1. **Details on benefits that the transfer will bring to the community (what additional benefit will result from the transfer)**

The aim of Ormlie Community Association Ltd acquiring a long-term lease for the Ormlie Centre is to enable us to upgrade and redevelop. OCA Ltd would be in a position to apply to external funders with the aim of making the Ormlie Centre more environmentally friendly. We would like to see the centre become more energy and resource efficient. OCA Ltd would like to redevelop the garden area by delivering projects on gardening, growing vegetables etc, for our children and young people’s groups and have a safe enclosed space for our crèche children to play in.

My role within Ormlie Community Association Ltd is as Project Development Manager. I would like to investigate and develop new projects for the community. With the 25 years lease OCA Ltd can promote the Ormlie Centre, develop new projects, rent out space and possibly bring a small income into OCA Ltd. Projects like a Men’s Shed, Children’s Birthday Parties and a Youth Café. OCA Ltd is in the early stages of developing a toddler play park with the help of our Young Mums Group.

1. **Details on OCA’s capacity to deliver these benefits.**

The OCA Ltd Board of Directors come with a wealth of experience and knowledge. The OCA Ltd Chair is a retired bank manager who is also a volunteer with Pentland Energy Advice. Our Vice Chair is a North Highland College lecturer and our directors come in the form of a Chamber of Commerce Projects Co-ordinator, Thurso High School Support Worker and a local Co-op manager. Two of our five directors were born and raised in the Ormlie Estate. We have interest from a quantity surveyor who would also like to join our Board of Directors. The staff employed by OCA Ltd are qualified to a high standard to deliver our projects. As employers OCA Ltd are continuously looking to further train and enhance the personal development of all our staff.

1. **Evidence of Community Support for the request.**

In March/April 2018 the Thurso Community Development Trust recently undertook a Community Consultation (see attached) to ask the people of Thurso ‘What they think of the town and how it can be improved? There were 1180 responses of which ‘Play & Recreation and Facilities and Amenities’ were included.

Some areas within the consultation can be improved and supported by the Ormlie Community Association Ltd if we are successful in gaining the 25 years lease from the Highland Council.

As mentioned above, OCA Ltd will look at new projects such as a Youth Café for teenagers and a Men’s Shed. The TCDT consultation found that there was a lack of facilities for teenagers and older children and a “higher priority should be placed on teenage facilities than soft play for younger children”.

OCA Ltd is currently in the early stages of developing a play park for toddlers. (also a concern mentioned in the consultation) and would like to deliver children’s birthday parties to bring in a small income to OCA Ltd. (there is also a lack of community space mentioned in the consultation).

OCA Ltd has over 20 years of community support and has provided high quality play area’s and home zone project. We have created wavy walls, stone seats, mosaic walls and a shark park all with community involvement.

1. **Maintenance Plans – how the asset will be resourced there’s mention of a business plan in the guidance, but that may be excessive here)**

In my initial application it was requested that the Highland Council take full responsibility for any repairs and maintenance of the Ormlie Centre and gardens. OCA Ltd will now undertake a survey on the Ormlie Centre and with the maintenance reports from the Highland Council on the condition and value of the Centre, further discussions will ensue once all reports are completed.

OCA Ltd would like to enhance and develop the Ormlie Centre to a condition that would need minimal maintenance in the future, looking at energy efficiency, making more environmentally friendly decisions and becoming resource efficient.