

£20,000 from *Leics Together* must be spent by March 2011

Our Community Area Forum* decides

[* covers Woodhouse & Woodhouse Eaves, Anstey, Birstall, Cropston, Mountsorrel, Newtown Linford, Rothley, Swithland, Thurcaston, Ulverscroft, Wanlip]

26 October 2009 - Village Hall Woodhouse Eaves

5.30 p.m. Buffet for 6 p.m. prompt start [ends 9 p.m.]

You must book your place

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www.leicestershireforums.org/mount/about.html

Your Voice, Your Choice

This is not a regular Grants application process. It is a new, participatory way of making decisions about funding, with residents and community groups making spending proposals and voting on them. It starts with residents and community groups sharing their ideas.

What will happen during the workshop?

The workshops are about sharing and discussing your ideas and then prioritising them. The workshops are informal in character. They will take up to 3 hours, although we often finish earlier. A light finger buffet is provided before the start of the meeting.

During the workshops you will work with other delegates to:

- share ideas in small, facilitated, table groups
- prioritise project ideas (to a maximum of 3 projects per table)
- pitch the top ideas from your table to the full group
- score each project on its relevance and quality and vote for your favourite ideas

The end result of the workshop will be a list of projects in the order of preference /priority you and other participants have given them.

How should I prepare?

You don't have to bring a project plan, business case, application form etc. It may help to give some thought in advance to how much money is involved, what the benefits would be

and who should be involved in delivering the project. Don't worry if you don't know the precise answers to these questions – it's your idea that counts.

What happens afterwards?

After the workshops we will work, through a task group, with partners to see how the priority ideas can best be delivered. We'll check the feasibility, costs & benefits, alternative ways of delivery, availability of other funding sources etc. During this stage we will work closely with the organisations / groups that would be involved in delivering the project.

The findings of the task group will be presented at the next forum meeting for the forum to make its final recommendation on how the Forum's budget should be allocated.

What can funding be used for?

Funding can be used for new or existing projects, for ideas that involve you/your community group, or for ideas that will be for others to deliver.

Projects need to have a demonstrable link to the priorities set out for your forum area. We are looking for projects & activities that will provide some lasting or longer term benefits for the area (or part of it) and that do not rely on further funding to continue once this funding has been used.

The following organisations / bodies will be eligible to receive funding:

- Voluntary & Community Sector organisations, constituted local groups and charities (including social enterprises, but excluding political groups)
- Parish Councils, Local Authorities and other statutory agencies

What if my project idea doesn't make it?

We will capture all ideas put forward on the night and we will share these with key partners, who may be able to offer advice on other available sources of funding and support. You may also find that you'll meet a few people at the workshop that can help you further with your idea, irrespective of the funding from the forum's budget.