

STOCKFIELD VILLAGE NEWS



Stockfield
Community
Association

Issue 59
Summer 2020

The quarterly Newsletter from Stockfield Community Association

• Summer Springs into Life

*See inside our summer issue
for the latest news including:*

*Village In Bloom
Building Community Together
Renel – A volunteer's story
Fox Hollies Community Association –
Queen's Award for Voluntary Service*



GREEN GROWERS

During April and May Arts In The Yard have been adjusting to lockdown life and adapting our programmes to support residents during these challenging times. Obviously, we have had to pause our Lottery Community Fund Pop-up Arts Cafe project. Instead we launched a new home gardening project and residents have enjoyed growing vegetables and flowers whilst becoming more connected to their neighbourhood via our online groups.

Thanks to additional funding from Heart of England and Birmingham City Council we are able to extend this programme to more households. And a huge thanks to Lottery Community Fund for continuing to support us during this challenging time and encouraging us to adapt and change our programmes.



We are looking for new and budding gardeners from across Stockfield and Acocks Green to get involved with our new growing initiative. No garden? No problem! We will also have some indoor growing packs. Our free packs contain: compost, pots, seeds and tutorials, plus access to an online support network with fellow residents to encourage and learn from each other. Packs will be allocated on a first come first served basis so please get in touch ASAP if you are interested in getting involved.

For more information please e-mail: aggreengrowers@gmail.com or call:

Daphne on 07847 788 647



FAMILIES ON THE STOCKFIELD ESTATE TO BENEFIT FROM FREE CRAFT PACKS

Over the coming weeks Birmingham PlayCare Network, The Scrapstore Birmingham will be distributing FREE craft and play packs to families on the Stockfield Estate as part of the Building Communities Together Project.

Families will be given a variety of resources and materials to use which will encourage play and creativity. The packs will be real boredom busters with a selection of activities ranging from making your own catapult game and rocket flingers to making your own mask and bugs in a cup! The packs will be accompanied by online tutorials with suggested makes.

They will be generously stocked with at least 6 different activities with resources for more than two children to enjoy.



(Representation of what you could receive in your pack).

Packs also have stationery items including jotters, colouring pencils and pens. We hope to be able to deliver packs to families once a month until September.

We would also welcome your feedback on the packs and what types of activities you would like to get in your next packs.

To tell us in bit more about what you would like to receive please in your July packs please complete our short survey at: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/JK2IGA/>

The Building Community Together project has also enabled us to produce a number of craft packs for residents who use Marshalls coffee shop. To promote the project; we will be giving Marshalls Coffee Shop on Yardley Road (next to the train station) free bags of goodies to give to people who buy a takeaway from them during the month of July. Bags will be one per customer on a first come first served basis, so get in quick!

PICK ME UP POST- CARDS OF KINDNESS

As part of the Building Community Together project Birmingham PlayCare Network will be offering a befriending service with a difference that supports local communities through isolation. The "Pick me up Post" project will support local people to write their own letters or cards of kindness. We encourage the community to post them through a neighbour's door who is self-isolating, or on their own; or leave the post for a key worker.



WATCH THIS SPACE! - Birmingham PlayCare Network will shortly produce, 4 inspirational videos that will be published via the projects Facebook page, based on;

- An introduction to creative letter writing; plus making your own quirky envelopes
- Making simple pop-up cards (3 different designs)
- Hidden extras: inspiration of what to include to make your mail different i.e. photos, tea bag, pressed flowers, secret messages.

Mail a hug: 5 fun ideas for virtual hugs through the post (ideal for children to post to family) - this would include a 'hug video'.

The community will be able to use the Facebook page as a forum to discuss your letters.

*To launch the Pick Me Up post project Birmingham Playcare Network are running a competition to win a free letter writing pack and a reminisce memory box. To enter please email Becky Coley at: beckycoley608@gmail.com to register your interest in the project, stating your name, age and street name. The closing date for entry is 24th July 2020- 5pm. Five lucky winners will be picked at random and will be contacted the following week and receive their prizes! - **Good Luck***

Building Communities Together Partnership Working

During the Summer months Birmingham PlayCare Network will be working with The Stockfield Youth Group to produce a series of play related videos. Led by young people, who live on the Stockfield Estate, the videos will be practical, how to ideas of how to make and play with everyday items. From creating marble runs to building dens. The videos will be accessible online for younger children to watch and make with guidance from the young people.

We look forward to this collaboration and hope in the near future (social distancing permitting) to bring this project into Stockfield park to use as part of the Play in Parks project that usually runs over the Summer holidays.



Have you installed a hot tub, indulged in nostalgia by watching old comedies on the television, looking for room to store copious quantities of loo roll or if none of these, you have been spending time in the garden, not sunbathing but hopefully enhancing your gardening skills? I like to think that with the lack of compost available that the latter is the case.

Our Village in Bloom team could not meet together, but initially I was using the two hours of exercising to water where needed and to keep the weeds down. Whilst doing all this, the hundreds of tulips we had planted in November with help from the 260th Scout Group and other volunteers came out beautifully and brightened up people's lives whilst the horrors were unfolding of the effects of the virus.



As the lockdown lifted, still observing the distancing, we planted up all 22 planters on Acocks Green's high street. Luckily, we had taken an allotment with the plants being dropped there and put into sets. They were transported by car to the planters and individuals planted them to a planting plan. It worked like clockwork. We kept our promise to keep the village enhanced by colourful plants all year round.

Whilst doing this, one of my colleagues was given a £20 donation. I had warned her not to hang around on street corners!

The RHS theme for this year was 'Garden Social.' In the circumstances this, to say the least, was not really apt. However, the allotment had been taken on the encourage those socially isolated to come out and garden and meet new people. We are also looking for volunteers to help to dig it over, although a lot of work has already been done. Due to running out of paint, the outside of the allotment shed is green with a yellow door. Someone said that it looks like a beach hut. Well at least we can pretend to be at the seaside!

During the lockdown, you would not think that we would have additional volunteers, but yes, we have, and people have come forward to water our planters, all aware of course of social distancing. If you would like to volunteer, then contact me:
Fran Lee - Co-ordinator Acocks Green Village in Bloom:
0121 706 0076; e mail: fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk



A Volunteer's Story

Make A Difference's (M.A.D.) first interaction with Renel, 22 years old from Acocks Green, was 10 months ago at Stockfield Park doing outreach work to get young people involved in the volunteer programme with M.A.D. Stockfield Community Association and Bromford. The M.A.D team already knew of Renel's hard work through his involvement with two of the programme's partners, FITCAP CIC and Oasis Hobmoor since 2018. Renel was already leading the male group at the park and the satellite club delivery in the area.



Renel was keen to be part of a youth led project so he could make an impact in his community. Renel says he wanted to volunteer and coach because "I enjoy helping kids when Sport4Life was here for me to keep my head down and made me enjoy playing football a lot more which made me who I am today knowing I could at least help other kids enjoy their dream of becoming a footballer in a good environment rather than in a bad one running the streets and getting into trouble."

Since then he has supported on the M.A.D project by

- Helping to redecorate the POD in Stockfield Park
- Supporting community events



Delivering extra sports sessions at Stockfield Park

Renel always works to a high a standard when volunteering / coaching. Other volunteers and young people look to him for peer advice, knowing that he is always supportive.

He is well known by various organisations across East Birmingham for his outstanding contribution to community sport. With a passion for sport, Renel works as a PE teacher at Clifton Primary School and supports M.A.D projects twice a week as well as FITCAP and Oasis Hobmoor Community Hub projects throughout the year.

Children and young people on the M.A.D project view Renel as a positive role model. He is looked upon as a mature and reasonable adult who constantly shows the ability to deal with challenging situations in a calm and considerate manner.

Renel says "if I wasn't with M.A.D it would just be me trying to learn about coaching kids in a school and just teaching my football session...M.A.D helps me to see more options in coaching. Working in the community with M.A.D has helped me use different coaching skills and help provide different types of support to children and young people. I am happy I found the M.A.D project"

During this current isolation period, M.A.D sessions, events and camps have all been postponed. Despite this, Renel continues to actively support his family and community. Renel states "...me and my brother started helping my mum and dad who are high risk during the pandemic. I help them by getting shopping or medication that they both need at the moment. They can't leave the house, so it is important that we do all the shopping for them."

Renel has also been supporting vulnerable children as a key worker at Clifton Primary School delivering and supporting physical activity sessions.

Renel's work ethic and success is a shining example of the commitment and skills of volunteers and coaches on the M.A.D programme – from practical skills to role modelling to developing trusting relationships with young people that allow them to have a positive experience.



Fox Hollies Forum
Greenwood Avenue
Acocks Green
Birmingham
B27 7RA

Tel: 0121 706 0652

Email: foxholliescommassoc@gmail.com

Fox Hollies Community Association CIO has been awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

Fox Hollies Community Association has a group of volunteers based in the Acocks Green area of Birmingham who have been honoured with this year's Queen's Award, the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the U.K. and is the equivalent to an MBE.

Started over 30 years ago the Association became a registered charity and is now a well-established community group providing vital services to a large deprived interwar estate.

Whilst public services have reduced over the years in our community we have grown to meet local needs.

We are entirely led by local people who understands the needs of the area and are passionately ambitious for the area's future.

Providing and running a range of activities and services for residents, our volunteers offer ongoing support and friendship.

Last year we had 102 people volunteering on a wide range of activities. The volunteers age ranges from 14 to 84-years olds. The total number of volunteering hours worked during the year was 10,658 and represented over £87,502 of unpaid work.

The Fox Hollies Community Association CIO is one of 230 voluntary groups nationally to receive this prestigious award. The Queen's Award for Voluntary Services aims to recognise the outstanding work volunteers have done to benefit their local communities.



David Swingle Chairman of the Association says "We are greatly honoured to receive the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services 2020 in the recognition of our work and that of our many volunteers both past and present. People of Acocks Green must feel immensely proud of their achievements in supporting their local community."

Your Four-page Pull-out of Local Support Services

Organisation	Contact	Food Shopping Essentials	Befriending & Wellbeing	Information, Advice, Guidance	Physical Creative Leisure
Disability Resource Centre Unit 18, Ace Business Park, Mackadown Lane, Kitts Green, B33 0LD	0303 040 2040 http://www.disability.co.uk/ drc@disability.co.uk		Y	Y	Y
Providing a number of telephone and virtual support (Skype, Zoom, Email, social media) support including: Welfare Benefits Advice, Fit 4 Life fitness sessions, Money Wise money advice, and Make It Click 1:1 sessions to help citizens become digitally active. Support available Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm.					
Inspired Steps 205 Kings Rd, Tyseley, Birmingham B11 2AA	0121 296 2897 www.inspiredsteps.co.uk admin@inspiredsteps.co.uk	Y			
In response to the Covid lockdown and after receiving support from the Yardley Neighbourhood Network Scheme (YNNS) we are offering a shopping service for those who may be shielding, self-isolating or uncertain about being able to obtain their shopping during the current concerns of Covid 19. The service is a personally manned by real people and we will then <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take a shopping list via telephone or email • complete the shopping and deliver to the client's home within 48 hours • take payment for the shopping plus the current shopping service charge of £10.99, via contactless debit card over the phone. 					
DigiKick 32 Moors Ln, Birmingham B31 1DH	07920 490 263 info@digikick.co.uk		Y		
DigiKick are providing free telephone tech and IT support to citizens in Birmingham.					
The Active Wellbeing Society Studio 309, The Custard Factory, Gibb Street, Digbeth, Birmingham, B9 4AA	0121 728 7030 info@theaws.org	Y	Y	Y	Y
Part of the feeding communities' network which is supported by staff and volunteers who collect food donations and help prepare, cook and distribute cooked food portions to those most in need. they are also distributing food supplies directly to families, foodbanks and communities so that they can continue to feed their families and neighbours. Referrals can be made to the service here: https://theaws.co.uk/relief/ or those in need can get in touch via WhatsApp on: 07729715765 Monday to Friday 8.00am to 6.00pm					

Organisation	Contact	Food Shopping Essentials	Befriending & Wellbeing	Information, Advice, Guidance	Physical Creative Leisure
Green Lane Masjid 20 Green Ln, Small Heath, Birmingham B9 5DB	Telephone: 07858 150671 Email: gais@greenlanemasjid.org				
Assistance in getting supplies or medicine for elderly or those self-isolating. Volunteers also needed.					
Inspired Steps 205 Kings Rd, Tyseley, Birmingham B11 2AA	0121 296 2897 https://www.inspiredsteps.co.uk/ admin@inspiredsteps.co.uk	Y			
Offering a chargeable shopping, prescription collection and drop-off service suited to community members who are able to pay for a service but are self-isolating or should not be travelling from their home.					
Age UK Birmingham and Sandwell - Hot Meals on Wheels	0121 437 0033 https://www.ageuk.org.uk/birmingham/hotmeals@ageukbirmingham.org.uk info@ageukbirmingham.org.uk	Y			
Providing hot meals to isolated and vulnerable older people in need across North Birmingham and offer referral into other meal provision across Birmingham and Sandwell as and where available. We will also monitor the need and look to expand this service more broadly over the coming weeks should demand and need exist.					
Age UK Birmingham and Sandwell - Telephone Information & Advice Service	0121 437 0033 https://www.ageuk.org.uk/birmingham/hotmeals@ageukbirmingham.org.uk info@ageukbirmingham.org.uk			Y	
Supporting older people with ongoing issues and concerns around welfare, benefits and access to other statutory and social services.					

Organisation	Contact	Food Shopping Essentials	Befriending & Wellbeing	Information, Advice, Guidance	Physical Creative Leisure
Age UK Birmingham and Sandwell - Telephone Befriending Call Service	0121 437 0033 https://www.ageuk.org.uk/birmingham/hotmeals@ageukbirmingham.org.uk info@ageukbirmingham.org.uk		Y		
Providing twice weekly calls from one of our dedicated volunteers to offer reassurance and comfort over the coming weeks, also to identify any additional health and wellbeing needs and refer on to our professional support teams and other referral agencies as needed.					
Age UK Birmingham and Sandwell - Shopping / Prescription Service	0121 437 0033 https://www.ageuk.org.uk/birmingham/hotmeals@ageukbirmingham.org.uk info@ageukbirmingham.org.uk	Y			
Offering referral across to other existing shopping support providers, undertaking shopping where alternative support may not be provided, and offering a prescription pick up and drop off service.					
Oasis Hobmoor Hobmoor Community Centre, 250 Wash Lane, Birmingham B25 8FD	07910605768 OR 07958792394 https://www.oasisacademyhobmoor.org/community/community-hub community_centre@oasis-hobmoor.org	Y	Y	Y	Y
At Oasis, we are united by two core beliefs: that every human being is of equal worth and that each of us can only flourish when we are part of a thriving community. We have a radical and genuinely distinctive vision of community, seeking to reconnect people to each other and to the services they need. Motivated by the life, message and example of Jesus, we are committed to Inclusion, equality, healthy relationships, hope and perseverance and this permeates all aspects of the life and culture of our Hubs.					
Birmingham Settlement 359-361 Witton Road Birmingham B6 6NS	0121 250 0765 www.birminghamsettlement.org.uk money.advice@bsettlement.org.uk			Y	
Free money advice – debt and benefit advice					

Organisation	Contact	Food Shopping Essentials	Befriending & Wellbeing	Information, Advice, Guidance	Physical Creative Leisure
Acocks Green Baptist Church Yardley Road B27 6HG	0121 227 6578 between the hours of 9-2.30pm	Y			
For vulnerable adults and families in Acocks Green. We cook on a Tuesday Wednesday and Friday so if you need us give us a call leave your details and address on the answering machine and the next delivery day; we will drop your meals.					
Acocks Green Foodbank Rear of 100 Westley Road B27 7UL		Y			
Tuesday and Friday 10am – 12pm. This is an open-door food bank to those based in Acocks Green (B27 postcode) and the surrounding areas. Clients do not need a voucher or to be referred; they simply come and can get help.					
Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid	0808 800 0028 https://bswaid.org		Y	Y	
Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid [BSWA] supports women and children affected by domestic violence and abuse. We believe all women and children have the right to live free from violence, abuse and fear. Helpline open 7 days a week 9.15am – 5.15pm - 0808 800 0028					
Barnardo's Fox Hollies Children's Centre 419 Fox Hollies Rd B27 7QA	0121 702 2700	Y	Y	Y	
For families with young children. We provide a range of services to help and support families					
Birmingham Mind	0121 262 3555 https://birminghammind.org/ Dedicated separate line for front line workers – 0121 633 1217		Y		
New 24/7 telephone helpline supporting people in Birmingham and Solihull experiencing mental health difficulties during the current pandemic, now have easily accessible support to help them with common issues such as stress, sadness, disrupted sleep and anxiety. The support line offers confidential emotional help, guidance and reassurance to people of all ages and backgrounds, including key workers, who may be finding the current situation we are living with overwhelming. Dedicated separate line for front line workers - 0121 633 1217					
Caring For Carers	0121 809 5902 caringforcarers@communitiesinsync.info		Y		
Support for Carers who will soon, or have recently lost their loved one, including one to one support, a healing garden project, integration into the community, WhatsApp group and living memory project.					

I HAVE SEEN THE FUTURE AND IT IS ONLINE-SHAPED

Getting online can be a challenge in itself, from not having a device, to not having the skills to get online. Thankfully, we may be able to help on both accounts due to the lovely people at the Good Things Foundation!

Digital Inclusion is close to our hearts, as it can open so many possibilities for individuals. So we are pleased to say you may be eligible for a *free* device to help you build that connectivity to the online world!

There is some criteria to be met, and bear in mind that this scheme is based on donations, so registering interest *doesn't* guarantee you will receive a device. But our fingers are crossed for you!

These devices need to be given to people who meet the criteria of vulnerable adult, which for the purposes of this project means:

BOTH: an 18+ years old Yardley Citizen AND with no access to the internet at home (and who cannot afford to buy a device and connectivity)

AND QUALIFIES IN ONE OR BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

- A. Has received a letter from the NHS asking them to self-isolate for 12 weeks AND/OR***
- B. Has a low income and/or Is aged 70 or over and/or Has an underlying health condition or disability and/or Has no social support network either nearby or at a distance.***

If you already have a device and just need a brush up on some online skills, we have FREE training to offer you, guided by an IT Tutor, and delivered at your ideal pace. Spaces are limited, so get in touch with Johnny ASAP! Flyer attached for the Make it Click project which will be delivered until the end of the year, with the only requirement being 18+, as this is able to be offered nation-wide! *(Tell your friends!)*

We are super excited about both initiatives, and we hope that you will take advantage of these! Get in touch!

If you meet the above criteria, and would like to register your interest in a device, contact *Yardley Neighbourhood Network Scheme* on **07799 904 269**

If you are over 18 and interested in building your online skills with a FREE IT session delivered via telephone, get in touch with *Johnny* on **07799 251 269**

We look forward to hearing from you!

Michael Summers

Community Development Worker
Yardley Neighbourhood Network Scheme





Home Support Services

Helping people in times of need



Yardley constituency area

Lock-down home shopping service

ONLY
£10.99*

We aim to collect and deliver grocery & essential items to your doorstep within 48hrs.

Available in these Yardley postcode

areas: **B25, B26, B27, B33, B10 & B11**

Prescription collection and home delivery also available

*Introductory offer



- ✓ Experienced & DBS checked staff
- ✓ Friendly, safe & affordable service
- ✓ Telephone card payments now accepted

T: 0121 296 2897 www.inspiredsteps.co.uk admin@inspiredsteps.co.uk

Supported by:



Administered by:



COTTESBROOKE INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL

An Academy

Yardley Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham B27 6LG

Telephone: 0121 706 2742

Email: enquiry@cottesbrooke-inf.bham.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mr William Loughlin

NURSERY/RECEPTION CLASS 2020



Is your child, or do you know anyone with children born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 for Nursery or 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 for Reception? We have places available for our nursery and reception classes. Simply complete an application form - available on the school website.

We offer 30 hour nursery provision for eligible parents. Please enquire at the school office (0121 706 2742) for further details.

(Please note we will need to see your child's birth certificate, passport or medical card and proof of address).

Supported by:



Administered by:



CORONAVIRUS



Free Money Advice

Due to coronavirus we have reluctantly taken the decision to temporarily close our offices for face-to-face advice. However, we continue to provide free advice by phone, email and web chat.

For debt and benefit advice including:

- Benefits entitlement
- SSP (Statutory Sick Pay)
- Universal Credit
- Council tax
- Rent arrears
- Mortgage arrears
- Utilities advice—gas, electric, water
- Hardship grants
- General debt advice

Call: 0121 250 0765

Email: money.advice@bsettlement.org.uk

For general advice call: 0121 250 0777

Web chat: go to www.birminghamsettlement.org.uk and click the red chat box

Birmingham Settlement, 359-361 Witton Road, Birmingham B6 6NS

www.birminghamsettlement.org.uk

Registered charity no. 517303

FCA license no. 700033

Want to make a positive impact on your Neighbourhood?

Become a Community Litter Champion

Acocks Green Village in Bloom can supply litter-picking sticks and grey council bags.

Help keep the streets of Acocks Green clean.



If you would like more info contact

Bloom co-ordinator Fran Lee

Fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk 0121 706 0076





**WE ARE OPEN
TUESDAY AND FRIDAY 10AM – 12PM**

The Acocks Green Food Bank, based at the rear of 100 Westley Road, is an open door food bank to those based in Acocks Green (B27 postcode) and the surrounding areas. Clients do not need a voucher or to be referred; they simply come and can get help.

Since the start of COVID-19, we have experienced a massive increase in people coming to use our services. The type of increase that we see around Christmas (as it is a tough time of the year), and we are continuously in need of donations, whether food or financial, to enable us to support the community.

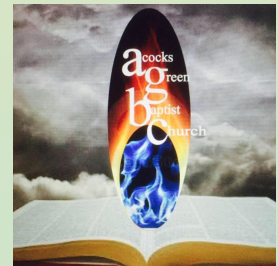
If you can help, please get in touch with Terry Jennings at: 07940 925960

If you know someone who needs help, please encourage them to come and get help - we'd be very happy to help you!

ACOCKS GREEN BAPTIST CHURCH – YARDLEY ROAD

Here at Acocks Green Baptist Church even though we don't have services at the moment we are still very busy.

For those that did not know we used to feed people of the community twice a week on the premises unfortunately we have not been able to do this recently.



This does not mean we are taking it easy in fact we are even busier now than then. Three times a week we are cooking meals for people of the community who find these times that we are living in difficult. Over these three days we cook enough meals for an individual to have seven hot meals a week. You might be saying how much is this service costing well the answer is simple nothing if you are in need.

- If you have been furloughed,
- If you are shielding,
- If you are vulnerable

then you can give us a call and we will set you up with some cooked meals.

We cook on a Tuesday Wednesday and Friday so if you need us give us a call leave your details and address on the answering machine and the next delivery day; we will drop your meals.

Call us on 0121 227 6578 between the hours of 9-2:30pm

Green Watch, C9 Hay Mills Fire Station

West Midland Fire Service (WMFS) have been proud to support our local communities during the Pandemic whilst still being able to respond to 999 calls and maintaining our 5-minute response times to serious incidents. WMFS volunteers have delivered thousands of food parcels and hundreds of medical parcels to the most vulnerable in the community and we have supported local business through these tough times.



Current initiatives from the West Midland Fire Service Slow down

We would like to re-iterate regarding speeding round the area as some of the accidents have been serious. Despite the roads being a lot quieter due to Covid 19, we have had an increase in accidents (some in the Acocks Green area) due to drivers speeding on the quieter roads.

Safe and Well visits

Hay Mills Fire station are still carrying out the visits and fitting smoke alarms to the most vulnerable in the area. If people are not in the vulnerable category, we can still complete a Safe & Well remotely and if needed fit the smoke alarms at a later date.



Street Champions Needed!

During the Covid19 pandemic growing numbers of people in Birmingham are struggling to afford food. Could you become a food champion for your street?

Food banks and other food distributing organisations who help to get food to those in need, are running extremely short of food and we are now at the lowest levels ever seen since the Coronavirus epidemic began. We are asking our communities to come together to help.

Thrive Together Birmingham has been working with Edgbaston Foundation and West Midlands Police since early May to collect donations from in and around Birmingham to bolster supplies at foodbanks and food distributors across the City.

Foodbanks and other food distribution organisations have seen a doubling in people accessing their services during the COVID19 pandemic and more food is needed. Every week food providers all over Birmingham are contacted by Thrive Together Birmingham to see where there is the greatest need and the food is delivered to them by volunteers.

Thrive together are looking for more people to become food champions for their street. To act as a collection point for non-perishable food, toiletries, baby milk, nappies and feminine hygiene products. If you think it would be something your community or Street would like to be involved in, please contact Becky Coley at: beckycoley608@gmail.com

Acocks Greener Project

Acocks Greener is a new community association in Acocks Green and Hay Mills, with objectives:

- To reduce the local carbon footprint (as part of Birmingham's 'Route to Zero' by 2030).
- To enable the local residents and then other areas to access affordable energy and contribute to the community and economic development of Birmingham.
- To re-green our local environment.
- To enable the area to become self-sufficient in its energy-related technologies.
- To contribute in any way to initiatives that tackle the Climate Emergency.

We want to make Acocks Green & Hay Mills the pilot area for climate change initiatives in Birmingham - to try out new ideas, and cooperate with Tyseley Energy Park, the City Council and the Universities. We are a particularly suitable place for pilot and demonstration projects because we so accurately reflect 'average Birmingham' in our social and ethnic mix, deprivation, housing stock and transport. But we also have outstandingly strong community involvement (like the Stockfield Trust) which makes us a really good test-bed and role-model for other areas.

We have support from Acocks Green Councillors **Roger Harmer** (who is a leader on the Birmingham City Council 'Route to Zero (R20) Taskforce) and **John O'Shea** (who is a Birmingham City Council Cabinet member) and:

- Acocks Green Neighbourhood Forum
- Acocks Green BID (Business Improvement District)
- Acocks Green Focus Group
- Acocks Green Village in Bloom
- Tyseley Energy Park (Birmingham's foremost 'energy innovation zone')
- the Energy Institute at Birmingham University <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/energy/index.aspx>
- the Energy and Bio-Products Research Institute at Aston University
- Jericho social enterprise building contractors <https://jericho.org.uk>
- Phil Beardmore of Calendula Consulting

We would like **Acocks Greener** to be able to attract project funding to help the deprived households. Some of our ideas for which we are looking for resources:

1. to get primary school children to build and program **domestic monitoring stations** to install in their homes (to collect data on temperature, humidity, air pollution, noise, energy use, etc) so that we have a base-line from which to compare the impact of any changes.
2. make an **inventory of the housing stock** in our area, indicating: ownership and occupation, size and construction type, suitability for external wall insulation, solar photovoltaic panels, etc. This will help in quickly identifying homes to approach for particular types of project.
3. to retrofit **external wall insulation** and ventilation into housing. It would also give the opportunity to install photovoltaic panels and batteries for suitable homes.
4. to rebuild the many garage-blocks owned and rented out by the city council so that they become **eco-garages**:
 - * *making them wide enough to store a modern car*
 - * *building a second floor which could provide storage (currently virtually all * garages are actually used solely for storage, so that the roads are cluttered with parked cars)*
 - * *installing photovoltaic panels on the roof and electric car charging points so that the electric cars can serve as battery storage overnight.*
5. to install **ground source heat pumps** and sell the hot water to nearby houses as a renewable substitute for gas-fired water heating and central heating. The City Council could become an eco-energy provider in competition with British Gas and other utility providers.
6. to set up an **eco-vehicle car hire club** to offer an environmentally preferable alternative to car ownership.



Stockfield
Community
Association

A MESSAGE FROM OUR REPAIR CONTRACTOR



We are pleased to announce that following the easing of some lock-down measures, recent updates on government advice and a full review of our Safe Systems of Work, we resumed “normal” repairs activity as of Monday 1st June.

We do of course require the full cooperation of residents in order for us to follow the guidance fully. For customers reporting repairs directly to our call centre, they will be briefed as to how we will approach carrying out the work. Furthermore, our engineers will explain the process in detail when attending. Should there be any concerns that might compromise our ability to work safely we will reserve the right to cease work until such time it can be completed safely.

Day to Day – Urgent, routine calls - 0300 561 0040

Out of Hours emergency call – 0300 790 6533

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

A MESSAGE FROM HOUSING MANAGEMENT - ANIL GILL

Dear Stockfield Community Association Tenant

If you have any concerns, questions or want to discuss anything with me regarding your tenancy in the current COVID situation please do contact me on my mobile or email.

Thank you,

Anil Gill

Neighbourhood Coach, Bromford

07540 677807

Anil.Gill@bromford.co.uk