



HAIL WESTON COMMUNITY UKRAINE SUPPORT



Dear Hail Weston Residents

Our proposal, initially to the Parish Council, to see if we could support a Ukraine family in our village funded by the community, has been met with enthusiasm and given us an enormous amount of encouragement to proceed. We are now writing to confirm we have secured a 'Community House' in the village and a Ukraine family have been sponsored and we await their arrival.

1. COMMUNITY HOUSE

- a. A two-bedroom house known as 'The Community House' has been made available for a Ukrainian refugee family, rent free for 6 months, in the village. An amazing gift to our community, for which we thank the owners for such generosity.
- b. Brittain's Furnishers in the town, are kindly donating new beds, settee, chairs, table and a few other bits and pieces to furnish the house. Again, we are extremely grateful for their support too. **We looking into obtaining a cooker, fridge and kitchen appliances**

2. SPONSORSHIP OF A UKRAINE FAMILY

- a. The sponsorship process has been completed online and we can only wait now.
- b. We are looking at housing a mother and two sons aged 12 and 14. Their father is fighting around Kyiv.
- c. As agreed, we unofficially twinned our village with Lena's town called Cherkasy (Lena is the Ukrainian wife of Nick Miles in the village. (Cherkasy is between south of Kyiv and Mariupol on the river).
- d. Clothing and medical supplies collected by Lena and Nick over the past month have been sent across to support the town. Fund raising is still on-going for medical and body armour, as we communicate. https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stneots-supports-ukraine?utm_term=782eMK49P
- e. We are aware of two further families in Hail Weston that will privately be sponsoring a Ukrainian family also from the same town, Cherkasy. This will make their transition into our community so much easier and less traumatic for all concerned.

3. FUND RAISING AND BANK ACCOUNT

- a. We now have a Community Bank Account set up and the following people will be signatories for this. Nick Abell, Barry Easom and Wendy Baker. It is very important that there will be full transparency, of all income and expenditure, for the HW Ukraine project. (The account was initially set up to support the original Community Plan and associated community projects).
- b. Marian Mulcahy has kindly agreed to support and manage the project with us so that again we have some balanced decisions! I am sure as we go along, others will drop in and out according to the demands and needs within the community, to lend support.
- c. All funds raised will primarily support the running of 'The Community House' i.e:
 - i. Essential utilities – electric, water, rates, house insurance (known costs).
 - ii. We will be looking for a cooker, fridge and kitchen appliances and are looking into this.
 - iii. Supporting the refugee families in Hail Weston village for welfare, school uniforms, essential expenses etc. that are not covered by benefits and grants from the local authority/government.
 - iv. Our community, have been very supportive of this project and we are asking if they can financially support the project initially for 6 months with a:
 1. monthly donation or standing order
 2. a one-off donation payment
 3. See below for information and bank details
 - v. I have contacted the Councilor who is running the Huntingdonshire Ukraine Support Group so I will be tapping into what is available in the way of financial and welfare support, especially Education support. I will update as and when we have further information.

4. EXIT STRATEGY

- a. All the above arrangements for this project need an exit strategy! Therefore:
- b. All housing and financial support given by the Hail Weston Community will be based on a 6-month period. The required minimum government time frame to support refugees.
- c. At the end of the 6-month period, the government/council are responsible for any ongoing support for 'the Community House' family.



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- d. However, after a 5-month review of the project, it may be possible, with additional support from the council, for Hail Weston to continue with our community support, whereby, the owners of 'The Community House' would be happy to receive a commercial rent for the property and a housing benefit is received by the refugee family to support this. We believe this to be fair to the community and the property owner.
- e. HW Community villagers initially financially supporting the project may wish to continue to fund the refugee family in 'The Community House' (refer point 4d) and all the refugee families in the village for a further 6 months. Every supporter will be contacted and fully informed as we progress and develop an understanding of the needs.
- f. Remaining funds, if any, left in the account, once the project is complete. Supporters will be engaged to consider possibilities. For example we could:
 - i. Send the remaining funds to support the town of Cherkasy
 - ii. Keep the funds for future projects in the village.



INTENTION OF SUPPORT

Please email to: WBaker@baker784.co.uk or deliver to Wendy Baker 4 Green Lane, Hail Weston.

Note: All information will be held in confidence

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Name/s | |
| Address | |
| Email address | |
| Phone Number | |
| Intended Donation | |
| Intended Standing Order | |
| COMMUNITY BANK AC | Hail Weston Community Led Plan (Note this account has been made available for the Ukraine Project Only) |
| Sort Code | 20-43-63 |
| Account Number | 23878589 |
| Use Reference | Your Postcode plus House Number (example: PE19XXX-4) |



Thank you all for your support.

Kind regards Wendy and Paul Baker



Mobile: 07811115612 or 07779135032