

# Community reduces carbon footprint



Villagers celebrate the suspended ceiling paid for by the grant

# Funding pays for village hall upgrade

By David Lenton

A COMMUNITY venue in a village near Knutsford has been given a cash injection of £5,000 for a refurbishment project.

Allstock Village Hall has a new suspended ceiling and a concealed lighting system thanks to a £3,000 grant from energy company Storengy.

Following the success of the refurbishments, the Allstock social committee has been given a further £2,000 to refurbish the toilet facilities.

Committee member Julia Wilson said: "The lighting and ceiling refurbishments have been extremely useful, particularly to the senior citizens and the caravan club that use the village hall."

An environmental fund of £20,000 has been set up by Storengy to finance projects that will benefit local communities and have a genuine impact on the environment.

They have decided to target Allstock, Byley, Lach Dennis, Lostock and Rudheath.

Julia says she is delighted that Allstock has received a quarter of the funds.

Rachel Jackson, spokesman for Storengy, said: "There was a very positive and appreciative attitude towards us when we visited the hall."

The village hall has also attracted a new generation of people by reducing its carbon footprint and has formed a new weekly youth group.

Julia added: "The youth group is very well attended and already has a waiting list to join."

The youth group has been organised by Allstock resident Penny Chesters and will start from September and will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm.

Storengy is offering grants for the likes of building insulation improvements, waste recycling, protection of endangered species and restoration or creation of a natural area.

A previous round of applications saw schools getting fully equipped and fitted with energy saving light bulbs, solar panels for heating water and micro wind turbines.

To get in touch with Storengy, call 01606 814680.

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