

Shincliffe Parish Council

Grant Awarding Policy

Background

S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that "A local authority may, subject to the provisions of this section, incur expenditure which in their opinion is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area or any part of it or all or some of its inhabitants, but a local authority shall not, by virtue of this subsection, incur and expenditure Unless the direct benefit accruing to their area or any part of it or to all or some of the inhabitants of their area will be commensurate with the expenditure to be incurred.

1. Policy Statement

A Grant 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 administered by the Council.

2. Introduction

Shincliffe Parish Council awards grants at its discretion to community organisations which can demonstrate a clear need for financial support to provide benefits to Shincliffe Parish by:

- Providing a service
- Enhancing the quality of life
- Improving the environment
- Promoting Shincliffe in a positive way

3. Organisation and Locality

Applications will only be accepted from charitable, voluntary or non-profit making organisations

Applications cannot be accepted from individuals or private organisations operated as a business to make a profit or surplus, or organisations intending to support or propose any particular political party or to discriminate on the grounds of race or religion.

Organisations should be local to Shincliffe Parish, or if outside the boundary, its work should be of some form of benefit to the Parish and its residents.

National appeals are with limited exceptions outside of the scope of the Council's grant scheme.

The Council is unable to give financial assistance to organisations operating overseas or to a fund established to help persons outside the UK.

4. Process

All Grant Aid application must be made in writing, to the Clerk of the Parish Council. Retrospective applications will only be considered under special circumstances.

All applications will be considered at an Ordinary meeting of the Council, normally in June and December each year.

5. General Conditions

The Council will make the decision on which grants to award.

Each application will be assessed on its own merits and will be considered along with other applications submitted.

It is a condition of any grant application that the group or project must bring direct benefit to residents of the parish or any part of it, or all or at least some of its inhabitants. All applications must clearly demonstrate how this will be achieved.

Organisations will not automatically be written to on the basis of previous expressions of interest.

On-going commitments to award grants or subsidies in future years will not be made. A fresh application will be required each year.

The Council may take into account the amount and frequency of awards in previous years.

It must be understood that any grant must only be used for the purpose for which it was awarded.

Shincliffe Parish Council reserves the right to request any further information that it deems necessary to assist the decision making process.

A grant may be subject to additional conditions and requirements as it considers appropriate.

Nothing contained herein shall prevent the Council from exercising at any time, its existing duty or power in respect of providing financial assistance or grants to local or national organisations under the provisions of Section 137.

Organisations awarded a grant should complete an end of grant report.

Shincliffe Parish Council reserves the right to refuse any grant application which is considered to be inappropriate or against the objectives of the parish council.

Adopted - 20th October 2015

Last reviewed - May 2020

To be reviewed - May 2025