

KENTISBEARE PARISH COUNCIL POLICY FOR AWARDING GRANTS

The aim of Kentisbeare Parish Council's grant scheme is to promote and support community activity within the Parish.

By providing financial support towards projects, community organisations and local groups, working for the benefit of residents, the Council's intention is to improve the range of activities, services and well-being of the local community.

Grants can be awarded to new and existing organisations. Below are some examples of the types of organisations that will be considered for grants:

- Charitable groups
- Sports Clubs
- Playgroups
- Arts groups
- Youth groups
- Free Advice organisations
- Local Community/Voluntary Transport Schemes

...also, many others, which might include help and support for the elderly or the young; support local arts and culture; provide sports & recreation, or enhance the environment by conservation, recycling, planting etc.

Grants are targeted at local organisations benefitting local people. It is therefore not possible to consider providing a grant to a national organisation with no locally based group. Applicants must demonstrate that the grant will benefit the Parish.

Each application will be considered on its merits, and grants will not necessarily be available on an annual basis – at the discretion of the Parish Council, only one application will be considered each financial year. There is a limited budget each year, and whilst grant requests will be considered as they arise - subject to Council funds being available - applicants should be aware that grants may be applied in the subsequent financial year. Grants will not normally be made retrospectively.

The Parish Council may request a copy of the applicant's most recent accounts or bank statements - or in the case of a new organisation, a budget.

The Council may choose to award a grant at a lower amount than that requested.

Applications will only be considered at Full Council meetings, and the Council's decision will be final.

Canvassing of individual councillors is not permitted.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must be a non-profit making charitable organisation operating within the Parish. Organisations should be registered as a charity, but non-registered organisations will still be eligible if a Management Committee is in place, and all other criteria are met.
- The Council is prevented in statute from giving financial assistance to individuals.
- Grants cannot be made to profit making organisations or national organisations, unless the local branch can demonstrate a requirement to raise funds for its own projects.
- Activities funded by grants need to be open and accessible to as many people as possible.
- Grants should ideally fund one-off capital projects. Annual grants such as those to assist halls, youth clubs and churchyards, are granted at the discretion of the Parish Council.
- The applicant's aims and objectives must be clear, and show the direct benefits to the well-being of the community.
- Applicants must have a bank/building society account with at least two signatories.

Terms and Conditions: Other than annual grants mentioned above such as those for halls and church yards, grants must be used for the purpose for which they are awarded, and should be used within one year of being awarded. Any delays with project timescales must be reported to the Clerk. Any unspent sums may have to be repaid. If the application is successful, the Parish Council must be recognised in any publicity that is carried out. Any grants agreed are on the basis of acceptance of these terms and conditions.

How to apply: In writing to the Parish Clerk. Email: info@kentisbeare.net

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