

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

2 DECEMBER 2013

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – GRANT APPLICATION

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

1. Children's Ark

1.1 The Town Council has received a request for grant funding from the Children's Ark, Pendeen in respect of outdoor area safe surfacing.

1.2 The grant would be used to replace existing slippery rotten decking with wet pour rubber or artificial grass; degraded tarmac with wet pour rubber; muddy grass with artificial grass. At present the garden is too slippery for the children to play on which reduces the amount of available outside space. In addition, the tarmac on the playground is too dangerous as the children slip on the loose gravel.

1.3 The Ark intends to engage a contractor to carry out the work and has asked for a grant of £3,500. The Ark has been quoted between £5,000 - £10, 000 to complete the proposed works. £2,000 has been raised by parents, and a grant application to Sainsbury's Family Trust was unsuccessful.

1.4 Their application is supported by research that states that young children learn more by being outside, particularly in the natural environment and the safer surfaces would mean that the children could use the outdoor space in all weathers.

1.5 The Ark is a non-profit making charity and serves the local community by working with parents to promote the emotional, social, physical and intellectual development of their children. There are currently between 55 – 75 children on the school roll. Most of the children come from low income families with Pendeen ranking 7881 (very low) on the Cornwall Index of Deprivation 2010.

1.6 The Ark received a good Ofsted report.

1.7 The Children's Ark has also submitted a copy of its income and expenditure account to year ending 31 August 2013 which shows a deficit of £4,561.

1.8 The Town Council has made the following previous grant award to the Ark

- £1,000.00 Apr 2011

2. The Town Council's instructions are sought.

Elaine Baker
Town Clerk

Background papers: Application form received 25 November 2013.