffa Operation or Biffa Landfill site in order to 'act as mechanisms' for community involvement.

[Access Without Limits Grants for Community Organisations](#)

Max Value - £10,200 – Deadline – 31/01/2026

Grants are available for voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations to allow them to set up and deliver the Duke of Edinburgh Award to create more opportunities for marginalised young people (14 to 24 years) to access the Award.

[Stobart Sustainability Fund](#)

Max Value – Discretionary – Deadline – N/A

Grants are available to UK non-profit organisations, community groups and educational institutions for projects that address climate change, reduce carbon emissions or protect the environment.

[Mick George Community Fund](#)

Max Value - £30,000 – Deadline – 29/08/2025

Grants are available to voluntary and community organisations for community projects in proximity to a Mick George Landfill site across the East Midlands and Anglian regions. Funding is available for local capital improvement works to public amenity projects in eligible areas surrounding the Mick George Landfill Sites.

[Subs for Clubs | Norfolk Community Foundation](#)

Max Value - £1,000 - Deadline – N/A

Grants are available to help young people most affected by the cost-of-living rises to continue to participate in out-of-school activities like sport, art, and uniformed activities.

[Saracen's Norfolk Fund – Norfolk Community Foundation](#)

Max Value - £5,000 - Deadline – N/A

The Fund aims to maintain and strengthen Charity, Faith organisation, Parish/Town Council, Social Enterprise/CIC, and Voluntary/Community Group based projects that are working within deprived communities and supporting vulnerable people within South Norfolk.

[HornSea 3 - Main Community Fund](#)

Max Value - £75,000 – Deadline – 04/06/2025

Grants for a range of community projects to benefit residents living in the coastal and cable route areas of east Suffolk and Norfolk.

Community Funding

We have several internal opportunities for funding within our local communities which are listed below. Click on the above link to find out more.

Get It Started Grant (Broadland)- Funding for individuals or groups to start projects or activities that bring communities together.

Go For It Grant (South Norfolk) - Funding for individuals or groups to start projects or activities that bring communities together.

Keep It Going Grant - Funding for community groups facing increased expenditure due to rising costs.

Sports Champion Grants – Supporting athletes who are performing at a high standard and looking to fund further training, coaching, physiotherapy, equipment, or competitions.

Community Coach Development Bursary – Limited availability
Supporting Coaches looking to undertake further training.

Members Ward funding – Limited availability

Each of our district councillors has an annual budget of £1,000 to spend on projects within their wards.

Community Grant Scheme (Broadland) – Funding of between £1000 and £15,000 to support communities working together to enhance the life of local people.

Community Action Fund (South Norfolk) - Funding of between £1000 and £15,000 to support communities working together to enhance the life of local people.

Broadland's Community at Heart Lottery - Our weekly online lottery helps non-profit associations or charities raise funds year-round at no cost.

Homes for Ukraine Community Support Grant - Supporting activities that help address the needs of Ukrainian refugees.

Play Streets Grant - Funding to support neighbour-led 'playing out' sessions for children to play freely and safely.

Community Infrastructure Fund Programme - Funding to support parish and town councils to deliver key infrastructure projects.

Marketing support - We must remind you that our visitors from CLN in January, VSCE marketing gurus - [Creativity Unbound](#) – are working in partnership with [Norfolk Community Foundation](#) to offer community groups a [free, 45-minute session](#). They are the powerhouses behind some fantastic branding, such as [The Hamlet](#) and [LGBTQ+ Project](#), so please don't hesitate to contact them if you need support with your marketing, messaging, or outreach.

Group Spotlight

OUTPOST Youth Group – Horsford

Key Information

OUTPOST aims to create a safe, fun environment for young people aged 9-14 in Horsford, promoting community spirit and personal development.

The adults at OUTPOST (A mixture of volunteers and YMCA workers) encourage relations between the young attendees and their local community, alongside providing a free, inclusive safe space, entertainment and wellbeing support - ultimately reducing anti-social behaviour.



Summary of Activities

They run weekly sessions on a Thursday between 6-8pm. If there is ever surplus funding, OUTPOST always invest back into providing extra special sessions, such as laser tag and summer BBQs.

We have recently worked with them to help decorate one of [Break Charity's](#) Mini-G Sculptures. 'Dotty' will be free to visit as part of the [charity trail](#) in and around Norwich this summer – and will then live permanently outside the [new Visitor Centre](#) at [Broadland Country Park](#).

Thank you!

We are especially grateful for the kind words (below) that OUTPOST submitted when we asked them to review the support they'd received. If you'd also consider leaving us some feedback, please click [HERE](#).

*"The support from the Community Capacity Officers has been **greatly appreciated**. Their helpful advice and resources, particularly around funding opportunities, have been **invaluable** in navigating the application process. Their **proactive suggestions and willingness to connect** for further support have made a **positive impact** on our fundraising efforts."*

Group Spotlight

Men's and Women's Shed - Poringland

Registered Charity - 1171564

Key Information



Originally formed in 2014, Poringland [Men's shed](#) is currently growing its newer, [Women's side](#) – and were recently nominated for The National 'Shed Of The Year' Award. Both groups are equally popular and often operate way over capacity. Founded from a desire to tackle social isolation in retired men, members from a variety of backgrounds now enjoy learning from each other through subject expert demonstrations, fixing up broken items, hosting community events for Poringland, and simply socialising with each other. They recently received £1,315 from South Norfolk Counsellors to refurbish their kitchen and social area.

Poignant research from [UK Men's Sheds Association](#) shows that:

- 97% of 'Shedders' made new friends
- 96% felt less lonely
- 89% felt less depressed
- 88% felt more connected to their community
- 75% felt less anxious
- AND 39% believe they have saved a life that would have otherwise been lost to suicide.

Upcoming Activities

Using a £300 Keep It Going Grant (and further support from Poringland Parish Council, OneStop Partnership Programme, and Roys of Wroxham.) The Sheds are hosting an [open day and plant sale](#) on Sunday 27th April 2025. It is a fantastic opportunity to support a very important community service and we urge you to pop along (with some cash!).

Interested? Keep in touch with upcoming events via their [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [website](#), and contact their [inbox here](#), they are happy to answer your questions.



Our Events : Community Awards

We want to celebrate the unsung heroes of your community,

Do you know someone who goes the extra mile to help others? A dedicated volunteer, an inspiring young person, or a local organisation making a real difference to your community?

These awards celebrate the extraordinary individuals and groups who give their time, energy, and passion to make our districts a better place to live, work, and visit. This could be through organising community events, supporting vulnerable people, or helping to protect the environment.

Why support the awards?

- **Give back to those who give so much** – A simple nomination is a great way to say 'thank you'.
- **Raise awareness** – Help highlight the amazing work happening in our community.
- **A chance to win £250 for charity** – Winners will receive a £250 donation to give to a local charitable organisation of their choice.
- **Celebrate together** – Shortlisted nominees will be invited to a special awards evening, where their hard work can be recognised in front of family, friends, and community leaders.

Broadland - Community Awards - Each shortlisted nominee will be invited to The Royal Norwich Golf Club October 16th 2025, for an evening of food, drinks, networking and fun. With winners being recognised with a certificate, a trophy, and £250 to donate to a fellow good cause. See last years winners [here](#). Nominations close August 31st.

South Norfolk Community Awards – As above – hosted at Bawburgh Golf Club on July 4th 2025. See last years winners [here](#). Nominations close May 30th.



Our Events : 10k races

Why support the 10ks?

These events are a fantastic way to see your district from a different perspective - all whilst participating in an inclusive, fun community activity for the whole family. We are very lucky to have a large volunteer support team, who work hard to create a real buzz of atmosphere on the day. Also, money raised is used to fund some of the Council's most-valued community services - such as the Community Links Network! - with some funds also donated to our Chairman's chosen charity.



Broadland – Marriott's Way 10k.- Sponsored by Orsted.

Starting from Aylsham on Sunday 21st September, this picturesque route follows the old railway line through Broadlands countryside, before finishing in Reepham marketplace. The run is flat and mostly off road, perfect terrain for those who love to hit the trails but also people new to running due to the softer footing. The event is proud to be celebrating its **15th anniversary** this year! Last year, we sold out of tickets in 4 weeks, so don't hesitate...

Book your ticket [HERE!](#)



South Norfolk – EAMA 10k - sponsored by East Anglian Motor Auctions

Proudly celebrating its 7th year, this is our popular Wymondham based 10km race and will see runners complete a one lap circuit from Lady's Lane through to Morley, on November 16th 2025. It is suited to both experienced and new runners, thanks to its steady track and simple navigation.

Book your ticket [HERE!](#)

Overall, the races are not only a fun and healthy activity, but also a meaningful way to give back to the community.



Showcasing Opportunity

Volunteer Extravaganza

Voluntary Norfolk are once again hosting their popular 'Give it a Go' Volunteer Extravaganza at The Forum on Thursday 5th of June, 10:00am-3:00pm, with networking and refreshments from 3:00pm-4:00pm.

It is **free to attend** as a visitor, and for only £36, groups can get the best of both worlds by hosting their own table. Tables are selling fast, so [click here to grab one](#).

This is a fantastic opportunity to...

- **Increase visibility** - Let people know what your mission is, why it is needed, and how this positively impacts your area.
- **Network** - This is a valuable chance to meet potential collaborators and promote partnerships.
- **Engage with the public** - Let attendees have first-hand experience of what your group offers, and show them how they can get involved.
- **Showcase your work** - Shout about what you do well, and take insights from others to help improve your own work.
- **Build a volunteer base** - This is an ideal setting to recruit individuals!



Community Group Toolkit

As always, our community group toolkit is free to view and download [HERE](#). It provides up-to-date support for the most common issues faced by groups such as yourselves. It is great for those of you getting started and can provide useful reminders tips for well-established organisations. We will be revising the kit later this year to ensure that it continues to reflect the current climate.



Communities Team Services

Our South Norfolk and Broadland Council Communities Team offers a wide range of services and projects. Below, you'll find brief descriptions of some of these services with direct links for more information. You can also explore the full range of services [here](#).

[Active Now](#)

Health and care professionals working with patients who could benefit from being more physically active now have a consistent, simplified way to refer patients into physical activity through Active NoW.

Active NoW is the Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care System's (NWICS) coordinated approach to improving physical activity levels for residents who could most benefit from being more active. This includes inactive patients who do less than 30 minutes of moderate-intensity exercise each week, as well as patients living with a long-term health condition (LTC) whose condition could be managed or improved by being more active.

[Tots2Teens](#)

For over 30 years, we have run Broadland-based holiday activities for children aged 5-16 during all school holidays. Great effort has been put in to offer a wide range of activities suitable for a wide age range of children, including those with additional needs.

[Yours Sincerely](#)

Yours Sincerely is a free bi-monthly newsletter available for all residents in Broadland and South Norfolk who feel they would like additional contact, offering friendly and regular contact posted directly to recipients' addresses. Examples of content include suggestions for health and well-being, relevant news updates, how to seek support, friendly chat, recipes and quizzes.

[Community at Heart Lottery](#)

Broadland District Council's Community at Heart Lottery is a weekly online lottery created to support local good causes across the district. If you are a Broadland-based club, non-profit association or charity looking for a reliable and free way to raise funds, this is a great opportunity.

[Better Off Calculator](#)

Our simple, friendly online calculator is designed to reveal the financial support you might not have known you are entitled to. The calculator now has a new 'apply now' feature, for two new grants of up to £2,000 to help people with energy debt or who are struggling with their energy bills.



Everybody needs a bit of extra support from time to time and the Help Hub makes sure people get what they need as soon as possible. Please share our services with people in your communities.

Get help

To get help with any of these issues, or with any other problems:

- [Complete a request for support form](#)
- Or, If you live in Broadland call 01603 430431 or email helphub@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk
- If you live in South Norfolk call 01508 533933 or email helphub@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

Our telephone lines are open Monday to Friday from 8:15am until 10pm (excluding bank holidays). Emails will be monitored within office hours of Monday to Friday 8am until 5pm (excluding bank holidays).

Final Notes

At the moment, we have a combined 60 hours a week to cover groups across both South Norfolk and Broadland. Please bear with us if there is a slight delay in getting back to you, rest assured we are working hard to help!



[← ← Emma and Lauren](#)

To contact us directly for any [queries or assistance with community groups and organisations](#), please contact : communitycapacity@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

Don't forget to join our [Facebook page](#) for regular updates from ourselves and other local groups.

There is so much more our [wider Communities Team](#) can assist you with. For [general communities enquiries](#) please contact: communities@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

If you are interested in featuring in a future [Quarterly Update](#) or would like to present at a [Community Links Network meeting](#), we would love to hear from you.

Thank you,

Next Community Links Network Meeting:

Thursday July 10th 2025

16:30-18:30

Horizon Business Centre, Peachman Way, NR7 0WF

Tickets out NOW.