



Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council

Community Resilience Fund

Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council has created a Community Resilience Fund which is reserved to support the community of the Newbiggin by the Sea Parish through the fiscal difficulties caused because of the cost-of-living crisis. The fund was created following a generous donation from the former Newbiggin Regeneration Group.

The Community Resilience Fund is not intended to be paid directly to residents but will provide support to residents through organised partnership work with voluntary groups, community groups, faith sector organisations, and charitable organisations to provide valid community response and assistance during the cost-of-living crisis.

The Town Council has provided delegated powers to the Clerk with a minimum of three Councillors to pay funds to voluntary groups, community groups, faith sector organisations, and charitable organisations specifically for the provision of the following services to be held within the Newbiggin by the Sea Parish.

- warm spaces (which may be inclusive of hot drinks and activities),
- holiday hunger programmes,
- community cook schemes,
- mental health and well-being sessions

We will also facilitate the provision of advice and support with partner organisations on:

- money, debt, and benefits,
- access to food,
- housing,
- support for children,
- mental health and wellbeing,
- energy, water, phone, and broadband costs,
- Employment,
- general help

Funds may also be made available to support the local Foodbank.

The Community Resilience Fund cannot fund:

- national bodies without a valid and proven local link, branch, or association to the parish or from organisations unable to demonstrate their effectiveness in the parish or real benefit to residents.
- Work which has already taken place, started or where funds will be used retrospectively.
- Activities which are of a political or religious nature.
- Businesses

- Salaries or general out of pocket volunteer expenses
- Pay back loans or costs against any loss (including income) or existing or future debt.
- Building works, property repairs, property maintenance or associated costs (i.e., planning permission fees or architect costs etc.).

Additional notes

- Funds are allocated under the provision of various Local Government Acts and Audit Regulations.
- Town Councillors are governed by a Code of Conduct and have an obligation to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest when considering the allocation of funds.
- The Town Council will encourage effective partnership working across the parish to ensure support for all residents and best value is achieved.
- Funds allocated within the Community Resilience Fund now and in the future will be spent entirely on the provision of services to ease hardship, vulnerability, or food poverty but there may be other issues within the community that arise. There must be a clear correlation between the expenditure and direct benefit to members of the community in easing fiscal difficulties.

Voluntary groups, community groups, must be bona-fide, newly formed or established organisations that are linked with the provision of community support.

A record shall be maintained for every event/session held detailing the number of residents that attended and highlighting how the project has benefitted and made a difference to both the organisation and the community.

- Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council will work alongside organisations to advertise and complete a news release which can be issued to the press, on social media and reciprocal websites.
- Organisations will be invited to attend (or submit a report) to the Annual Town Meeting (held annually in May) to update about any further support they plan to offer or projects they plan to deliver within the Parish.
- If an organisation is unable to fulfil a project or deliver a project to which funding has been allocated, the organisation must immediately repay the funding in full to Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council.