



A request to consider payment of the £15,000 support grant to the Melbourn Hub

The Melbourn Community Hub Management Group formally request payment of the precepted £15,000 support grant towards the services provided by the Melbourn Hub.

Justification

1. General

The Hub has succeeded in surviving the recent two years of Covid disruption without the need to request exceptional financial support from the Parish Council. This was in spite of three government-mandated closures and the significant staff and cost management problems then arising. This outcome was achieved by accessing the government grant schemes (a) the Job Retention Scheme ('Furlough') and (b) the Business Support Grants offered through the local authority. Likewise, a successful claim was pursued through the Hub's own insurance for Business Interruption, although this required a formal and protracted dispute resolution process through the Financial Ombudsman Office.

While the Hub is an independent legal entity and operates as a standalone business it should be noted that the services it provides are in a real sense just enhancing the role of the Parish Council. It offers wide support and public engagement and a much-enriched platform from which the Parish Council can operate, positively influencing not just Melbourn but other local communities as well. (See section 3 for very recent examples).

2. Top Level Financial History

Historical Profit/Loss position by year since opening:

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
-£50,240	-£36,254	-£21,727	-£15,798	-£14,955	-£12,178	-£1,228	+£7,951

It can be seen that, from difficult beginnings, the financial results have steadily improved. It is hoped that the current year will also show at least a break-even on costs and income. Nonetheless, it remains difficult to build reserves and improve financial protection against the unexpected.

It should be clear from this past history that the business model of the Hub makes it difficult to generate higher levels of income quickly. The recent rebuild was designed to improve the cost/income ratio through an increased number of meeting rooms, as these deliver good margins. This strategy is starting to work but is a 'slow burn', with businesses only tentatively returning from lockdown and home working.

The Hub is a charity and its objective is to help the community, whether as individual residents or local businesses. It does this by offering very competitive costs, whether these are just for the coffee and cake or for commercial room hire rates. The Hub is principally a community meeting point, underpinning the wider health and wellbeing of the people who live in South Cambridgeshire. We believe we have a strongly growing and positive reputation for delivering our mission and the Parish Council shares in this.

3. Some Recent Examples of Added Value from the Melbourn Hub

Jubilee: The Hub partnered with the Fete Committee and Parish Council to deliver what must have been one of the best Platinum Jubilee events for miles around. While it was difficult to estimate numbers we know that in excess of 600 people were present. The Hub demonstrated its value as the centre of the local community.



PCN : The Hub has entered into a long-term partnership with the Meridian Primary Care Network (PCN), comprising six GP practices (Melbourn, Harston, Bourne, Comberton & Eversden, Roysia and the Royston Health Centre). The Hub will be the destination for their combined outreach services and focused on social prescribing. It is funded by s106 money now administered through the Melbourn Parish Council accounts. This initiative is being offered by the Hub at much lower rates than would normally be agreed. Funding is limited but will be stretched to the limit as part of the Hub responsibility to maximise benefits to the local area, in this case better healthcare access.

There will be a major launch 'Health at the Hub' event on June 25th involving many local health providers - even the vaccination service will be there!



Bourn Surgery
Comberton & Eversden Surgeries
Harston Surgery

The Health Centre Practice
Orchard Surgery
Roesia Surgery



'Health at The Hub' Launch Event



Sat 25th June
10am - 2pm

***Meridian Primary Care Network
bringing health care services to
melbourn hub**

***Meet GP's & other health care
professionals**

***Free health checks & advice**

*** Help shape your services**



**Free tea, coffee
& cake!**

melbourn hub

30, High St, Melbourn, SG8 6DZ

01763 263303

hubadmin@melbournhub.co.uk

**Free parking
opposite**

GCSE Art Exhibition: At a smaller scale on July 1st the Hub will host an Art Exhibition on behalf of the Melbourn Village College GCSE students, providing an excellent example of the Hub's connections with local educational settings.

JWT/ June 2022

Melbourn Community Hub Management Group
Registered Office: Melbourn Community Hub, 30, High Street, Melbourn, Cambs. SG8 6DZ
Registered Company no. 8320569 / Registered Charity no. 1152407