



**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	Macclesfield Male Voice Choir
Contact name	Bob Jenner
Date grant awarded	090226
Amount awarded	1700

Please describe how your grant was used:

Monies were used to employ a Music Director and an Accompanist to produce the music, develop and rehearse the “pop up” choir and to direct and accompany the choir in their public concert. We were able to save on the majority of costs for rehearsal facilities as a result of generous provision of the Hospice Sunflower Centre but incurred charges for the final rehearsal (held at Broken Cross Methodist Church) and provision of tea/coffee on rehearsal nights.

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

There were two distinct groupings of people, those that took part and those that attended the concert (and thereby donated to the Hospice). The latter group numbered approximately 200 people and of course the Hospice who will receive a donation in excess of £3000. Of the former group we had nearly 50 expressions of interest of whom 28 attended one or more rehearsals and 14 who sang in the concert. The gradual reduction in numbers (from expression of interest to performance) was largely due to unavailability for all or several of scheduled 8 rehearsals (all held on a Wednesday night) and/or unavailability for the public concert. A very few dropped out for more personal reasons (illness etc.) and no one dropped out because “its not for me”.

What was the outcome of your grant?

The grant achieved two/three distinct outcomes. The concert raised c£3000 for East Cheshire Hospice. The project introduced 28 men to the social and health (mental and physical) benefits available through group singing, in doing so helped most of them overcome their “fear of judgement”. Testament to this positive outcome is that most have indicated their willingness to “go again” and 6 of the 14 have joined the Macclesfield Male Voice Choir (one or two have joined other choirs outside Macclesfield).

What have you learned from this project?

We have learned that Macclesfield is a very generous community and it holds the Hospice (and its works) close to their heart. More specifically we have learned that many men are willing to overcome the self-imposed barrier “I can’t sing” and access the mental and social benefits of “giving it a go” provided the environment is informal. Such is the positive outcomes we (those that showed interest and those that ran the project) have agreed to running it again.



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