

The Kirkby Lonsdale Community Cupboard (KLCC) and the 1st Kirkby Lonsdale Scouts (KLS) are both facing issues of a lack of storage within the centre of Kirkby Lonsdale that is easily accessible to their various leaders and volunteers. Both groups are facing difficulty due to the expense and lack of available spaces within Kirkby Lonsdale.

Recently, we have become aware of the Undercroft at the Library, a space in the centre of town that is currently unused. This space is owned by the Westmorland and Furness Council (WaFC) and previously by the South Lakeland District Council which rented the library above to the Cumbria County Council. The space was given to the council with the agreement that it would be used for the betterment of the community. The Undercroft is fairly run down, having not been lived in for many years and in need of a lot of repair work.

The space offered by the Undercroft would enable both Community groups to have storage and a shared meeting space for small number activities eg Explorer Scouts, Community Cupboard wellbeing workshops/sessions. Both committees felt the space had enormous potential and are keen to progress discussions if acceptable to the Town Council

The Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council has, in the past, been looking at using the Undercroft space as a town museum and this is still on the work programme for the council. As a result of this, further enquiry into the use of the space for the KLCC and/or KLS is dependent on the Town Council deciding on whether to continue holding the space for future use.

The KLCC and KLS are writing to ask the Town Council to make that decision either way, so that they can proceed with either making further enquires or look for an alternate space. Both groups work for the community on a not-for-profit basis, fulfilling the requirement for the space to be used for the residents of Kirkby Lonsdale.