

Making it Local - August 2009 update

New staff!

It has been a busy few months for the Making it Local team. We now have a complete team! The final staff member to join us is Development Worker Hattie Winter who has experience of developing community and business projects at Taunton Deane Borough Council.

Events!

Other recent activities include attending the Honiton Show where we had stands in both the Blackdown Hills Business Association Marquee and East Devon AONB Marquee. The show was a great success, despite the rain! We talked to lots of people and hope that we inspired some people to submit some projects to us.

Our first project!

We have funded our first project called Digital Mentors. This project aims to offer digital mentoring (ICT help) to organisations and businesses in the Blackdown Hills and East Devon AONB areas. It will do this by offering training sessions and advice to local organisations and businesses. In addition it proposes to train volunteer digital mentors to help deliver this work. For further information please visit <http://digitalmentors.ning.com/>

We need more projects!

We are looking for more projects to fund, so if you have a project idea for your community or business please contact us!! We are a friendly team and encourage people to contact us about their ideas.

We need more people to appraise applications!

We are looking to recruit more volunteer appraisers to help us evaluate submitted applications by identifying the pros and cons of projects before going to the programme decision making group. So if you have experience of working with businesses and community projects we would like to hear from you. If you are interested in becoming an appraiser the next training session for new appraisers will be on Thursday 8th October. Please contact us for further details.

We need more people to join our Consultative Advisory Group (CAG)!

We are also looking for more members to join our Consultative Advisory Group (CAG), particularly representatives of organisations and individuals from the area covered by the Programme. The CAG is an important group for the Making it Local Programme because it provides an update on activities so far, helps to plan for next year, and is a chance to get further information about the programme. The CAG meets twice yearly and the next meeting date will be Thursday 22nd October. So if you are interested in joining this group please contact us.

About Making it Local

Making it Local is a five year European Rural Development Programme offering funding to projects in the Blackdown Hills and East Devon area. For further information please contact us at t: 01823 680 626; e: makingitlocal@devon.gov.uk or visit w: www.makingitlocal.org