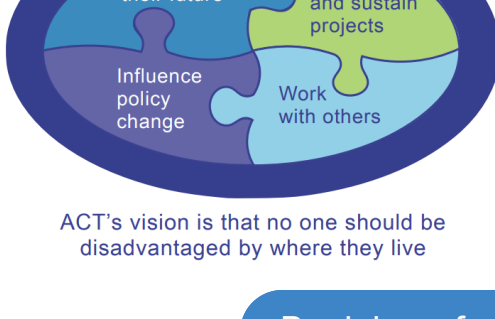


Hello! We have a busy Autumn ahead and want to share some of the things we're doing so you can join us in conversation. We're talking food, energy bills, local planning and resilience, and there is lots more to come. News from friends around the County and essential updates for Community Buildings from our specialist, Hellen Aitken. It's great news that five Cumbrian halls have been awarded funding from the Platinum Jubilee Fund. Well done to everyone involved.

Join us at these ACT events in October and November

The ACT Annual General Meeting and Community Celebration Event, is on Friday 24 October, at Preston Patrick Village Hall, and online.

ACTion with Communities in Cumbria
champions community and rural issues



ACT's vision is that no one should be disadvantaged by where they live

We will be celebrating the amazing work being done by community groups across Cumbria - transport, housing, community buildings, community wellbeing and resilience and, of course, village halls! Join us to show your support, share your story, and learn from others.

We'll also be talking about the National Park's Local Development Plan, why Local Plans are important, and how you can contribute.

[Book here for ACT AGM Oct 24th](#)



What is the Local Plan for the Lake District? Why is it important?

On **Tuesday 21 October** come to Braithwaite Hall and hear directly from Lake District Planners how you can get involved with development of the revised Local Plan - and why it's important that you do. We'll be looking at what guides planning policy and how it can shape places for decades to come.

[Book here for 'What is the Local Plan?' Oct 21st](#)



Join #TheFoodConversation

We're talking about food, here in Cumberland! Over the last year, we've been working alongside The Food Cumberland Partnership and attending Cumberland Council's Community Panel Network events. Find out more [here](#). Now we're holding an **online** conversation, so we can hear from people who haven't been able to attend an in-person Community Panel Network event. When: **Tuesday 4 November, 6.00pm to 7.30pm**

[Email Jozi to join The Food Conversation Nov 4th](#)

If you're fired up about FOOD, take a look at this interesting work by the [Food Farming and Countryside Commission](#) on linking the developing national Food Strategy with the government's new [Pride in Place Strategy](#).



Community Buildings Event

Saturday 15 November, 10am – 12noon [on Zoom](#).

We will be exploring the role of community buildings as 'Community Emergency Hubs'; local venues for co-ordination and respite in response to emergencies, severe weather and power outages - sharing ideas around models and good practice. 'Charge My Street' will with us talking about how electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure can strengthen energy resilience in rural areas.

[Book here for Community Emergency Hubs Nov 15th](#)

Other ACT and Community Buildings News

Village Hall Net Zero Guide updated

Looking to make your hall more energy efficient and environmentally friendly? ACRE's recently updated Net Zero Design Guide for Village and Community Halls provides simple, practical information and case studies for hall committees. [Download here](#) and visit [ACT's Community Buildings web page](#) for more information about help with capital improvement projects.



Research into Rural Caregiving

The London School of Economics are running research interviews about how people who are 65 years and older receive support in their community. They need up to 20 people, who feel they are being cared for in their community, or feel they need more care in their community. Participants will receive £40. [Find out more here](#) and please email if you want to take part info@cumbriaaction.org.uk

News from Friends and Partners

Cumbria Climate Assembly National Launch

Online on October 23, join the national launch of the 17 recommendations proposed by the 42 randomly selected Cumbrian residents who made up the assembly. Britain's most trusted cook and champion of everyday voices Delia Smith, will be in conversation with some of the assembly members. [Book here](#), on the [Futureproof Cumbria](#) website



Celebrate, Engage, Empower!

Join us for [Digital Inclusion Week](#) (DIW), October 6-10 2025, an annual nationwide event dedicated to raising awareness about digital equity and the vital importance of inclusion in our increasingly digital world. This week-long event showcases the collective efforts to bridge the digital divide and highlights the impactful work being done to ensure everyone has access to technology and the internet. This year's theme is: [Community-Driven Digital Futures](#).



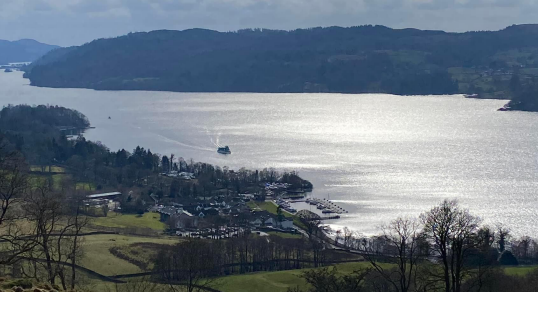
National Lottery Awards for All – Environment

The climate and nature emergency affects us all. Local action can make a real difference. We fund projects that help people connect with and care for nature in their area and which make a positive difference to the environment.

This fund is open until **17 December 2025**. [Read more](#)

Love Windermere Action Plan coming soon

The Love Windermere Action Plan will be published in October. The plan brings together organisations working to improve the health of Windermere and its catchment. It outlines practical, long-term actions to tackle pollution, protect nature, and support people. So, [sign up here for the newsletter](#) to be first to see the plan when it's launched.



Capital funding for community cohesion

The UK Government's '[Common Ground Award](#)' will invest up to £1.7M capital funding into community organisations that bring people together from different backgrounds. Grants of up to £10K available to construct/renovate facilities or purchase equipment to deliver services. Opens 13 October, application deadline 21 November. Grants to be spent by March 2026. [Read more](#)



Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Easyfundraising

With Christmas approaching, this is a good time to register with easyfundraising and generate income for your group when you shop online. £3M is expected to be raised this season, with 8,000 retailers donating a proportion of what's spent, at no cost to you. [Read more](#)



Solway Coast National Landscape Parish Council open evenings

The Solway Coast National Landscape team (formerly Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) work with many organisations, agencies and community groups to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Solway Coast. Working in collaboration with Parish Councils and local communities is extremely important to them. They're holding two open evening to share their latest projects and update on their work. They'll also discuss the opportunity to join their joint advisory committee and help shape the future of the National Landscape for our communities.

- **21st October** at Burgh-by-Sands Parish Hall, 7pm – 8.30pm.
- **23rd October** at Allonby Village Hall, 7pm-8.30pm.

RSVP to laura.singleton@allerdale.gov.uk stating which date you would like to attend.

Have Your Say on the Future of Rural Communities

Make sure your voice is heard loud and clear in national policy by taking part in the Delivering for All Research project launched by the [Rural Services Network](#). This national survey is designed to capture the everyday experiences, challenges and priorities of people living in rural England, from small towns and villages to hamlets and isolated communities and will directly inform Government departments, Select Committees, and MPs representing rural constituencies. Take the survey [here](#):

Take the Survey – Make Rural Voices Heard



Employees shape the future of bus services for the Visitor Economy!

[ACT](#) encourages anyone with views on travel in the Buttermere area to complete [this survey](#). Cumbria Tourism is seeking to gather evidence from workers in the hospitality and tourism industry about their public transport needs, in order to feed into the Lake District National Park's Buttermere Visitor Management Action Plan and inform future planning in Cumbria. They invite any employees reliant on public transport to get to and from work to have their individual voices heard by completing [this short survey](#), by Friday 31 October. Insights will be invaluable in helping them better understand the challenges and opportunities, and inform future transport planning in Cumbria.

And finally...

If you find this information useful, please do share it with others. We'd love you to forward this email to friends and colleagues. You can also follow us on Facebook to keep up with our very latest news and views.

If you are not already an ACT supporter, why not join us? It's free and it means that we can keep in touch with you directly from time to time. You can [unsubscribe](#) at any time from all ACT mailings.

[Become a Supporter](#)

