

August 2016

## Welcome to the CCS August Newsletter.

**This month we have a new job opportunity, an invitation to our annual training events, project updates and funding opportunities.**



### JOB VACANCY Communications Officer – Maternity cover

The role would commence on the 7th November 2016 and continue until 8th August 2017, with additional handover days prior to start. Salary £26,293 pa (pro rata) 24 hours per week. Office based in central Taunton.

CCS is a small charity with a big job to do! CCS works to support rural communities with a range of personalised services across the county of Somerset. We are seeking an experienced, enthusiastic, adaptable and capable person to pick up this critical role within our charity. You must be a team player who is willing to go the extra mile to ensure that our digital presence is better than ever and that we communicate effectively with our service users, funders, stakeholders and partners.

**To apply download the job description, personal spec and application form here.**

**Closing date for applications – 12 noon Tuesday 6th September**

**Interviews – Monday 12th September in Taunton**

### **Independent Evaluation of the Somerset Village Agent Project**



CCS is a charitable company limited by guarantee. As the accountable body delivering the Somerset Village Agents project CCS is seeking to appoint an organisation to evaluate the project.

The overarching aim of the Village Agent project is to reduce isolation and help to connect excluded and vulnerable people across rural areas in Somerset with services that can support them. However, the project is constantly evolving and has been enhanced with several pilot projects involving health and social care. This evaluation seeks to establish how the project meets the identified and unmet needs of communities, provides value for money and how it can be commissioned in future.

The opportunity opens for registration on Tuesday 23rd August 2016 and the closing date for registering is Tuesday 6th September 2016.

Submissions must be received by noon on Friday 23rd September 2016 and the evaluation and final report must be submitted by Friday 9th December 2016.

The successful organisation will be appointed by Friday 30th September and if interviews are required these will take place on Wednesday 28th September in Taunton.

CCS reserves the right not to make any appointment and not to accept the lowest priced Tender. Any costs incurred preparing a Tender or attending an interview, if required, is entirely at your own risk. The successful contractor will be invited to enter into a formal contract with CCS.

The total budget for the work including travel and expenses is £13,000 (including VAT if your organisation is VAT registered)

**Your organisation will need to contact CCS using the email address info@somersetccc.org.uk to receive details of the opportunity**

### **The CCS Annual Training, AGM & Workshop**



**6th October 2016, Edgar Community Hall Somerton**

**CCS invites you to attend**

**Morning Session – Community Buildings Training & Networking Event**

- 9:30 Registration, Coffee and Tea on arrival
- 9:50 WELCOME to the Annual Community Buildings Training
- 10:00 HMRC – Employment Guidance. Presenter Lisa How
- 10:30 The Big Lottery Fund Update. Presenter Tim Temple
- 11:05 Crowd Funding For Your Project. Presenter Jane Birch & Guest Speaker Juliet Maclay
- 11:30 Hallmark Award Presentation
- 12:00 Light Lunch

To attend the morning sessions including lunch  
£15 per person subscribing members  
£25 per person non-subscribing members

**Afternoon Session – AGM and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) workshop FREE OF Charge**

- 13:30 Registration, Tea and Coffee on arrival for afternoon attendees
- 14:00 AGM – Community Council for Somerset
- 14:30- Making the most of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The CIL workshop includes presentations and information from local experts including Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC)

- how CIL is working in your District
- how CIL priorities can be evidenced by Neighbourhood and Community Plans and how to draw down the funding.
- real case studies
- conducting effective community consultation.

**To download a booking form, proxy, minutes and agenda click here**

### To Plan Or Not To Plan – CCS workshops

CCS are planning a series of FREE workshops for Town and Parish Councils on the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 funding. They will be looking at how your council can utilise this funding and make the most of this opportunity. It will also be a chance to look at Neighbourhood plans, community plans and other ways to effectively consult your community.

The workshops will cover a range of topics including hearing the latest on local funding arrangements or how CIL is working in a particular district (Council Officers for that district will be speaking at each workshop), how CIL can be spent on priorities from Neighbourhood Plans, community plans and other evidence such as Housing Needs Surveys, and what Town and Parish Councils will need to do to draw down the funding. Somerset Association of Local Councils will be taking part in the events.

**If you'd like to attend this free workshops or need further information please email info@somersetccc.org.uk or speak to Matt Day or Jane Birch on 01823 331222.**

They will take place in four of our district areas.

**South Somerset Edgar hall, Somerton October 6th  
Taunton Deane West Monkton Village Hall November 23rd  
Sedgemoor Woolavington Village Hall February 14th  
Mendip To be confirmed Early 2017**

### **CCS Annual Review**

**The year's achievements from CCS**

**2015 - 2016**

**Download the Annual Review here**

**Or click here to see our online brochure.**

**Supporting you and your community since 1926!**

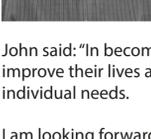


### **New Village Agents**

Village Agents Heather Colman and John Lapwood will be taking on two clusters of parishes in Mendip (pictured in a map patch 23 & 11) and be on the ground working to support the priority. Heather is a qualified counsellor and has been working in private practice since 2012. Prior to starting with CCS, she was the Director of Counselling and Support Services at the mental health charity Mind in Sedgemoor and her role involved overseeing the counselling department and also developing and overseeing the other support services such as an allotment project, tai chi courses and listening service. Whilst training as a counsellor, she volunteered within women's refuges as a trainee counsellor she also worked as a Bereavement Volunteer with the bereavement charity CRUSE.



Heather said: "I'm really looking forward to working as a VA for CCS because the role is so varied and will allow me to meet and connect with a wide variety of people in my local community. I believe that all people are individuals and as such they require different forms of support to meet their differing needs. I also believe that human beings thrive on connection and that everyone could do with support at some point in their lives, perhaps when things are challenging or when life circumstances have left them feeling isolated and alone. The role of VA will allow me to work alongside and support each person when they need it in the most appropriate and suitable way for them."



John has worked for British Gas for over 32 years in various roles from Service Engineer to Training and Development Manager. His preferred time with the company was working on providing customer service as an energy usage advisor. Taking him to meet customers face-to-face in their own homes, from all walks of life and sometimes very vulnerable people.

John said: "In becoming a Village Agent I am looking forward to helping others in rural communities to improve their lives and make a difference, by providing advice and support in providing solutions for their individual needs.  
I am looking forward to the job satisfaction that comes with successful referrals and satisfied clients."

Jinny Uppington Somerset Village Agent said: "I am delighted to have Heather and John on the team expanding our support to cover 64% of rural Somerset. If you are in need of any help or support, get in touch with them and you will be sure to receive friendly, helpful advice on a huge range of topics."

**If you need support or want to talk to any of our Village Agents call 01823 331222 and we will direct you to your local agent or visit the website to get their contact details**

### **Social Enterprise Network Somerset (SENS)**

If you are a social enterprise, co-operative or someone with an interest in the not-for-private sector in Somerset, to join – it's FREE for this year! (A small membership fee will be charged from early in 2016 for those who would like to continue to be a member.)

Members will receive information about forthcoming social enterprise events in Somerset and other issues of interest. They will also be consulted from time to time on a range of issues.

Download a membership form here

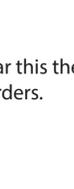
### Bishop Fox's Educational Grants

#### 2016 DEADLINE DATES FOR FORTHCOMING GRANT PANEL MEETINGS

The meetings will be held two weeks after the deadline dates, as detailed below, and you will be informed of the Trustees decision within a week of the meeting date.

**5 September 2016  
14 November 2016**

**To find out who can apply click here**



### **Join the CCS Oil Scheme and save ££s**

Get prepared for the winter months and SAVE ££s on your heating oil. Summer is the ideal time to top up or fill up your tank whilst the prices are relatively low. With the UK's exit from the EU prices are expected to rise over the coming months.

Everyone pays the same price per litre regardless of how much they order. So far this the scheme has saved our members saved our customers over £208,000 on their orders.

**The next order deadline is 6th July or 3rd August.**

**Click here to join the scheme.**

**To find out how you can support CCS click here**

### WE ARE A SMALL CHARITY WITH A BIG JOB TO DO!

CCS like other charities relies on fundraising to deliver work across Somerset. You can help us do this in a number of ways:

- Recycle your stamps
- Raise money for FREE when you make purchases online with 'Easy fundraising' - simply follow the guide and support Community Council for Somerset
- Make a one off Donation - online or by cheque
- Become a Friend of CCS Donate in Memory

