ANDOVER TOWN COUNCIL
Community and Events Committee

Item No.

9

Produced for: Community & Events Committee	**By:** Community and Events Officer/Town Clerk	**Date of Report:** 22nd Sept 2026

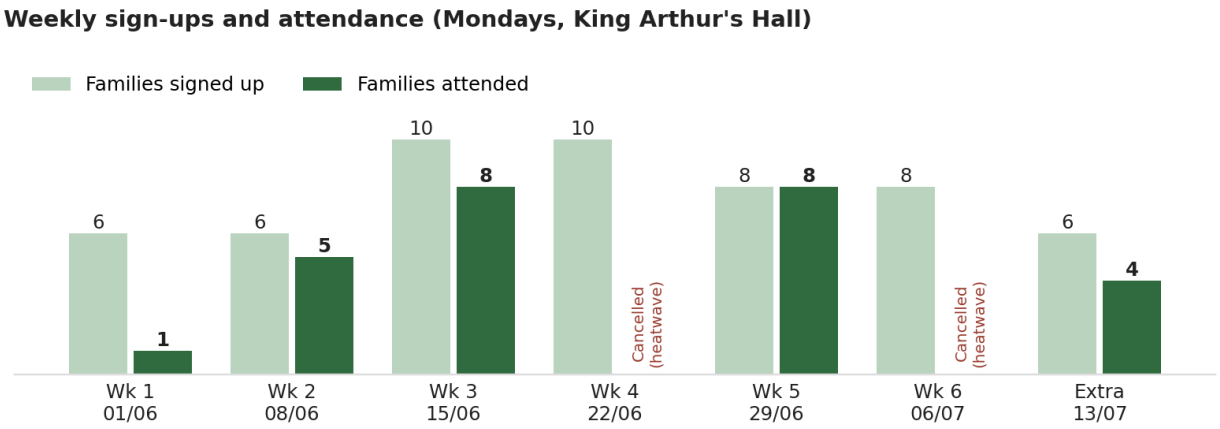
1. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an overview of the Grub Club programme delivered by MUNCH C.I.C, including how the sessions were delivered, attendance levels, outcomes achieved, financial expenditure and opportunities for future development.

10	**5**	**100%**	**80%**
families signed up	sessions delivered (2 lost to heatwave)	reported improved mental health	feel more financially resilient

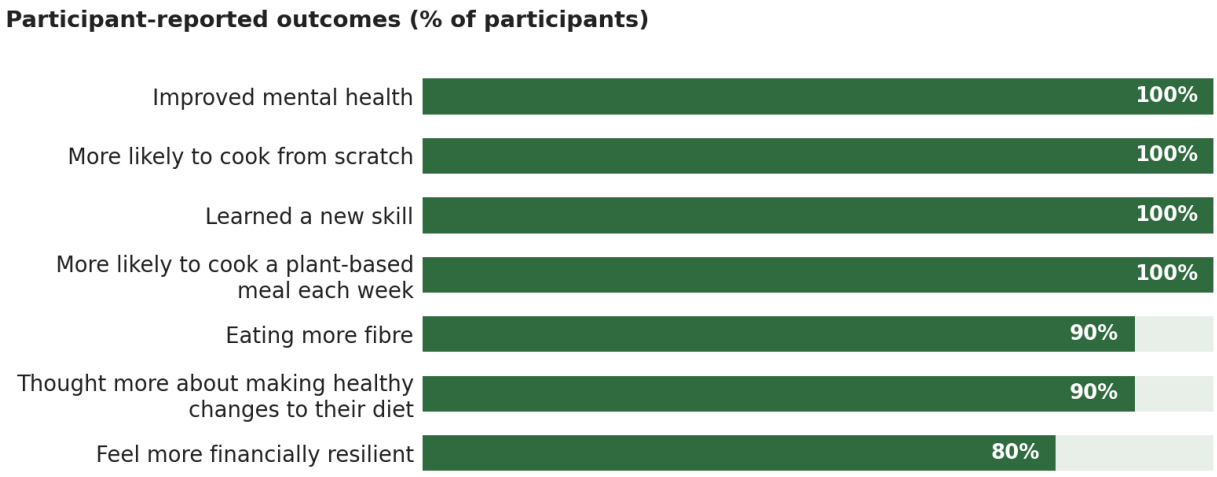
2. Grub Club

Grub Club was a six-week after-school cookery programme delivered at King Arthur's Hall on Mondays from 1st June 2026. Families were initially referred from Knights Enham and Raymond Way Primary Schools before promotion was expanded across the wider community. Ten families signed up. Two sessions were cancelled due to extreme heatwave conditions above 30 degrees, although one additional catch-up session was delivered. Attendance grew from one family in the first week to eight by weeks three and five, demonstrating increased trust and engagement from participating families. Sessions covered affordable healthy recipes including fajitas, curry, bolognaise, stir fry and burritos. The programme was well organised and the venue proved an excellent location for delivery.



3. Impact

The programme delivered positive outcomes across health, wellbeing, and financial resilience. 100% of participants reported improved mental health, increased likelihood of cooking from scratch, and learning a new skill. 100% were more likely to prepare a plant-based meal each week. 90% reported eating more fibre and thinking more about making healthy changes to their diets, while 80% felt more financially resilient. Feedback highlighted increased confidence, healthier eating habits, and saving money through reduced reliance on takeaways.



What participants said

> *"We are definitely saving money cooking at home and less take-aways!"*

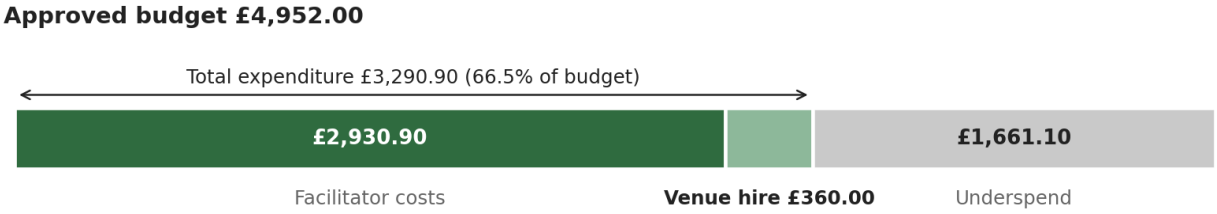
> *"My children won't normally try new foods but have eaten burrito and stir fry here."*

> *"The kids are more interested in cooking at home and we now cook different dishes from around the world."*

[Munch Impact report]

4. Financial Report

Approved Budget	£4,952.00
Facilitator Costs:	£2,930.90
Venue Hire	£360.00
Total Expenditure	£3,290.90
Underspend:	£1,661.10



The programme was delivered under budget while successfully achieving its intended outcomes.

5. Future Proposal

Building on the 2026 programme, Officers propose two further Grub Club programmes between January and May 2027, avoiding the summer months when heatwave conditions led to two cancelled sessions this year.

Programme	Venue	Details
Family programme	King Arthur's Hall	Continuation of the family sessions, subject to hall availability and discussions with the trustees.
Young Carers programme	Augusta Park Community Centre	A programme for young carers, extending reach into the Romans Ward, subject to hall availability and discussions with the trustees. Officers have discussed with Munch CIC the programme ending with a dinner cooked by the young carers for the people they care for, subject to their level of dependency.

Officers will continue to engage with community organisations, including Andover Young Carers, to assess demand and identify delivery partners.

To give the programme a sustainable long-term footing, Officers propose preparing a **five-year plan**, which can be adapted in light of further reports on the 2027 programmes, and a **separate budget line for a Community Chef of £10,000 per annum**.

6. Officer Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. **Note** the delivery, attendance, outcomes and expenditure of the 2026 Grub Club programme delivered by Munch CIC at King Arthur's Hall between 1st June and 13th July 2026.
2. **Agree in principle** to the delivery of two further Grub Club programmes between January and May 2027: a family programme at King Arthur's Hall and a Young Carers programme at Augusta Park Community Centre, each subject to hall availability and discussions with the respective trustees.
3. **Instruct Officers** to prepare a five-year plan for the programme, to be adapted in light of further reports on the 2027 programmes, and bring it to a future meeting of this Committee.
4. **Consider** a separate budget line for a Community Chef of £10,000 per annum, for recommendation to Full Council as part of the 2027/28 budget-setting process.