

## A co-operative future for Raunds

### What funding is available for co-operatives in the Raunds area?

The Midlands Co-operative Society have a fund, 'supporting the development of co-operative enterprise in Raunds' (this is not to be confused with the Community Dividend fund). New co-operatives can apply for up to £5,000 and existing co-operatives can apply for up to £20,000. You can apply for the start-up funding and then for the development funding once you are established. Other funding may be available to you as a co-operative including opportunities for loans through co-operative loan funds.

### How can I find out more?

Go to our website at [www.enterprise-solutions.org.uk](http://www.enterprise-solutions.org.uk) and look under 'Raunds Co-operatives Project'.

Contact Enterprise Solutions Northamptonshire at the contact details below.

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# “A co-operative future for Raunds” (and surrounding area)

Do you want to see thriving businesses, sustainable community initiatives or improved facilities for local people?

Do you run a community activity, are you wanting to start a business, do you want to pass your business on to your employees?

**.....then you will want to know more about what co-operatives can offer you.**

'A co-operative future for Raunds' is working in Raunds and the surrounding area to make people more aware of co-operative options and to support the development of new co-operatives to benefit your community and local enterprise.

We hope that you may want to find out more and get involved.



Midlands Co-operative  
The **co-operative** good for everyone

## A co-operative future for Raunds

### What are co-operatives and how might they relate to me?

Co-operatives are about people collectively 'doing it for themselves'.

They are enterprises that are democratically owned and controlled by a group of people. These people may be people who work for the business, customers, users of the services, members of the local community or people who run their own businesses and come together to, for example, jointly market their business.

Co-operatives provide their members with mutual support. They link members together so that they can help one another - perhaps by sharing ideas, costs, resources and equipment.

Co-operatives retain the profits within the community and reinvest them into the business or for community or environmental benefit.

They can be very community based or more business oriented. Examples of activities that can be formed and run as co-operatives include:

- local community centre
- care services
- local food or agriculture co-operative
- an artists co-operative
- community or local transport
- community owned shop or pub
- renewable energy schemes
- neighbourhood nursery
- retail
- manufacturing

In fact any type of business or community activity.

## A co-operative future for Raunds

### Who are co-ordinators and who is involved?

Enterprise Solutions Northamptonshire (ESN) is co-ordinating the project in collaboration with people within the Raunds community. ESN is a small independent co-operative and social enterprise development agency. For more information see [www.enterprise-solutions.org.uk](http://www.enterprise-solutions.org.uk). We are also bringing in other co-operative support bodies with expertise in cooperatives from across the country.

### Who is funding the project?

Midlands Co-operative Society is funding the project until September 2010 after which Enterprise Solutions Northamptonshire will continue to provide support.

### The project area

The area covered by the project is Raunds, Stanwick, Hargrave, Chelveston and Ringstead.

### What is the project doing?

The 'A co-operative future for Raunds' project is or will be:

- Raising awareness of opportunities and options for setting up co-operatives through local contacts, local media, open meetings and other media
- Responding to enquiries from people who are interested in finding out more about coops
- Supporting groups to set up co-operatives
- Running 'workshops' for people to find out more about what running a co-operative is all about
- Assisting with funding applications for the Midlands Co-operative Society fund