



The Queen's Hall
High Street
Cuckfield
West Sussex
RH17 5EL

01444 451610
01444 454276

Full Council Meeting

1st April 2021

FC132 - Preschool Grant 2021-22

Introduction

Cuckfield Preschool have submitted their request for an annual grant to support the running of the preschool from Cuckfield Village Hall.

Hire of Cuckfield Village Hall is charged at £11.00 per hour (excluding VAT). Last year, Preschool were offered a grant which effectively reduced the hourly rate to £8.50 per hour.

At a Community Buildings committee meeting held on 28th March 2019, the Parish Council accepted the proposal made by Preschool to increase the rent paid by 50p per hour from 1st April each year, for a period of 3 years. On this basis, the calculation of the grant would be based on an hourly rate of £9 per hour from 1st April 2021, with a further increase to £9.50 per hour from 1st April 2021.

2020-21 Grants

Since April 2020, the Village Hall has also been let to an afterschool club so there is some cross over of timings for hall usage. As this reduces the number of hours Preschool are paying for, this also slightly reduces the value of the grant being provided.

The total value of grants paid in 2020-2021 was £5,484.90. This was lower than originally forecast due to the COVID-19 lockdown closing the Village Hall and therefore all Preschool activities until they were permitted to reopen from 1st June 2020.

2021-22 Grants

Detailed below is the calculation of the grant that would be due for 2021-22 based on the following hourly rates, assuming the hall is shared with the afterschool club:

Date	£8.50 Rate	£9.00 Rate
April 2021	£1,849.45	£1,652.70
September 2021	£2,237.20	£1,856.40
January 2022	£2,009.25	£1,999.20
Total Grant 2021-22	£6,095.90	£5,508.30

Below are the grants payable if, for any reason, the afterschool club was unable to run and Preschool reverted to being the sole user:



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Date	£8.50 Rate	£9.00 Rate
April 2021	£2,049.20	£1,831.20
September 2021	£2,434.60	£2,175.60
January 2022	£2,223.10	£1,986.60
Total Grant 2021-22	£6,706.90	£5,993.40

As referenced above, the rate was due to increase to £9.00 from 1st April 2021, however Council may wish to consider holding the rate at £8.50 for another year due to the impact COVID-19 has had on the wider community.

Sam Heynes
Parish Clerk
23rd March 2021