

Milly Southworth

From: Matthew Pontin <matthew@torpointartistscollective.co.uk>
Sent: 22 May 2026 16:15
To: Milly Southworth
Cc: Torpoint Artists Collective CIC; Lizeta Fellows; Councillor Keiran Moon; Chris Still
Subject: Re: TAC CIC > Section 137 Application > Summer Kids Art Club

Afternoon Milly,

Thank you for considering Torpoint Artists Collective CIC's application for support towards the **Summer Kids Art Club** programme. We appreciate the recommendation to support materials and exhibition costs and also recognise the pressures on available funding.

We would however respectfully ask Full Council to consider whether the recommendation might be revised in light of both the published grant guidance and the adopted Torpoint Arts & Culture Strategy.

The recommendation notes that "artists fees cannot be paid for from grant funding" but having reviewed the Section 137 guidance and application criteria, we have been unable to identify any explicit exclusion of artist facilitation fees where these form part of direct project delivery rather than organisational overheads.

Our application identified artist fees specifically as costs associated with delivering six defined public sessions for children and families, rather than day-to-day operational expenditure.

Also, importantly, the [Torpoint Arts & Culture Strategy](#), adopted and supported by Torpoint Town Council, identifies a vision of:

"A thriving, connected, and creative Torpoint where arts and culture are part of everyday life..."

The strategy further commits to:

"Increase participation and wellbeing through inclusive, accessible cultural experiences for all ages"

and:

"Nurture young people's creativity and develop pathways into cultural skills, enterprise, and leadership."

Theme 2 of the Strategy specifically prioritises:

"Increase participation in existing arts and cultural opportunities and diversify the activities available."

The proposed Summer Kids Art Club directly supports these objectives through regular accessible family activity, children's creative development, and public celebration of local work through an Autumn exhibition.

In addition, a higher level of support would enable TAC to ringfence the venue space on these Sundays and align activity with wider town initiatives including market days and town-centre activity. This creates additional community value beyond the workshops themselves by contributing to increased footfall, family-friendly activity on Fore Street, and opportunities for wider participation through exhibitions and public events. The sessions will also save families money on having to travel into Plymouth for such workshops and bring an economic benefit in local people working locally.

As noted within the Strategy itself, arts and culture should be *“put at the centre of placemaking, community-making and regeneration.”*

Given this clear strategic alignment, and the absence of any explicit restriction within the grant guidance preventing payment of professional artist facilitation fees for project delivery, we respectfully ask whether Full Council may reconsider the recommendation and support the project at a higher level.

Thank you again for your consideration and continued support for arts and culture in Torpoint!

best wishes

Matthew Pontin

on behalf of TAC CIC



<https://linktr.ee/torpointartistscollective>

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On Fri, 22 May 2026 at 14:26, Milly Southworth <clerk@torpointtowncouncil.gov.uk> wrote:

Hello Matthew,

A decision will be taken by Full Council at the Adjourned meeting scheduled for Thursday 28th May, I can however share with you with recommendation from the minutes for the Finance and Operatons committee meeting, which have been just been published ago:

“Following consideration of the grant application from Torpoint Artists Collective CIC, for £1,020 toward the cost of running a Summer Kids Art Club, it is **recommended** to award £200 to Torpoint Artists Collective, which will provide materials for the sessions as well as the Autumn exhibition of children’s work and promotion costs, highlighting that unfortunately, artists fees cannot be paid for from grant funding.”

With kind regards

Milly