

Schools out, Grid's in: Volunteers DIY day give disused area in Kent new lease of life

National Grid volunteers go back to school during summer vacation to give disused facilities a new lease of life.

25 Aug 2015

- National Grid volunteers restore disused area at High Halstow Primary School
- Activities included painting, planting and removing and repairing fences
- Event was latest in a long line of National Grid Community Action Days in the Medway area of Kent

While pupils enjoyed their summer break National Grid volunteers went back to school to give disused facilities a new lease of life.

Thanks to the volunteers, who came from National Grid's Grain electricity substation team, pupils will be able to enjoy areas of High Halstow Primary School which had previously been off limits.

The team repaired fences, spruced up benches and gave things a new lick of paint. An old and unused pond was refilled, lots of weeding was completed and new plants were dug in all around the area. The volunteers also left some compost and new planters for the children to use when they return to school after the summer holidays.

The revamped area is now perfect for the children to use every day during school. It will also be used as a waiting area for parents at the end of the day when they come to collect their children.

National Grid Team Leader, Philip Dynes, explained that the volunteers had worked really hard to ensure the pupils can make the most of the new space.

He said: "We all really enjoyed our day and we're looking forward to hearing what the teachers and pupils think when they return for the new school term in September."

National Grid plays a vital part in helping ensure the country has the energy it needs to power homes, offices, factories and community facilities. It is also keen to help the communities where it carries out its work.

Teams of National Grid employees regularly volunteer for Community Action Days in the area, working with various local groups and organisations.

For more information on National Grid's community volunteering activities go to

<http://www2.nationalgrid.com/Responsibility/Connecting-today/UKVolunteering/>

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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other

parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.

- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

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