

Didcot Town Council Grant Funding Report November 2024

In January 2024 the Finance Committee approved a grant of £2,700 towards the running costs of our weekly drop-in group for parents with young babies (Didcot Baby Monday), monthly antenatal group (Bump Club), and to start offering paediatric first aid courses. This funding covered our costs for the period February to June 2024, during which time we held:

- 17 sessions of Didcot Baby Monday - average 28 families attending per session, total 127 individual families.
- 4 sessions of Bump Club - average 7 families attending per session, total 18 individual families.
- 6 Paediatric First Aid Course - total 95 parents and carers trained.

As part of Didcot Baby Monday sessions:

- 60 parents received 1:1 feeding support
- 33 parents attended 2 *Babies Who Lunch* introducing solid foods workshops.
- 24 parents attended 3 *Babywearing 101* sling workshops

Feedback from a parent:

“I attended as many sessions of Bump Club as I could before my baby arrived, and found every one of them to be supportive, informative and a great opportunity to meet other people also expecting their little ones. It was a very friendly group and I felt more confident then going to my first DBM session once my baby had arrived. The support at DBM is unlike any other group I’ve found in the best way; it’s warm, welcoming, and has made me feel ‘held’ by other mums (both the volunteers and the other attendees) - even on some of the most exhausting and tough days! Becoming and being a mum can be really overwhelming, and DBM has helped me feel cared for and equipped for the challenges that having a baby often entails.”

In the summer we very kindly invited to bring the group to Didcot Railway Centre for a visit. Our attendees enjoyed making use of the new ramp access with their pushchairs, having a wander round the grounds, and a natter and cake in the picnic area.



We have recently appointed our first board of Trustees and have applied to the Charity Commission to incorporate as a CIO, to enable us to apply for funding from a wider range of sources and to meet the needs of our growing community.

We thank Didcot Town Council for their continued support.

Kathryn Goldsby-West, Didcot Baby Monday CEO