

## UKRAINE CRISIS – WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP?

Cllr Morris attended a meeting at the Church on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March, led by Revd Theresa, regarding the current situation in Ukraine.

Please see the points below as to how residents can help;

1) Any individual can register on the Government website to sponsor and host a Ukrainian family however at this time you have to source your own family or person in Ukraine.

2) Community groups can be sponsors. This is the way that our group intends to go. Hartford Hundred West Parish Group will be a community sponsor and will be the organisation that deals with the applications and obtaining sponsoring family details. As such Rev Theresa will be the named individual on all applications. The "Group" will effectively be run in the early stages by the group that met this weekend. We, the Group, will start to collate those volunteering accommodation as well as other skills etc that may be useful. This group will arrange DBS checks etc. Maintain a spreadsheet/database of skills and volunteers.

3) The Diocese of St Albans will be the organisation that obtains the details of families or individuals in Ukraine or have already fled to Europe who may wish to come to the UK, particularly our geographic area. There will then be matchmaking logistics to match refugees to volunteer homes. We have been advised though that it may be that due to our area, transport, jobs etc we may not get anyone.

4) We have set up a dedicated email address so that anyone who is interested in offering accommodation or other skills (see 5) can email and we will send out an application contact information sheet to start the process. [Hartfordhundredukraine@gmail.com](mailto:Hartfordhundredukraine@gmail.com)

5) We would obviously like to hear from anyone who is offering to host a Ukrainian refugee family however we would also like to hear from anyone who can offer help with a) transport as they will need transport for children to get to school, attend doctors or medical appointments, shopping etc and can be on ad hoc days or more regularly. b) employment c) other skills such as counselling, psychotherapy, translation etc. The list is not exhaustive.