



Ochil Tower School

Final report for the RS MacDonald Trust (Your ref: GA 01119) – to be read in conjunction with the December 2018: Update on Life Skills Centre previously sent.

Our application for funding set out the request as follows:

The Centre is a £465,000 building project that will be of long-term benefit to generations of young people with complex additional support needs. It will be a new addition for Ochil Tower School which is an educational charity, dedicated to providing a holistic environment that meets the social, physical, emotional and educational needs of its pupils. We should like to ask the Trustees to consider a grant of £46,000.

We were very grateful to have been awarded £30,000. (Your ref: GA 01119)

The Centre is now open and being used to good effect. The principal beneficiaries are as stated in our application: *the Life Skills Centre will be a particular focus for Young Adults aged 18-21 where they can grow and develop in an active, engaging, creative, enterprising and challenging environment. The young adults will receive the best possible support in preparing them for transition to an adult life where gaining employment and a good quality of life will be problematic to say the least.*



living, learning and growing together

We are finding the Centre to be a really good resource and will continue to develop our use of it as time progresses. For example, it has stimulated us to think what other developments located close to it might help us make good use of our estate. One such is the provision of a potting shed which we feel would be an excellent facility for the more complex 18-21 year olds who struggle to adapt to any form of classroom or workshop activity. Placing it next to the Life Skills Centre will add value to the benefits we are already gaining. We have up to 10 young adults accessing the Centre each day, as we develop the grounds we will create greater access to the Life Skills Centre.

Lessons Learned

The major lessons were:

- that large projects take longer to plan and deliver than initially hoped, particularly when key staff are involved in their 'day job,' i.e. teaching. In fact, we were only about six months behind our initial target opening date and this delay gave us more time to fund-raise and therefore get closer to our target; and
- initially we did not appreciate that there would be such a significant increase in costs due to inflationary pressures, higher tenders than expected and differences between the job as first estimated and finally decided.

We are closely monitoring our use of the new building and will make adjustments as we gain experience in its use. As stated above, its existence is also helping us think about other complementary ways to make use of our estate.

Finances

The final costings were:

PROJECT COST - Total £591,273.-

PROJECT FUNDING

Ochil Tower Development Fund: £14,970.-

Camphill Central Scotland Trust: £255,000.-

Fund-raising (Project) £321,303.-

Total £591,273.-

Plus FITTING OUT

Auchterarder & District Community Trust £5,000.- (Food Processing)

Spifox £4,000.- (Furniture and Teaching Equipment)

Camphill Foundation £6,306.- (IT)

Total £15,306.-

At the outset we stated that our landlords, Camphill Central Scotland Trust would underwrite the development and their eventual share was £255,000. This underwriting

living, learning and growing together

payment will result in an increase in our annual rent but this can be funded from our normal revenue budget, especially as the Life Skills Centre offers the opportunity to increase provision for more 18-21 year olds.

The income received from grant-making trusts has been:

Ochil Tower School - Grants received or Pledged - 10-8-17		
ACT Foundation	£15,000.00	furniture and fittings
Albert Hunt	£25,000.00	Project
Alexander Moncur Trust	£2,000.00	Project
Auchterarder and District Community Fund	£5,000.00	HE equipment
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	£20,000.00	Project
Beatrice Laing Trust	£5,000.00	Project
Boshier Hinton Foundation	£3,800.00	Project
Camphill Foundation	£6,306.00	IT Equipment
Camphill Newton Dee	£500.00	Project
Christina Mary Hendrie Charitable Trust	£5,000.00	Project
Coop Community Foundation	£3,443.00	Project
Gannochy Trust	£50,000.00	Project
Garfield Weston Foundation	£25,000.00	Project
Hugh Fraser Foundation	£10,000.00	Project
Mugdock Children's Trust	£2,000.00	Project
Robertson Charitable Trust	£100,000.00	Project
RS MacDonald Charitable Trust	£30,000.00	Project
Spifox	£4,000.00	Furniture

living, learning and growing together

		and teaching equipment
The Silverhill Trust	£7,000.00	Project
Thomson Charitable Trust	£1,000.00	Project
Walter Craig Charitable Trust	£2,000.00	project

Please let us know if you would like any further information. We are very grateful for the Trust's support and would always welcome a visit should anybody wish to see the fruits of your gift.



Stuart Provan
Chief Executive Officer
Ochil Tower School

January 2019

living, learning and growing together