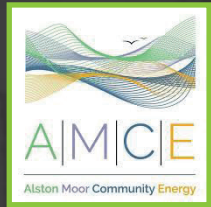


CHARGE MY STREET

This Community Benefit Society was set up and launched with equity raised from a community share offer, to install and operate community electric vehicle charge points in Cumbria and Lancashire. Its vision is for every home to be within 5 minutes' walk of an electric vehicle charging point.



ALSTON MOOR COMMUNITY ENERGY

AMCE was formed to enable the community to have greater control over their energy systems, lower fuel bills for local residents and to increase the generation of low carbon and renewable energy.

ALSTON PRE-SCHOOL

The pre-school was set up by a group of playgroup workers to run the only under five facility in the area. The school has recently relocated into Samuel King's School, providing a one-stop pre-school, primary and secondary education provision for children aged 3 to 16 years.



NENTHEAD CHAPEL ENTERPRISE



Once again the residents of Nenthead took up the challenge to saving and renovating the Methodist Chapel in the centre of their village, which was literally falling down ... it is hoped the chapel will re-open as an Arts and Visitors Centre by the end of 2018.

ALSTON MOOR CRAFTS

Alston Moor and the surrounding area are renowned for its plethora of creative talent. Alston Moor Crafts aim is to provide opportunities for local craft workers to come together to promote and sell their products.



EPIACUM HERITAGE



Described as "the most significant archaeological monument in the region" and located on farmland outside of Alston lies one of England's best preserved Roman forts. Epacum Heritage aims to encourage visitors, research and conservation at the site.

NENTHEAD COMMUNITY SNOWPLOUGH

With households cut-off for weeks following one of the worst winters for sometime in 2009-10, a group of residents established a Community Interest Company converting an ex-MOD 4 x wheel drive truck into a snowplough/gritter.



ALSTON MOOR FILM

When it comes to putting the 'social' into social enterprise, Alston Moor Film certainly does that with their film nights bringing people together for an evening of quality films and good company.

NENTHEAD COMMUNITY TOILETS

After successfully saving their village shop, the residents of Nenthead did not hesitate to save their village toilets when the local council announced they could no longer maintain them.



NENTHEAD COMMUNITY SHOP



More than just a shop and described as the 'beating heart of the village', this community shop and post office was formed when the only shop in the village of Nenthead closed, resulting in a 10 mile round trip for even basic provisions.

ALSTON HEALTHCARE

Setup to develop and test innovative e-health services within the community. Working in partnership with the community hospital and medical practice as well as other health and social care providers, including a number of European action research telehealth projects.



2018
Charge My Street

2014
Alston Pre – School Group

2013
Alston Moor Crafts

2011
Epiacum Heritage

2009
Alston Moor Film

2007
Nenthead Community Shop

2006
The VAR Initiative

2003
Alston Moor Fitness

2002
Cybermoor

2001
Alston Moor Community Transport

1998
Alston Wholefoods Workers Co-operative

2015
Alston Moor Community Energy

2013
Nenthead Chapel Project

2011
Nenthead Community Snowplough

2009
Nenthead Community Toilets

2007
Nenthead Community Shop

2006
Alston Healthcare

2002
The Moody Baker Workers Co-operative

2001
Alston Moor Partnership

2001
The HUB Transport and Heritage Museum

1983
South Tynedale Railway Preservation Society

THE VAR INITIATIVE

Setup to preserve and share traditional building crafts, skills and materials, using ethical, environmentally friendly and sustainable methods.



ALSTON MOOR FITNESS CLUB

The club's primary purpose is running a community gym facility, providing high quality and affordable fitness provision for all members of the community, regardless of their age or ability.



THE MOODY BAKER

Formed by a group of like-minded bakers and inspired by the success of Alston Wholefoods co-operative, this artisan bakery prides itself on "making food with love" and attracts customers from throughout the region.



CYBERMOOR

Alston Moor was thrust into the 21st century when Cybermoor, a community owned co-operative was formed to manage its 'Wired-up Community' initiative, providing all homes with computers and internet access and developing its own community broadband network.



ALSTON MOOR PARTNERSHIP

Supporting the economic, social and environmental development of Alston Moor. Recent projects include the Townscape Heritage Scheme, transforming the town centre and Alston Moor Greenprint, which aims to create a strong, creative and resilient community.



THE HUB MUSEUM

This treasured tourist attraction located adjacent to the railway, houses an amazing eclectic collection of vintage vehicles, memorabilia and photographs, depicting the history and heritage of Alston Moor.



ALSTON MOOR COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

The community transport service has transformed the lives of many by providing a means of combating the social isolation often faced by residents.



ALSTON WHOLEFOODS

This workers' co-operative runs one of Alston's best loved shops ... offering local, regional, organic, fairtrade and special dietary foods, including an exceptional range of cheeses.



SOUTH TYNEDALE RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

As well as a centre of excellence for the restoration of locomotives, rolling stock and railway machinery, the Society also runs an award winning narrow gauge steam railway, attracting up to 40,000 visitors each year to Alston.



ALSTON TOWN HALL AND NENTHEAD AND GARRIGILL VILLAGE HALLS

It is hard to place Alston Moor's town and village halls on the timeline as they have been serving their communities in some variety for a very long time, almost 200 years in the case of Nenthead Village Hall. It is only in more recent years that these community buildings have become more enterprising as they have had to adapt to run in a more business orientated way in order to survive and prosper. The buildings generate income providing both commercial, visitor and event accommodation and other related services.



- Approximately 99,000 social enterprises operating in the UK
- Employing over 1 million people
- Nearly 9% of the UK's small businesses operate as social enterprises

In 2017 published Government figures revealed there are:

...and it would appear that for many, social enterprise is indeed becoming the business model of choice, as the social enterprise sector in the UK is increasing all the time.

The Social Enterprise Places initiative was inspired by the Fair Trade Town initiative. Clive Hirst, architect of the SE spread across the globe, and the public awareness of Fair Trade is high, so we thought why not achieve the same for social enterprise. The fundamental purpose of the programme is to raise the profile of social enterprise ... we want ordinary people to know what social enterprise is, and for it to be seen as the business model of choice."

including cities, boroughs and counties.

The Programme aims to promote, raise awareness and build the markets for social enterprise at both local and national levels. There are now 26 designated Social Enterprise Places in the UK and 2 international ones.

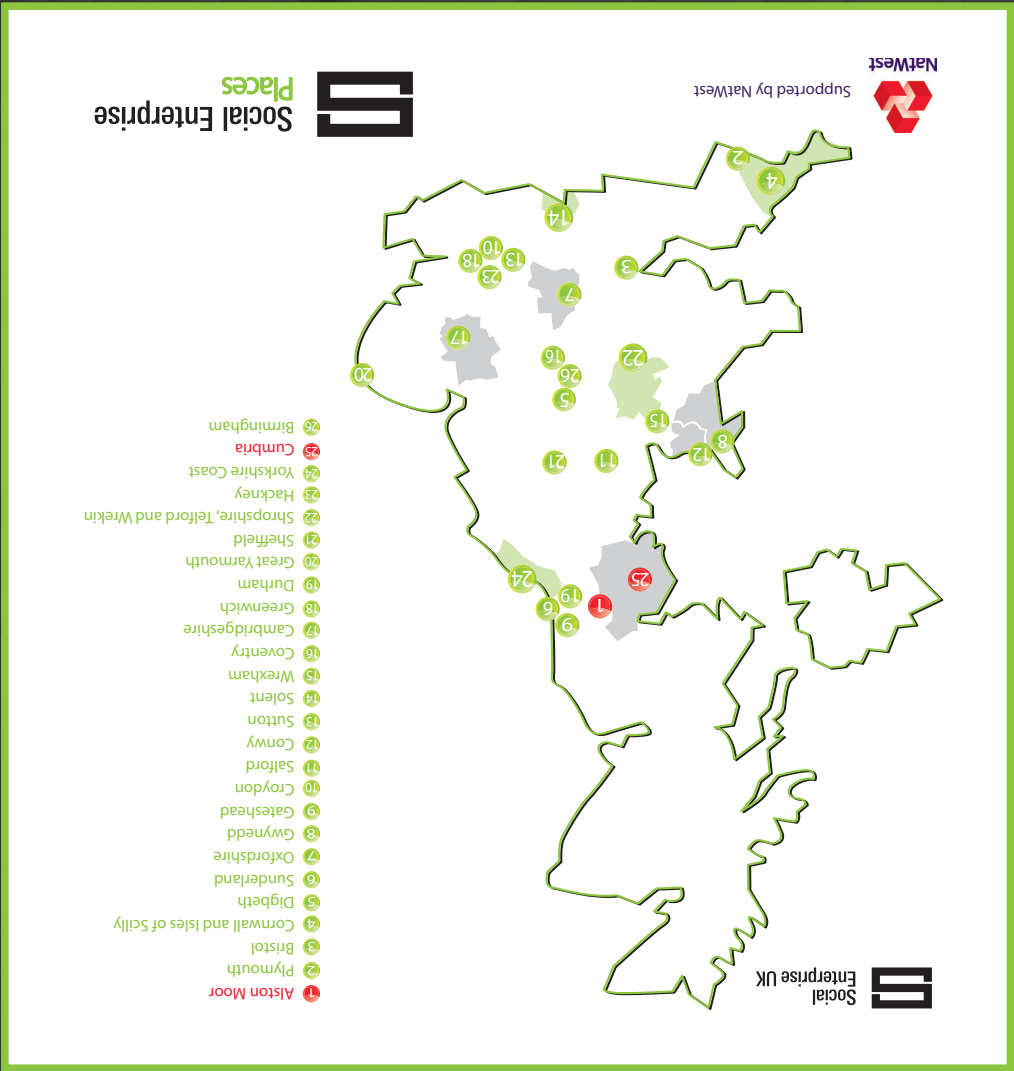
In 2013, Social Enterprise UK decided to give special recognition to areas buzzing with social enterprise activity with the launch of the ground breaking Social Enterprise Places Initiative. It was the small rural community of Alston Moor in North Cumbria which had the honour of becoming the UK's first ever Social Enterprise Town.

WHAT ARE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE PLACES?

Social enterprises are businesses that are changing the world for the better. Like traditional businesses they aim to make a profit, but it's what they do with their profits that sets them apart. By selling goods and services in the open market, social enterprises create employment and reinvest their profits back into their business or local community. This allows them to tackle social problems, improve people's life chances, provide training and employment opportunities for those furthest from the market, support communities and help the environment.

WHAT ARE SOCIAL ENTERPRISES?

TO FIND OUT HOW YOUR TOWN, PARISH, CITY OR COUNTY COULD BECOME A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE PLACE SEE:
www.socialenterprise.org.uk/apply-now



25th UK Social Enterprise Place awarded to the County of Cumbria

BREAKING NEWS

Cumbria Social Enterprise County

WHY ALSTON MOOR? ... and WHY SOCIAL ENTERPRISE?

Clive Hirst, the architect of the Social Enterprise Places initiative believes Alston Moor was worthy of being the flagship place to launch the scheme. *"Alston Moor fought off strong competition and thoroughly deserved the accolade. For its size, Alston Moor has a huge and varied social enterprise sector, with one social enterprise for around every 50 households. Is there anywhere else that can better this?"*

The Parish of Alston Moor is a small rural community in North Cumbria based around the small market town of Alston, which at 1,000ft above sea level makes it the highest market town in England. It has a strong identity, deriving both from its mining and farming background, as well as its relative isolation and in winter parts of the community can sometimes be cut-off for weeks.

Alston Moor has a diverse range of social enterprises and community owned businesses, delivering services in retail, tourism, transport, health and well-being, community services - most of which would otherwise not be there.

Alston Moor has turned to social enterprise for several reasons - it is rurally isolated and has had to create its own responses to the withdrawal of private and public services and to the long travelling distances necessary to access services. This self-reliance and self-sufficiency comes from a mix of:

- **Community self-confidence and determination, powered by active and inspirational individuals**
- **A Quaker tradition of social welfare and self-sufficiency**
- **People with valuable skills moving or retiring to Alston Moor**
- **An alternative culture of self-help and independence**
- **Belief in what social enterprise can do to empower communities**
- **Supportive external stakeholders, including the county, district and parish councils**

Alston Moor shows how social enterprise is not solely an urban phenomenon and its rural and isolated position is a dominant driver. But perhaps the biggest driver is that necessity can be the mother of social enterprise - when local services are reduced, there is a determination to make things happen and inspirational and effective individuals are key - particularly when they combine community-mindedness with a can do attitude.

CUMBRIA SOCIAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

The Partnership was set up in 2003 and since then it has successfully delivered a number of funded programmes and supported the development and financial sustainability of the social enterprise sector in Cumbria, enabling them to flourish and make their full contribution to the county's wealth creation, employment and skills base.

The current programme is funded by Cumbria County Council to provide support to both business start-ups and existing social enterprises and networking activities to help further develop the sector in Cumbria. The programme supports the Council's vision and priorities - specifically as part of the area planning work and redesign of services, there is specific consideration of the characteristics of the local area and how people access and use services. Within such a diverse county, different communities will have different service needs, strengths and facilities, and therefore solutions and how people access services will be different in different places. The council has a commitment to working with communities and the third sector to take forward this work.

The Partnership is managed by a Steering Group made up of representatives of various bodies and organisations involved in the social enterprise sector in Cumbria.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CUMBRIA SOCIAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP, VISIT THEIR WEBSITE:

www.secumbria.org

OR EMAIL:

enquiries@secumbria.org



Alston Moor Social Enterprise Town

ALSTON MOOR THE WORLD'S FIRST SOCIAL ENTERPRISE TOWN!



"...SOCIAL ENTERPRISE ACTIVITY IN ALSTON MOOR DOES NOT EXIST AND THRIVE BECAUSE OF ANY FORMAL STRATEGY OR ORGANISATION, BUT DOES SO BECAUSE OF ITS COMMUNITY - BOTH INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY, HELPING TO PROVIDE SERVICES THAT SIMPLY MAKE IT A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK!"