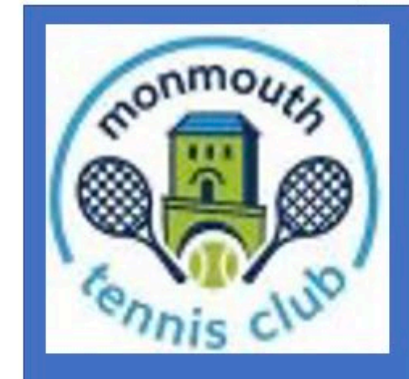
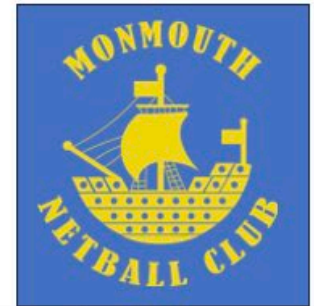




Monmouth Sports Association & Monmouth Cricket Club

**- Grant
Funding
Experience**

Monmouth Sports Association (MSA)



Background

- Volunteer run organisations for the benefit of local residents and club members
- The MSA has a 75+ year lease on the Sports Ground and is responsible for funding and maintenance of the Pavilion and the grounds e.g. tarmac, fencing etc
- Each club pays a contribution towards the running costs but any refurbishments or projects are funded via grants
- I joined the committee for both MSA and the Cricket Club in 2016 and have been fundraising ever since



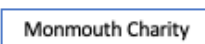
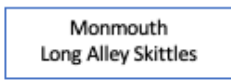
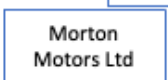
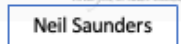
Goals over recent years

- Bring out facilities into the 21 century – last refurbished in the 70s!
- Make the Pavilion a welcoming space for all – players and spectators, women and girls, disabled, non-gender specific etc
- Increase usage of the facilities
- Make the grounds a ‘safe space’
- Reduce our carbon footprint & energy costs

Anticipated results:

- Increased membership in the member clubs
- Improved health and wellbeing in the community
- More groups using the facility
- Lower impact on the environment
- Increase income to ensure sustainability of all clubs and the MSA

Some of the Projects since 2020

- Installation of CCTV at the Sportsground 
- Bringing parkrun to Monmouth – installation of ground protection 
- Refurbish the function room     + Local donors
- Lockers for changing rooms 
- Installation of solar panels, batteries, low energy lighting and timers 
- Building an extension for ladies changing, new toilets and refurbishing old changing rooms & 3 Phase           
- Insulating the building           
- Reduce the dirt 
- New furniture 

Results

- New, inclusive facilities, fit for purpose
- Increased membership
- More groups using the facilities e.g. parkrun, yoga, pilates, first aid courses etc
- Lower running costs and lower carbon footprint



Challenges

- Getting volunteers to fill in applications and gather backup information!
- Time required to find grants and complete applications
- Targeting the right funding bodies
- Anticipate future needs so you don't start projects before grant decisions made

A Few Tips

- Enrol volunteers (try not to do everything yourself)
- Be organised:
 - Plan ahead – which projects? what funding is needed?
 - Get on the mailing lists for grant giving bodies of interest
 - Gather information in advance e.g. policies, constitution, annual accounts, bank statements, statistics, data on membership or expected impact
- Study the grant body's goals and make sure your project meets them and any broader impact the grant could have
- Don't waste time on grants if you don't fit their criteria
- Gather letters of support and get the community involved
- Report back on the benefits gained from previous grants
- Consider turning a big project into a set of smaller projects
- Don't be disappointed when you're turned down – keep trying
- Be passionate! – Good Luck