

PROJECT HARMONY



The Beginning

From small acorns, grow mighty oaks!

Throughout the years of East Anglia Veterans Association(15years) we have discovered that there is a shortfall,and that there is a need for homeless veterans. So with some ongoing research with other national charities and local projects, we will be doing this mammoth project for the foreseeable future, and providing a stable and secure future for homeless veterans and /or spouses.

What

- *Providing short - mid term temporary accommodation for Veterans and / or spouses*
- *Securing long term permanent accommodation*
- *Providing a safe environment for Veterans and / or spouses.*
- *Registering with the relevant council departments, national charities affiliated with the military as well as recruitment agencies.*
- *Developing their life skills to return to the wider community*
- *Retraining programme*

Why

- **Because there is a currently a lack of support for Veterans and / or spouses**
- **To reduce the number of veterans that are homeless**
- **To support the councils with temporary accommodation**
- **Reduce the waiting list**

How

- *Liaise with the Armed Forces Covenant officer*
- *Liaise with welfare officers within the tri services*
- *Continue the the contacts we currently have with national charities*
- *Liaise with various departments within the council*
- *Liaise with homeless shelters within the county and other counties*
- *Continue to work with existing project EG - Project Dignity (Lincs)*
- *Liaise with the prison and probation service*

Veteran support

- *Assist with mental health / wellbeing*
- *Assist with finding permanent employment*
- *Assist them with their finances /budgeting*
- *Make them feel better about themselves, and the wider community*

The outcome

- Financially stable
- Permanent accommodation
- Socially integrated within the community
- Feel better about life!
- Giving them a routine and purpose in life
- Support them through their journey
- Ongoing support after resettlement
- This isn't a 'tick box' venture

Community Projects

- *Food bank, surplus food from the allotment that we will have on site, and /or from local supermarkets, farms*
- *Clothes bank, from donations*
- *Community Garden/ Memorial/Sensory that will be on site*
- *Tea Room, volunteers and veterans*
- *These will be achieved by the support from the local community and local businesses*
- *Support local schools and tri service cadets with outdoor activities*
- *Work with parish councils, if needed*

Financial / Costings

Finance

- ***National Lottery***
- ***Small grants***
- ***Covenant***
- ***Local businesses, possibly providing a service or funds***
- ***General donations***
- ***Fundraising***
- ***Campsite***

Cost

- ***Static caravan, install, transport, furniture £15,000 per caravan.***
- ***Ground work, foundations, etc £70,000***
- ***Land approx £15,000 per acre (7-10 acres)***
- ***Connections of electric, water, sewage £10,000***
- ***General purpose block (showers, toilets, kitchen, meeting rooms) £100,000***
- ***Roadways/ paths £50,000 - £100,000***
- ***Landscaping the site £50,000***

Business Plan

- *12 months - find land, in depth business plan, drawings, funding, marketing and awareness, feasibility study, land searches. Working with local and county councils,*
- *24 months - acquire land, planning applications, policy and procedures, contracts, legal documents in place, site development, insurances, start to involve the community, first of the accommodation in place (3 units), continue to work with the councils as well as other professional bodies, charities etc, continuing sourcing funding/ grants etc*
- *36 months - first residents on site, food & clothes bank established, community room established, purchase of more accommodation (3 units), revenue from residence in accommodation.*
- *48 months - Further site development (nature reserve, allotment, community garden, camping area), open site to the local community, as well as youth groups, schools. Purchase of additional accommodation (3 units)*
- *60 months - fully up and running, ongoing site maintenance, accommodation full, with the additional 3 units of accommodation, 2 of which will be vacant for emergency short term needs EG - 2 -3 months. Ongoing revenue from the accommodation, which will then be used to maintain the site, as well as the opportunity for the residence to re train to gain employment.*

Who we will work with

- **EVERYONE!**
- **The end goal is to secure a happy ending**
- **Project Dignity Lincolnshire (Melissa Shepherd)**
- **Cambridge Veterans Club (Carl Higgs)**