

Long Sutton Market House Trust

Long Sutton Market House is a volunteer-run, multi-use centre enabling the people of Long Sutton and its surrounding area to access services locally. As the centre of the local community, it welcomes over 1,400 people a month.

The Friends of the Long Sutton Market House Trust provide the centre with volunteer receptionists, look after the building and organise events to support the Trust, including a Race Night and Christmas Afternoon.

The centre provides direct access to Lincolnshire Credit Union, which offers its members services including safe saving and affordable loan schemes; South Holland District Council, via a customer services representative for one and a half days a week and through the centre's volunteers; and the Citizens Advice Bureau, through a Monday drop-in and

Thursday appointment service.

In partnership with Customer Service Compass Point Business East Coast Ltd, the centre's volunteers have received training in issuing housing application and benefit claim forms, bus pass information, recycling sack provision and customer service contact.

A grant from the Police Property Fund has helped cover the costs of the continued running of the Lincolnshire Credit Union from the centre.

The Migrant Worker Forum, a social group for members of the local community and migrant workers and their families is also located with the centre. The forum, meets regular to discuss matters of interest, hosts social evenings to break down barriers and offers classes in English language and life skills.

As part of this, 26 students recently received certificates in English after



Volunteer receptionist working alongside South Holland District Council Customer Service Advisor

Long Sutton Market House

completing a course funded by the local community. The students have also translated the centre's leaflets into other languages and the wife of one of the student's has found employment as a cleaner at the centre.

Amongst a range of community groups and classes, the centre also houses The Wash Project, which aims to ensure that The Wash Estuary remains a special place for people and wildlife for generations to come.

The Market House Photography Group is open to anyone with an interest in photography over the age of 16. The group offers its members a range of activities throughout the year, including in-house competitions and its annual exhibition hosted at the centre. They also provide a photographer to cover events at the venue.

Market House Movies Presents, part of the Films in South Holland Initiative brings regular Saturday afternoon filming screenings to the centre, including Atonement, Julie and Julia, and An Education. Long Sutton Town Arts also provides live theatre and music through the centre's Corn Exchange venue.

Other groups using the centre on a regular basis include the Long Sutton Civic Society, Sneaths Mill, South Holland Independent Councillors, East Midlands in

“The building’s central location within the heart of the community gives students the opportunity to interact with local people and other user groups in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere and gives them a sense of belonging to the local community”

**Kay Morely, English
Language Tutor**

Bloom, Long Sutton Community Led Plan Group, the Young Offenders Service and the Census Office.

The centre has recently received funding from Lloyds TSB, to support the salary of a Development Officer; The Department of Health; Awards for all Lottery Funding and Grassroots Funding. It is also self-funded through a range of merchandise, including The Long Sutton Market House Recipe Book, which contains favourite and local recipes from the local community.

For further information on Long Sutton Market House visit www.longsuttonmarkethouse.org.