

GRANTS SCHEME REPORTS

FOR GRANTS AWARDED IN
MARCH 2022

REVIEW OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY GRANT-RECEIVING BODIES – MARCH 2022

Malvern Town Council recognises the immense value of voluntary and community activity and its contribution to residents' well-being, the local economy and the sustainability of a wide range of services which benefit people living and working in the town. The Council's grants scheme aims to enable local community organisations to deliver activities and/or projects to the residents of Malvern.

Small grants

These are for amounts up to and including £500 and they are awarded twice a year.

Large grants

These are awarded for amounts above £500 and up to an advisory limit of £2,500. This advisory limit can be exceeded but a very specific reason must be stated.

Emergency grants

This scheme provides assistance to organisations where there is an exceptional need for funding, that could not have been foreseen to fit in with the biennial timetable as immediate or quick action is required. Examples of these would be damage to equipment or property not covered by insurance, action to cover hardship raised by extreme circumstances such as a pandemic or extreme weather, or last-minute loss or withdrawal of other funding for a project.

Within twelve months of a grant being awarded, groups are expected to provide Malvern Town Council with written evidence of how the money has been spent and the benefit it has brought to the people of Malvern.

Grants totalling £13,666 were awarded in March 2022. This report includes details on how these grants were spent.

Summary of small grants awarded	
Malvern Museum Society	£479.44
Malvern Civic Society	£500.00
Total	£979.44

Summary of large grants awarded	
Let's Make a Change CIC	£2,387
Malvern Radar and Technology History Society (MRATHS)	£2,400
Newtown Sports Cerebral Palsy and Pan Disability Football Club	£1,500
Malvern Theatre Players (up to)	£1,400
The Chase School	£2,500
Pride in Malvern	£2,500
Total	£12,687

Malvern Museum & Malvern Public Library

Conservation and Digitisation Project, Library Picture Archive

Of the 30 drawers at Malvern Library that contain archive images of Malvern, the contents of eight (919 items) have now been catalogued onto a spreadsheet and each item put into an appropriately-sized polypropylene (acid-free) pocket. The pockets are currently in the process of being placed in acid-free boxes and the boxes returned to the drawers.

The catalogue and new storage conditions will make the images more easily accessible to the public.

Two people were initially engaged on the project; that number has risen to five regular colleagues and one occasional assistant and the group works an average of 15 hours per week.

Drawers 9 to 16 have now been catalogued and financial assistance will be required for more archival-quality conservation materials.

The whole of the £479.44 that was kindly granted to the project by Malvern Town Council has been used to buy conservation materials. Additional funds were needed for extra materials (more polypropylene pockets; acid-free card to make the boxes and acid-free paper to cover the mounted watercolour paintings).

This year, when the project has progressed much further, Malvern Museum hopes to bring the collection more into the public eye; to make Malvern residents aware of the treasure that it collectively holds.

Cora Weaver, January 2023



Sue making boxes from acid-free card



Cora examines negatives on a home-made light box



Felicity and Ann at the drawer stack where the images are stored



Front: Felicity adding acid-free paper covers to mounted watercolour paintings; left: Sue making boxes; centre, Cora (left) and Jennie cataloguing onto a spreadsheet; right: Toni (left) and Ann correct anomalies in the catalogue



A completed box and its contents

Malvern Civic Society

Small grant £500

“Each Year, the Civic Society curates a week long festival in Malvern involving community groups who arrange their own talks, walks, display and concerts.

The Civic Society undertakes the marketing of the week which involves paying for the various forms of publicity.

The major item of expenditure is the design of a sixteen page colour programme and printing two thousand copies which are distributed in the area. The cost of this is about two thousand pounds.

In addition, a number of banners are designed for putting up around the town with a cost of about £100.

Posters, fliers and advertisements amount to another five hundred pounds.

The Society is very grateful to the Town Council for their contribution towards this venture.”

Report For Malvern Town Council Large Grant 2021/22 Let's Make A Change CIC

£2387

We were grateful to receive £2387.00 from Malvern Town Council to launch our project "Make Better & Mend". Here follows our report under the following headings:

- Aims
- Initial Response
- Marketing
- Cost and Value of Services Offered
- Project Costs v Grant Cost Development In The last six Months Conclusion

Aims

The project aimed to provide help for elderly home owners, who struggled to get minor repairs done in their properties, due to lack of local tradesmen who are willing to undertake small jobs and/or those suffering personal financial hardship.

Initial Response

We launched with an article in The Malvern Gazette on May 20th which initially produced twenty six enquires. Sadly, we were unable to fulfil a large proportion of these enquiries as one of the criteria of the grant funding was we could only work on owner occupied property. The majority of the applicants were suffering poor housing conditions because landlords simply refused to keep properties up to standard. We met many pensioners, who lived in rented accommodation and suffered a wide range of property issues including leaking taps, insecure gates, broken fencing, damp, mould, ill fitting windows and poor insulation. The tenants were personally unable to afford repairs and rented from landlords who were unwilling to keep their properties up to basic standards.

Of this first wave of twenty six enquiries we were only able to provide help in four instances. All were internal carpentry projects, mainly lock and hinge work. In total we provided eleven hours of direct labour in people's homes. We spent over thirty hours handling enquiries and visiting homes that later proved to be rented property and not owner occupied.

These first results helped us to modify our marketing plan to be more effective.

Marketing

We had originally planned to have a blanket leaflet campaign across Malvern and local villages; but with the response that had come from the newspaper advertising which had generated a high volume of interest from the rental sector and not owner occupiers, we decided to modify our marketing plan.

We produced leaflets specifically aimed at senior citizens who were likely to be home owners. The availability of the 'Make Better and Mend' offer clearly stated the criteria for eligibility. Door to door deliveries of these targeted leaflets were made to areas with older, long established properties where it was considered there would be a higher density of pension age residents.

This targeted approach, although producing only a few responses, in fact produced a better conversion ratio of enquiries to projects undertaken.

Results for the first six months are tabulated below:

Table 1

Month	No of Enquiries	No of Projects	% Effectiveness
May	26	4	15
June	12	5	41
July	14	5	35
August	9	7	77
September	13	6	46
October	7	2	28
Six month total	81	29	35

Apart from door to door distribution of leaflets we also left piles of leaflets in doctor's surgeries, chemists, charity shops and retail outlets such as our own shop 'Amaze'.

We also engaged with the public who visited 'Amaze' explaining the service we offered and encouraging people to simply ask for help.

We found the best source of introductions to residents of Malvern who needed help was recommendations by word of mouth.

Cost and Value of Services Offered -

It is difficult to put a value on the service provided, as value cannot only be defined in financial terms. To the elderly person living alone with an insecure back gate, the comfort of having a new lock fitted is priceless, but in financial terms such a project would have a small monetary value.

On average the expenditure for each project would break down as follows: Table 2

Typical Project Costs		
Activity	Time	Cost Estimate
Visit and assess project	One hour	£20
Produce & deliver quote	Thirty minutes	£10
Collect materials	Thirty minutes	£10
Undertake Project	Two and a half hours	£50
Total Project Time	Four and a half hours	£100

By nature of the repair service we provided, all the projects were small. Perhaps the best measure of project size can be achieved by looking at expenditure on materials used. To keep costs as low as possible for those we helped and to minimise our accounting time we secured an arrangement with the local B&Q who gave us 10% discount on everything we purchased for the project. We were reimbursed for all the materials purchased by the recipients of the service. An analysis of the cost of the materials purchased during the first six months of the project gives a ready guide to average project size.

Table 3

Average Value of Materials Used in Each Project				
Month	Total Cost	No of Projects	Average Project Cost	
May	£103.32	4	£25.83	
June	£205.05	6	£34.17	
July	£155.96	5	£31.19	
August	£177.32	7	£25.33	
September	£127.17	6	£21.19	
October	£26.07	2	£13.03	
Total	£794.89	30	£26.49	

The results of the analysis of Table 3 together with the information in Table 2 demonstrates the average project cost was £126.49. made up of £100 labour contribution and £26.29 materials.

If these small projects were undertaken commercially, tradesmen would need to add profit and VAT, as an estimate it would nearly double the cost that would have to be charged, making even small projects unaffordable for the majority of pensioners on fixed incomes.

Project Costs -v- Grant Costs In The First Six Months

For an investment of £2387.00, the people of Malvern have benefited by some £3900 worth of our time and labour having small household repairs undertaken free of charge in the period May to November.

Two individuals from Amaze have gained valuable work experience undertaking over thirty projects in the community, learning basic carpentry and property maintenance skills

The element of grant funding that was invested in equipment is still intact and continues to be used to this day.

Development In The Last Six Months -

The project quietened down somewhat over the Christmas period with us only handling two emergency requests for help in November and December.

With the recession biting at the start of this year our volume of enquiries has risen again, mainly by word of mouth and memory. It is our hope that by raising fresh funding and the use of newspaper articles we can advertise our services again and build momentum for this valuable service.

We have on occasion helped the elderly by offering repair garden steps and replacement of cracked slabs and it is our hope to extend our skill base to include these sort of projects into the range of services we can undertake.

Conclusions -

Undertaking this project has given us a valuable insight into the state of the Malvern housing stock. We found that:

(I) There is a need within the elderly population of Malvern for support with minor repairs to their properties.

There are few tradesmen who will offer quotations or provide help for small projects, those that do often have lead times of several weeks. I think this situation has arisen because post Covid there is simply a shortage of tradesmen, which coupled with an increased demand for

large property development projects has led to higher prices making small, simple property repairs unaffordable for pensioners.

Over 85% of respondents to our first advertisements were tenants of small private landlords. The rental housing stock is in a poor state, landlords seem unwilling to undertake minor repairs, focusing on profitability rather than quality of accommodation. Attending to repairs in rental housing was outside our remit, as reasonably we have no wish to line the pockets of landlords who will not look after their property. However, it is the tenants of these properties who suffer, they are usually in lower income brackets, having to rely on state pensions and live in fear of revenge evictions if they complain to landlords.

Not surprisingly owner occupied housing seems to be generally in a far better condition. Repairs that we were asked to undertake were of a very minor nature typically broken hinges or storm damaged fence panels.

(S)Recipients of the service we provided were often hesitant to come forward to ask for help - possibly they didn't want to admit hardship or be seen to take something for nothing. However, people were always very grateful for help when we had finished.

The project not only provided benefit for elderly Malvern home owners, it also provided training opportunities for two individuals within Amaze. Hands on practical experience is a valuable skill we can offer to those we help to rebuild their lives.

We were able to undertake our objective of a least one project per week - this being the most that we could afford in terms of management time, and financial burden on Amaze due to costs of wages, fuel etc.

Large grant £2400

The Cold War is the name given to the political hostility between the Soviet bloc and the Western Powers between 1945 and 1990.

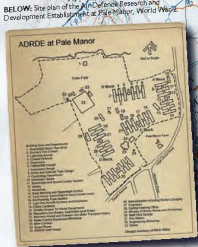
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I hope that MTC will understand our position and allow the grant to stand. The material for which the grant was awarded has been spent to plan on lighting and an interactive display ready for installation in January 2023.

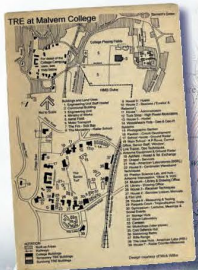
I would be pleased to provide more information or evidence of our work in readiness if that would be useful. I also attach a couple of finished artworks. These are wall displays 2m high by 1m wide. There will be at least 12 of these displays as well as interactive sound and video elements.

Very best regards

Mike Burstow
MRATHS Trustee



- ① TRE (Malvern College)
- ① TRE Aerial Field
- ① TRE/RRE/RSRE Engineering Unit
- ② TRE/RRE/RSRE (South Site)
- ③ ADRE/RRDE/RRE/RSRE (North Site)



ABOVE: Site plan of the Telecommunications Research Establishment at Malvern College, World War 2.



In 1942 two Top Secret government radar research establishments were evacuated in haste to Malvern. Their amazing work in World War 2 and that of their successors was transformative to the war effort, to Malvern and subsequently to modern electronic technology worldwide. This display shows the main places that were requisitioned for their work and how they spread out across Worcestershire. They had many small sites – we are still learning about these. If you know of any through family memories, please contact MRATHS at secretary@mraths.org.uk. Copyright MRATHS 2023



ABOVE: Radar Research Establishment (South Site), Engineering Unit and aerial field, looking north, 1955.
TOP: Telecommunications Research Establishment at Malvern College, 1943.
BELOW: QinetiQ site, 2007. The southern part of the site has been redeveloped as Malvern Rise.

Newtown Sports Cerebral Palsy and Pan Disability Football Club

£1500

Following the award of £1500 to our team in April 2022 as part of the large grant scheme, I wanted to let you know how the money was used.

As you might remember our small local team had been invited to take part in a national pan disability football tournament in Scotland last summer. This was such a wonderful opportunity, especially after everything that we had all faced during the pandemic, that we were really keen to be able to take as many of the children as possible. In the end, 12 of the team came along, some with other family members.

The Syngenta Football Tournament was held at Stirling University over a very hot weekend in June 2022. There were a number of teams from various places across Scotland, Wales and England. It was a very family orientated event, so as well as focusing on the football itself, there were plenty of social events where new friendships were made and we got to introduce many people to our lovely little town for the first time.

This was such an amazing experience for all the team and we continue to keep in touch with the teams we met and plan to invite them here to Malvern for future matches. Regarding the grant, as travel was a major expense due to the distance involved, we knew that would have prevented some of the team going. So the funds that the Town Council so kindly provided us through the grant, went towards covering those costs together the funds that we as a team had already raised.

Thanks again to the Town Council for your support of our little, but ever growing team.

With best wishes, Deana Wilkinson.



Malvern Theatre Players

£1400

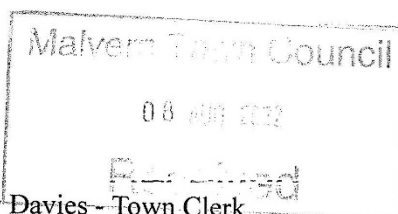
Malvern Theatre Players

The Resident Company of the Coach House Theatre



01 August 2022

Malvern Town Council
28 – 30 Belle Vue Terrace
Malvern
Worcs
WR14 4PZ



For the attention of Lindsey Davies - Town Clerk

Dear Lindsey

Ref : Large Grants Scheme

It is with great regret that I have to inform you that, for a number of reasons including illness, we are unable to present our planned production of *The Wind in the Willows* in Priory Park at the end of August. It follows therefore that we will not be able to invoice Malvern Town Council for the grant of £1400 early in September as agreed.

We hope to reschedule the show for late Spring, possibly 22nd to 27th of May. Please could you let me know if the grant could be deferred to this time.

Please could you pass on our thanks to Councillors and Officers for their support of the project which we will hope to stage in 2023.

With best wishes and many thanks.

Yours sincerely

Chris Bassett
Company Manager

Copy to : A Howie – Treasurer, MTP

Theatre House, Grange Road, Malvern, Worcs WR14 3HA
01684 569011 chrisb_mtp@yahoo.co.uk



The Chase
A SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE



The Chase School
Geraldine Road
Malvern
Worcestershire
WR14 3NZ
Wednesday, 05 April 2023
Telephone: 01684 891 961

Louise Wall
Malvern Town Council
28-30 Belle Vue Terrace
Malvern
WR14 4PZ

Dear Malvern Town Council

Re: Large Grants Scheme

We would like to pass on our thanks to Malvern Town Council. We appreciate your support to fund the addition of new display screens in the Main Hall, to be used during school performances, in assemblies, for talks and training. The new equipment will be able to be used by community groups, if they use the school.

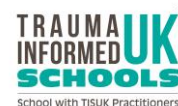
In June 2022, we approached the Town Council, to request a change in how the funds were to be used. We were invited to attend the meeting and were informed that it had been cancelled. In October/ November 2022, after further investigations, we contacted the Town Council to update them, that our previous bid was now possible, which was our preferred option. The project was given the green light and we contacted the installation company in January who have scheduled the work for May half term (w/c 29th May). We were hoping for the work to be completed during Easter 2023, however, due to their commitments, this was not possible. Also, due to the pandemic, we are providing revision sessions over the Easter break, for students to attend. Some of which are being held in the Main Hall due to a high take up. We hope you understand that the education of our students is paramount, and this has had to take precedence.

M J Fieldhouse Headteacher

The Chase
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Worcestershire
WR14 3NZ

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E: office@chase.worcs.sch.uk

www.chase.worcs.sch.uk



Once installation is complete the project will:

- Improve interaction with attendees.
- Improved effects in the ambiance.
- Full colour, video capable option to show off the information or visual aids to augment into lessons/ events.
- When putting on a stage production, building sets and swapping them in and out can be a costly and time-consuming process. By using LED screens, we can create detailed and imaginative backgrounds for the stage without needing to have a massive budget.
- According to the electroluminescent specialists at ellumiglow.com, the use of LED walls can show videos with great clarity and dazzling colour while being versatile and easy enough to construct when creating pop-up displays for temporary use.
- When we make presentations, being able to engage those you're giving it to can have a big impact on whether you're successful or not. Everyone wants to make the best impression possible, and using LED screens will get their attention. We can display slide shows, data graphs, and charts or product mock-ups to help get your point across.

We can confirm that the order has been placed with the company (including the screens) and installation will take place for 31st May to 1st June.

Regards

Brian Howell

B Howell
The Chase School

M J Fieldhouse Headteacher

The Chase
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The Malvern Pride committee have worked tirelessly to make a Pride event that is for everyone both from the LGBTQ+ community but also their family and friends and anyone else who wants to enjoy a free event in the park celebrating our differences.

Malvern Pride provided a mix of entertainment for all, and also children and family events in the park. It was great to see the park so full with people dancing, eating and enjoying themselves.

Malvern Pride are delighted that Malvern Town Council were able to provide some funding for the event and were able to install Malvern Pride-funded Pride flags throughout Great Malvern for the days before and after Pride.

We have spoken with a number of local businesses who have reported that trading was up in the town as lots of people came to Malvern and spent their hard-earned money in the town.

We have received many positive comments on how great it was to see Pride back in Malvern and we look forward to the next event.



Malvern Pride received two grants from Malvern Town Council. One for £500 in 2019 for the purchase of a gazebo to use at the Pride Festival and a second grant in 2022 of £2,500 for another gazebo and reusable signage.

As a result of the grants, Malvern Pride were able to purchase two branded gazebos and eight large feather flags, plus flags to be flown around Great Malvern ahead of the event, advertising and sponsorship banners. We have included some photos of the gazebos and flags.

The day itself was a huge success and we look forward to start planning for Pride 2023 over the coming months.





A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS



worcestershire
county council



simplysocial
media

 **alvern Town Council**