



uk steel enterprise

NEWS RELEASE

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**UKSE GRANT ALLOWS COALBURN
COMMUNITY SHOP TO RE-OPEN**

Funding from UK Steel Enterprise (UKSE), the Corus subsidiary tasked with economic regeneration has enabled a South Lanarkshire community group to provide locals with a new village shop.

The Coalburn One-Stop Shop on Coalburn road is a facility set up by the Coalburn Miners Charitable Society and includes an IT suite, internet café, conference facilities and post office as well as an advice and employment service for local people.

The community shop was first established last summer as part of the Coalburn One-Stop-Shop's development programme. The shop, which sells fresh fruit, vegetables and new and recycled goods proved popular with locals and volunteers. However the management of the centre realised the shop premises required a refurbishment to enhance its appeal to the wider local community.

A partnership between UKSE, the South Lanarkshire LEADER Programme and South Lanarkshire Council provided a £5,000 grant for the project and the Coalburn Miners Welfare Charitable Society was able to carry out the essential refurbishment work. Now, with the project nearing completion the centre's manager, George Greenshields reports that the shop's turnover has already increased.

Yvonne Howley from the South Lanarkshire LEADER programme said: "The Coalburn One-Stop-Shop provides an essential community facility and the addition of the community shop definitely enhances the centre, providing an ideal place for people to meet, chat and get to know their neighbours.

“Our Developing Local Communities Fund is a scheme aimed at assisting community-based projects that focus on improving quality of life and economic prosperity and this project is a perfect example of the type of developments we like to invest in.”

“We are delighted to have been able to work with UKSE and South Lanarkshire Council to provide funding for the shop and I hope people in Coalburn will enjoy the customer-friendly improvements.”

Anne Clyde, area manager of UKSE, said: “We were more than happy to provide funding to the Coalburn Miners Charitable Society for the refurbishment of the community shop.

“It provides a much needed service and it has always been well supported by the local residents who have been able to access essential information on employment opportunities and to learn new skills. We hope the community continues to benefit from the Coalburn One-Stop-Shop.”

Ends

Note to editors

UK Steel Enterprise (UKSE)

UK Steel Enterprise, formerly British Steel (Industry) Ltd, was originally established in 1975 by the then British Steel Corporation and is a subsidiary of Corus Group, the company formed from the merger of British Steel and Koninklijke Hoogovens in 1999. Corus Group was recently acquired by Indian company Tata Steel.

UKSE’s main objective is to help in the economic regeneration and development of those areas in the UK which have been affected by changes in the steel industry. UKSE directly helps small businesses – new and existing – to grow and create job opportunities. It also supports other organisations with similar aims.

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