



# Community Council for Somerset

Supporting Action in Your Community

## Press release – launch

Tuesday, 27 September 2011

### **SOMERSET CHARITY LAUNCHES NEW SOMERSET COMMUNITY OIL SCHEME – AND SAVES YOU MONEY!**

The Community Council for Somerset (CCS) is delighted to announce the launch of a new venture – the Somerset Community Oil Scheme, which will be good for individuals, good for the environment and good for CCS.

The scheme uses the model of a local buying syndicate for domestic heating oil but will roll it out across the county of Somerset. CCS believes there is great strength in harnessing the purchasing power of the many rural communities who are without mains gas so that together, oil-buyers are able to make significant savings. And even with the scheme in its infancy, experience has already shown that it's possible to make a saving of around £40 on a single order. Individuals, community organisations and businesses can join the scheme for an annual membership subscription of £20, £30 and £100 respectively.

CCS is keen to emphasise the environmental benefits too. Delivery tankers guzzle a lot of fuel and the more deliveries they can make in one place, the less fuel they use. And the fewer tankers there are on Somerset's small country roads, the better.

As a charity that is rooted in supporting action in local communities, CCS wants the new venture to reflect this philosophy. Chief Executive Katherine Armstrong says "In addition to people joining the scheme, the key to making this work will be having local people who will collate the scheme members' oil orders once a month and pass the information on to us." Coordinators will then let the local members know the cost per litre of oil and the delivery date. For doing this the local coordinators will get free membership of the scheme – an annual saving of £20. Scheme members will be able to order as many times as they like during the year, and the price will be negotiated centrally.

To find out more visit the CCS website [www.somersetccc.org.uk/oil](http://www.somersetccc.org.uk/oil), contact us on 01823 331222 or e-mail: [oil@somersetccc.org.uk](mailto:oil@somersetccc.org.uk)

#### **Notes to editors:**

The Community Council for Somerset is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity currently working across the administrative county of Somerset. The Community Council for Somerset was established in 1926 and was originally named the Rural Community Council for Somerset. We are a founding member of ACRE (Action for Communities in Rural England), is the national umbrella body of the Rural Community Action Network, the collective name for the 37 Rural Community Councils: all charitable organisations working with rural communities on community development and regeneration initiatives.



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The Community Council for Somerset is a Company limited by Guarantee,  
Registered in England & Wales No. 3541219, and is a Registered Charity No. 1069260



Our Mission Statement – “**Supporting Action in Local Communities**”

Our Beliefs –

- Giving everyone a voice in the community
- Fairness and courtesy to all
- Being flexible and adaptable to the needs of the community
- Adopting the highest possible professional standards in all that we do
- Working with partners
- Sharing in best practice
- Transparency and accountability
- Investing in the development and well being of employees

Our Aims and Objectives –

- To assist communities in identifying local needs
- To provide access to readily available expert advice, guidance and information
- To enable communities to become more resilient and sustainable by achieving their goals
- To monitor and influence policy and strategy on behalf of local communities
- To enable sharing of best practice
- To support collaborative working
- To ensure inclusivity and opportunity for all.

Further information is available via the website: [www.somersettrcc.org.uk](http://www.somersettrcc.org.uk) or by contacting the office on 01823 331222.