

NEWS RELEASE – 24 October 2011

Residents have their say on NAAFI

More than 60 residents from Lower Compton near Calne got to put their ideas forward this weekend on possible future uses for the ex-NAAFI building and surrounding woodlands.



Residents survey the damage caused by vandalism inside the NAAFI building

Local company the Hills Group hosted the event on Saturday 22 October which started with a tour of the site and was followed by a meeting at the Compton Bassett village hall.

Interested residents packed into the village hall to take part in an exercise to gather ideas on how the project should go forward. A spokesperson for Hills said, "We were amazed by the response we got – not only on the day, but also via email and on our Lower Compton Naafi Facebook page from those who could not attend. The success of this project will be determined by the level of commitment of local people are willing to make. "



Hills will prepare a feedback report on the event and applications are being invited from Lower Compton residents to form a committee [of around 10 people] to work with the company on the project. Those who were not able to attend Saturday's event, but would like to apply should contact monique.hayes@hills-group.co.uk or tel 01672 518941 to obtain an application form. The closing date for submissions is 18 November 2011.

Hills employs 155 people from the Lower Compton and Calne area and this is not the first time that the company will use its expertise and funding to improve the lives and environment for communities in the Calne area. Previous projects include grants via the Landfill Communities Fund of £60,000 to restore St Swithins Church at Compton Bassett, £32,500 for the extension and refurbishment of Compton Bassett Village Hall, £24,500 for the monument outside Calne library, £15,000 to refurbish the Cherhill White Horse, £25,000 to the Beversbrook Sports Facility, £22,000 to build the Tommy Croker Memorial playing field in Cherhill and £21,400 towards the Castlefields-Calne Canal and River Park Restoration. In 2010 Hills planted over 10,000 trees to create a public woodland and nature reserve at Penn Wood, High Penn. It is also a regular sponsor of Calne Town Council events such as the Food and Drink Festival and Community Showcase.

ENDS

Notes to editors:

The Hills Group Limited

Established in 1900 The Hills Group Limited is a privately owned family company with a broad and successful portfolio of business activities which include recycling and waste management; quarrying of aggregates and production of ready-mixed concrete; and building new homes. It is a dynamic regional business which, while centred on Wiltshire, has stretched its boundaries into neighbouring areas. The Group has a turnover of £67 million and employs almost 400 people over 28 sites.

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