

# Community Grant Assessment April 2019

Applicant: Menheniot Playgroup
Amount applied for: £2,388.00
<b>ASSESSMENT</b>
Overview & what benefits to the community (Section B1.5 and B1.7)
<p>We need to protect the play area from falling tiles and debris from the roof while children, parents, grandparents and carers are arriving and leaving the setting, and whilst the children are enjoying the outside play space. This is an identified risk and two slates have already fallen into the area.</p> <p>(By making the roof secure) Menheniot Playgroup believes in the importance of children spending time outdoors we feel this enriches the children's holistic development, independence and well being. The Outdoor play space allows a perfect environment for this with free flow back into the play room. Our setting hugely benefits pre school age children and families by providing a safe and nurturing environment parents can trust. As the only Pre-school in the village we need to ensure we maintain very high standards and retain our esteemed Outstanding status.</p>
Other funding from their own resources and alternative sources. (Section C1.1-1.3)
<p>We continually fundraise throughout the year since September we have held a disco, BBQ at the fireworks, prize draw and a Christmas gift fayre to pay for improvements and resources so we will allocate part of these funds toward the project. We have not applied elsewhere. We have asked the Old School committee for a contribution unfortunately they don't currently have enough funds to help especially as they have just repaired our flat roof and installed new windows.</p> <p>If the PC supports the full application, this will amount to 70% of the costs.</p>
Numbers benefitting (Section B1.7)
Our setting is used by about 50-60 children (including Little Owls) a year. These improvements will ensure their safety this year and for all the children in the coming years.
Other resources (eg volunteering) (Section C1.4)
Playgroup is run by a voluntary committee who give up a lot of time to manage the setting although we will not be completing the work we have committed many hours into the play space. From our fundraising we have £1,000.00 we can contribute to the cost.
Priorities as identified by the applicant, and those of the council (Section C1.1)
No priorities listed by the applicant.
Notes
<p>This applicant is registered with the Charities Commission (1036235) and is a not-for-profit organisation.</p> <p>The latest set of accounts currently available (for year ending 31 Aug 2017) show a surplus of income over expenses of £6912. Added to the previous closing cash balance of £29,079, the school had a cash balance of £35,991 in August 2017. The school has a published policy of keeping £18,000 in reserve to cover unexpected costs. This leaves a net figure available to the school to draw on of £17,991 or the equivalent of 3 months running costs.</p>

For the previous year ending August 2016, the equivalent figures are: deficit of £1523, with £29,079 remaining in the bank, £11,079 after reserves are accounted for which approximates to 2 months running costs.

The Community Grant budget currently has £5147 remaining.

**This email from the applicant 5 March 2019 in response to mine:**

*The concern I have is that you're asking the parish council to pay for an improvement to a building that you don't own, and as you've said, responsibility for maintenance (and so safety as well) belongs to the Old School Trust.*

We have a long term agreement in place, last version from 2011. We have to be given at least 6 months notice from MOST. Playgroup have been in the building since 1985, there is nowhere else village wise we could be so there is no intention to ever move.

We understand the confusion with it not being our building but we as a playgroup do need to complete this work. MOST do not have the money to pay for it, so we will need to hopefully with help from the parish council.

Recommend £0

2/4/19