



PRESS RELEASE - July 2007

Village and Community Halls benefit from Grant Scheme

Ten village and community halls in Surrey have recently benefited from grants totalling £181,314 under the Surrey Community Buildings Grants Scheme, which is administered by Surrey Community Action's Village and Community Halls Adviser – Doug Williams.

The grants were for a range of important improvements including extensions, improvements to kitchens, installation of double glazing and disabled access facilities.

Surrey County Councillor Ian Lake said "The Surrey Community Buildings Grant Scheme is a very good example of Local Authorities working in partnership with the voluntary sector to improve the facilities of community and village halls, which are such an important part of the local community. The scheme which is jointly funded by Surrey County Council and the 9 participating District and Borough Councils, also represents very good value for the significant benefits brought about by the grants".

Village Halls offer local communities the opportunity to undertake a range of activities, most of which are supported by volunteers. However many people do not necessarily see themselves as a 'volunteer' when helping in their local area, but Surrey Community Action want people to recognise the contribution local volunteers make.

For further details of the Grants Scheme contact Doug Williams, Village and Community Halls Adviser, Surrey Community Action , 01483 459292 ext 225 or email dougw@surreyca.org.uk

Surrey Community Action is resourcing the Voluntary and Community Sector across Surrey through access to advice, training, funding and advocacy. Surrey Community Action actively promotes volunteering and our website www.surreyca.org.uk can signpost you to local opportunities at a volunteer centre near you. Help is especially needed in health or as a school governor.

If you are interested in volunteering the details of local volunteer centres in Surrey are on our website: www.surreyca.org.uk/vb.htm