



**Macclesfield Town Council
Community grant feedback form
End of project report**

It is a condition of Macclesfield Town Council community grants that a report of how the grant was used is given to the council on request.

Therefore, when requested, you are asked to complete the below form and return to the Assistant Town Clerk. If you have not yet spent the entire grant, we are asking you to return this form with a progress report and an explanation of when the money will be spent.

The form will be shared with the Finance Committee, in committee papers and on our website.

Name of organisation	St Peter's Church Macclesfield
Contact name	Asiah Cullen
Date grant awarded	15 July 2024
Amount awarded	£2000

Please describe how your grant was used:

The World Harvest Festival happened on the 7th of September as planned. This was a multicultural and multireligious event with wide range of participants. There were performances from African, Ukrainian, Welsh, Spanish, Chinese, Roma Gypsy, Russian and English communities. Syrian, Afghani, Persian, Columbian, Polish, Moroccan communities were involved either providing food or having a stall at the festival or participating in other ways such as translating posters to their native language and advertising to their respective communities on social media.

Workshops: There were six workshops in total:

African drums and dance for children of all ages and their parents by South African artist Jean took place in United Reformed church. More than 30 people of all ages and Ethnic origins attended.

Ukrainian Traditional painting by Valeria and Natural Materials by Inna, both are from Ukraine, took place in Silk Museum. Both workshops proved to be highly popular and now both artists are, we are very happy to learn, invited to do more workshops.

Xianglin did two Tai Chi workshops at St Micael Church and United Reformed Church as well as a demonstration at the concert. Xianglin is well established and beloved teacher who has been giving classes for the last 20 years in the area.

Minami gave a lovely surprise Origami workshop for children at the festival with the patens and papers she had just brought with her from Japan.

In the morning women from different ethnic groups joined the St Peter's volunteers to cook a lovely lavish meal which was absolute joy to watch. I know that some communities such as Syrians and African also cooked all day before the festival. Syrians refused the money to cover ingredients; for them it was a way to give back to the community who gave them refuge. These moments are precious.

With residual money the International Art day was organised at St Alban's Primary school on 19th of March 2025, which involved all pupils at the school. Classes and activities included: African drums with reception, Natural Materials crafts, traditional Ukrainian painting and also sensory boxes for children with autism: creative method being developed by Ukrainian artist Anastasiia Lutsenko. All pupils were able to participate and produce some work of great artistic value. All feedback, from the artists and the school, was very positive. Everyone had a great time.

Summary of project finances

The amount of grant money used to fund the above activities is summarised below and compared to the budget for the project:

	Spend, £	Budget, £
Publicity – design and printing	£450.00	£650.00
Liability Insurance/travel/minor expenses	£177.35	£200.00
Workshops/crafts/performances	£510.00	£490.00
Food/drinks	£279.67	£400.00
ArtSpace costs for supporting the project	£200.00	£200.00
Miscellaneous spend on craft materials/decorations etc.	£70.78	£60.00
Total	£1687.80	£2000.00

The remaining £312.50 plus £248 raised were spent on International Day at St Albans primary school:

Inna (Ukraine) for four craft workshops plus materials	£150
Jean (South Africa) one creative arts workshop	£50
Valeria (Ukraine) four art workshops	£150
Paints and paper	£85
Anastasiia (Ukraine) sensory boxes for	
Children with autism	£60
Donation to school art department	
To cover additional costs	£65
Total	£560

Community impact:

There were several charities and organisations involved in the festival. St Peter's, with support and approval of St Michael's, run the project from its inception last year. United Reformed Church invited us, provided not only the premises but also lots of support and guidance. Refugees Welcome and Pearls of Cheshire both took part, all of their Ethnic groups were represented. The Silk Museum opened their doors to us and were most supportive and encouraging from the start. Art Space gave their invaluable expertise, advice and support of their volunteers and artists.

There were a few groups from out of town who are watching very closely what are we doing here in Macclesfield: Refugees Welcome from Congleton really like our initiative and thinking about doing similar event. Ukrainian volunteers from Congleton made us lovely Ukrainian Borch. One World Choir from Sheffield representatives came to see what we had been doing. They are planning to take part next year. Another similar group from Wales are planning to take part next year.

What have you learned from so far from this project?

The project has lots of traction in the community, lots and lots of positive feedback and support has been given.

However, to go forward a strong group of dedicated volunteers needed to spread the work. For example, some of St Peter's volunteers ended up doing 12 hours shift on the day because of lack of helpers. Project management could be much better if there were more people.

The aim of creating an opportunity for social integration has been achieved: new friendships were created, artists and musicians get engagements, more people come with their ideas and want to get involved. There is lots of approval and encouragement from all strata of local communities.

How many people benefited from your project/activity or attended if it was an event?

Estimated 500 people attended the festival and the workshops on the day, plus estimated 350 people were involved in the International Art Day at St Alban's Primary.

What was the outcome of your grant?

MTC grant enabled this project to grow. Many artists were able to try and develop their ideas for workshops, art installation and crafts. Many music groups and individuals, such as Africans, Roma, Welsh and Chinese were given opportunity to perform at United Reformed Church. For some of them this was the first time performing.

More people want to join and come up with their ideas, recommend friends or ask to take part in the next year concert. Also, many more charities and individuals come forward and offer support.

What have you learned from this project?

This initiative is much needed and has a great potential to grow. Already, we were able to secure grounds of St Michael's church for the street dance on the 6th of September 2025, United Reformed Church for the main festival on the 13th of September and rooms to do the workshops at the Silk Museum on 6th and 20th of September to do the workshops.

It looks like Macclesfield town got ourselves a great yearly festival, vibrant, atmospheric and unique.

Please insert at least one photograph of your project/event here:









Please also attach evidence of the promotion you have carried out for this project (press articles/screenshots of social media posts etc).

<https://macclesfield.nub.news/whats-on/culture/world-harvest-festival-70512>

<https://www.facebook.com/people/World-Harvest-Festival/61551933235558/>

Please tick this box if you consent to the photographs you have provided being shared with the Finance Committee, on publicly available finance committee documents and on the Macclesfield Town Council website

Please return this form to helena.gowler@macclesfield-tc.gov.uk