

Cultural Consortia – HSHAZ Swaffham

What is it?

This is a programme that runs alongside the High Streets Heritage Action Zone programme in Swaffham. The HSHAZ, funded by Historic England focuses on bringing historic highstreets back to life and runs from April 2020 until March 2024. The consortia programme also runs from April 2020 until March 2024. The consortia is funded by The National Heritage Lottery Fund Arts and Culture fund.

The cultural consortia is separate to the HSHAZ but runs along side as a group of volunteers to work collectively to preserve and enhance the culture and heritage of the high street and bring communities together as well as providing a legacy for the community when the HSHAZ programme is complete. The funding is to cover events that are organised over the remaining programme period. Events can be anything from the production of a small leaflet detailing the history of Swaffham's town centre, to a guided walk or a larger event like a festival. The consortia can be as creative with events as they wish to be.

What is required from volunteers?

Anyone who volunteers are expected to actively organise and engage with the community over any events that are created. A timeline of events should be drafted and approved by Breckland Council, before then having costs provided (these need to be accurate for the events to be complete by the end of the first year March 2022 but can be provisional costs for the remaining events up until march 2024) so they can be added to bid application.

The lead of the group is expected to attend regular meetings with the HSHAZ manager to provide updates and discuss the programme of the consortia. The lead will also be expected to attend occasional meetings with Historic England which include training and a chance to discuss events with other consortia leads in the southeast.

It is a great opportunity to contribute to community events and bring everyone together after a challenging year.