

Community Grant Assessment April 2025

Applicant: Menheniot Parochial Church Council
Amount applied for: £5292
ASSESSMENT
Overview & what benefits to the community (Section B1.1 and B1.2)
<p>The applicant explains that this funding is to pay for: . Maintenance of the 3 village graveyards incorporating the sustainable Living Churchyard Project.</p> <p>Every Parishioner has the right to a burial space and can have access to family graves. It also provides a large green space in the centre of the village as a refuge for wildlife as well as a pleasant reflective place for the community and visitors. e.g. It is used by the Playgroup on a regular basis.</p>
Other funding from their own resources and alternative sources. (Section C1.1-1.3)
<p>If the PC supports the full application, this will amount to 100% of the costs.</p> <p>£100 sourced from Community Chest for purchase of wildflower plants and seeds £500 raised from Fundraising events in the village.</p>
Numbers benefitting (Section B1.7)
<p>[The graveyard is] open all year to the entire community and any visitors to the area. Over the year there are hundreds of visitors, not just members of the community to remember loved ones but also there are regular visitors seeking peace and quiet.</p> <p>No means of measuring specific numbers of people throughout the course of the year, but we do know that in 2024 there were 3 burials and small number of burial of ashes Many visits were made in addition by locals and visitors</p>
Other resources (eg volunteering) (Section C1.4)
<p>We cover the costs through the general church fund, with the addition of practical help from volunteers, as well as fundraising efforts as above.</p>
Priorities as identified by the applicant, and those of the council (Section C1.1)
<p>No priorities listed by the applicant.</p>
Notes
<p>The most recent set of accounts for year ending 31 December 2024 show that: the PCC had an income of £135,683 set against expenses of £133,520, leaving a negative balance of £2,163. The applicant writes to explain:</p> <p>‘Moreover, regarding the sale of the fixed asset (Merrymeet Church) , £11500 was immediately accounted for, including to settle professional invoices relating to the sale. Consequently, only £70,000 was placed in a deposit account, which , as you say, has been earmarked to use as matched funding when trying to obtain grants for the major tower repairs and other building refurbishment. These need to take place if this and future generations are still to have a church and graveyard available for weddings, funerals and community events such as Remembrance Sunday and village carol services.’</p>

Councillors are reminded that under the terms of the Community Grants scheme, 'The council will not usually fund more than 10% of a project (£2,000 maximum), but will expect the applicant to have raised other substantial funding from their own efforts within the local community' and the budget for 2025/26 is £2,500.

Recommend £1200