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ONE FAMILY IN CHRIST

Dear Ms Darke,

I would just like to draw to your attention the importance of the Cubbington Freeholders Charity in our community.

From Easter of this year I took up the post of Headteacher at Our Lady and St Teresa's Primary School, Cubbington. My school has a varied catchment area; the number of children who receive free school meals is above the national average as is the number of children on the register for special educational needs.

When I joined the school, only one class learnt musical instruments. The school had decided that because the parents could not afford to pay for the lessons, they simply could not be offered as part of the curriculum.

My aim is for every child in the school to learn more than one quality musical instrument before they leave and the school has to fund this because most of the parents would not be able to pay. The Cubbington Freeholders awarded our school a grant of £2000, £1000 of which will buy 10 quality violins, the other thousand will go towards musical tuition. This donation has been vital to our vision for music in our school.

I have only been in school since Easter, but I am aware that funding like this has benefited the school every single year. In previous years this has included much needed curtains to cool down stifling hot classrooms. Also, money for outdoor projects has been injected into many of the schools in the area.

It is not only schools that benefit from this good will. Cubbington OAP's Association, Cubbington Community Action Group, the Community Pavilion, the Sports and Social Club, the Albion Football Club and The Cubbington Players have all been helped to run successfully from money given by the freeholders. **In recent years, Community Projects which were previously funded by the government have been cut significantly, so much so that many of them are no longer existence. It is clear therefore that The Cubbington Freeholders are a Godsend in our community.**

If the land is sold, children in this school, and other schools in the area will suffer greatly from this loss. At a time when funding in education is being cut in so many different areas, it would be devastating for such a valuable and philanthropic organisation to be terminated due to the unnecessary sale of this land.

Best wishes



Jo Howell  
Head teacher Our Lady and St Teresa's

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Officer
18 JUL 2013
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