

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release



L to R: Dawn Burnside; Richard Rogers (Groundwork); Derek McClelland; Edward Kearney (Whitemountain Programme); Ann Davey; Mark Simpson; Nigel Dunlop

Whitemountain Programme supports the development of a Jubilee Garden in Royal Hillsborough

A £25,000 grant from the Whitemountain Programme will help Hillsborough Presbyterian Church develop a new garden for the whole community.

Together with the church's own fundraising efforts the grant will be used to transform an overgrown area of unused space next to the church into a community garden to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It will provide an area for quiet contemplation, socialising, and educational activities. The garden has a direct link to Downshire Primary School and will also be used by Beechlawm Special School, Cromlyn Fold and local Child Care Centres.

Breedon Ireland's Whitemountain Programme provides funding for community amenity and biodiversity projects within 15 miles of Mullaghglass landfill site through the Landfill Communities Fund. To date over £8.5million has been allocated to almost 250 projects. These range from sports facilities to community halls, and from wildflower meadows to play areas.

QUOTES

The past two years have really demonstrated the importance of outdoor communal spaces, and we're very pleased to have been able to support the development of this new community garden in the heart of Royal Hillsborough. We've no doubt that it will be a real asset for both residents and visitors.

Richard Rogers
Groundwork Northern Ireland

We recognised that this space was a wasted resource and were determined to bring it into productive use for the whole community. A lot of hard work has gone into developing a plan for the garden, securing planning permission and raising funds. We're absolutely delighted to have received this grant from the Whitemountain Programme to get us over the line and help make our dreams a reality.

Derek McClelland
Hillsborough Presbyterian Church

The Whitemountain Programme has invested over £8.5 million in community amenity and biodiversity projects since it was established in 2007. Environmental regeneration and the development of community facilities are at the heart of the programme, so it's great to be able to support this new garden in such a prominent position in Royal Hillsborough.

With the forthcoming closure of Mullaghglass landfill site there will only be two further rounds of funding, so please check out the fund guidelines and, if your project is eligible, we'd be delighted to receive an application.

Edward Kearney
Whitemountain Programme

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

Groundwork Northern Ireland manages the Whitemountain Programme on behalf of Breedon Ireland.

Groundwork NI is a charity that empowers local communities grown from the ground up, developing sustainable, happy and healthy places to live, work and play. One of our services is to work with partners to manage funds, ensuring money gets to where it is most needed. Throughout the years, we have distributed over £10 million in grants to community and environmental regeneration projects.

Hillsborough Presbyterian Church has been in its current location since 1832 and currently has a membership of 473 families.

HOW TO APPLY

If you have a great community or biodiversity focused project which lies within the 15 mile radius of Mullaghglass landfill site near Lisburn (and within 10 miles of a licensed landfill site), then why not apply?

The programme is currently open for applications. To find out more visit our website

www.groundwork.org.uk/whitemountain or contact us at

whitemountainprogramme@groundworkni.co.uk

Grants of up to £25,000 are available for projects making a positive impact at ground level, either developing facilities for community use or encouraging biodiversity and environmental improvements.

