Applicable Statute: Local Govt Act 1972 s 137

**PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY**

Wigginton Parish Council is committed to supporting local voluntary organisations within, or for the direct benefit of the Parish. A grant or donation is any payment made by the Council to be used by an organisation for a specific purpose in the furtherance of the wellbeing of the local community, either generally, or for a specific purpose and which is not directly controlled or administrated by the Council.

The Parish Council set aside a sum of money each year to donate to local organisations as a grant or a donation. These are permitted under our powers to spend covered by the Local Government Act 1972 and other legislative powers.

In some circumstances we are permitted to spend under the Local Government act 1972 (section 137). The act states that the money must be spent on purposes for the direct benefit of the parish and be proportionate with the expenditure incurred.

Wigginton PC fund grants or donations by using the annual precept collected from the electorate.

Full Council will assess each application on its own merits and the council’s decision will be final.

**WIGGINTON PARISH COUNCIL GRANT APPLICATION CONDITIONS**

1. Applications will be considered from Parish organisations which can prove their sustainability and the benefit they provide to residents of the Parish. The grant is set to support the day-to-day running expenses and individual projects.
2. Applications will be considered from newly constituted Community Groups.
3. Applications WILL NOT be considered from:
   1. Organisations intending to support or oppose any political party or to discriminate on the grounds of race or religion.
   2. Private organisations operated as a business to make a profit or surplus.
4. All applications for a grant must be from the Parish or from clubs, societies or organisations with a majority of members or recipients residing in the Parish. Records of membership, with addresses must be available for inspection by the Council if requested.
5. Normally only one application per year per club, society or organisation will be considered. In exceptional circumstances consideration may be given to additional requests.
6. Applicants must submit a copy of the last two years’ audited accounts with the application.
7. Applications must be made on the prescribed form which will be distributed by the Clerk upon request.
8. No grant will be considered for private, commercial or closed clubs, societies or organisations.
9. All sources of funding must be declared at the time of application.
10. The applicant must declare the full purpose of the grant and the benefits attained from the funding.
11. Invoices or documentation must be made available, if requested, as evidence of the expenditure of the grant for the purpose for which it was awarded.
12. There shall be no change to the intended use of the grant without the express written authority of the Council.
13. Failure to achieve the specified purpose of the grant shall require the recipient to return the entire grant funding to the Council.
14. Upon request recipients of grant funding shall inform the Council of the benefits or achievements accomplished as a result of the award.
15. Where funding is given for an event, the organiser must indemnify the Parish Council against any claim from any party as a result of any incident or accident associated with said event. Where funding is awarded for any other purpose the Parish Council cannot be held responsible or liable in any capacity.
16. The Parish Council may authorise grants to voluntary, cultural, charitable and sporting activities for the benefit of the local community. The Parish Council will take account of the objectives of the association and the degree of benefit arising from the grant in assessing its priorities.
17. Grants will normally only be made to non-profit organisations supported by unpaid volunteers.
18. Wigginton Parish Council reserve the right to publicise any grants and beneficiary organisations without additional prior authorisation using any platforms such as the Parish website, social media and press releases.

Please contact the clerk should you require this document in a different format or assistance to complete the application form.

Reviewed and adopted: September 2024