

Milton Creek Country Park Trust - 2025 AGM

Fundraising Report

Our Financial Year ended on the 30th of September during which time the Trust raised a further £11,652.22 for Space @Milton Creek.

We received grants of £7,000 from SBC Community Infrastructure Grant towards Air Source Heat pumps to allow the Trust to meet the EPC requirements and £2,770 from Orchard Community Energy towards the installation of the kitchenette. Private donations, gift aid, fundraising events and interest contributed a further £1,882.

Added to the £80,778 from previous year a total of £92,430 was available towards building SPACE @Milton Creek.

I am pleased to report that since 1st October we have received a grant of £24,300 from the Adsa Foundation bringing the total funds raised to £116,730.

During the current financial year, we have spent a significant proportion of these funds on the first 3 phases of the project, that are, to purchase the two containers, get them converted, installed, start fitting them out and get them connected to the services. With increasing prices and the extra work needed to meet building control and EPC requirements there is still a lot of fundraising required to enable us to fully complete the project. The £33,852 in the reserve account that is assigned to SPACE is committed to purchase orders for the electrical installation and the suspended ceiling, plus the heating, the flooring and the kitchenette.

A bid for £9,815 to the B&Q foundation is still being processed but I am not very confident that this will be successful as our project was not a particularly good match to their criteria. We bid for a SBC Community Infrastructure Grant but this was very oversubscribed as I expect the B&Q fund is.

In addition, the Trust has also been able to purchase a second storage container for £2,760 using a donation of £985 from the Sittingbourne Gardeners & Flower Arrangers, £530 from a raffle held by JTI, £200 raised by Noah's Triathlon challenge and the remaining £1,045 from the profits from the Friends Milton Creek Creations craft sales. ROOM and the small storage container that was in the car park have been moved and together with the new storage container are now forming part of a much larger work compound and volunteers mess room, so they no longer have to sit in the carpark, whatever the weather, to have their lunch break.

Lynda Marshall