



"Not for self"

Oswestry Rural Parish Council

COMMUNITY GRANT POLICY

Twice a year, Oswestry Rural Parish Council award grants to voluntary organisations and community groups, which in the opinion of the council is in the interests of the local community. The maximum award is limited to **£500** per application to allow six grant applications to be awarded during a financial year. In exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of Full Council, an application can be awarded above this limit. The total grants awarded will not exceed the annual grant budget of £3,000.

All applications are considered on their individual merits and grants are awarded in accordance with how the council considers funding to be of benefit to the local community.

Successful applicants will be invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting, which takes place in April each year, at which their award will be celebrated.

1. Who can apply?

Local voluntary organisations, community groups and sports/recreational clubs.

All applicants must:

- be of a non-commercial nature;
- have a constitution, set of rules or documented aims and objectives;
- have a bank account with at least two signatures.

2. How the grants can be used and how are they awarded.

Grants awarded by the council may be used for capital projects or for revenue purposes in accordance with the reasons specified in the grant application. Grants are not for the purpose as a source of income.

Applications are considered and awarded in accordance with:

- How well the grant will meet the needs of the community.
- How effectively the organisation will use the grant.
- How the organisation is managed.
- Whether the costs are appropriate and realistic.
- The level of contributions from other funders.
- Whether the organisation could reasonably have been expected to obtain sufficient funding from a more appropriate source.

3. How and when should an application be made?

All grant applications should be submitted to the Clerk on the Council's formal 'Grant Application Form' which is available to download from the council's website or by application to the Clerk. Applications will be considered in the following months:

Latest Date of Application	Considered at Meeting of Full Council
31 January	March
31 August	September

Grant applicants should make every effort to attend the meeting at which their grant applications will be considered.

Applications received after these dates will not be considered until the following fiscal year.

4. What is required with the application form?

- A copy of the organisation's latest accounts and bank statements.
- Supporting evidence of the cost of the project (e.g. invoices or estimates).
- A copy of the minutes at which it was agreed to apply for grant aid.
- A copy of the organisation's constitution, or rules or statement of aims and objectives.

5. The Council will not fund:

- Applications which do not substantially benefit the local community.
- Organisations or activities which are primarily commercial in nature.
- Organisations which have a closed or restricted membership.
- Organisations that are the responsibility of another public body/agency. However, some form of matched/joint funding may be considered.
- Religious or political activities unless unrestricted community benefit can be demonstrated.
- Loan repayments.
- A grant used as a primary source of income.
- Retrospective applications where the activity or project has already been carried out.

6. Conditions

- Grants awarded by the council can only be used for the purposes stated in the application and the council reserves the right to reclaim any grant funding that has not been used as specified in the application.
- Organisations are responsible for ensuring that they care in compliance with all legal and statutory requirements.
- Should for any reason the organisation disbands during the period of the grant the council may request that all or part of the grant is reimbursed to the council.
- Recognition of grants awarded by the council must be acknowledged in all recipients' publicity.
- Within three months of grants awarded over £500 recipients must submit a report detailing how the grant was used and the impact it has made.
- Organisations may only make one application per year.
- More than one project may be included within each grant application.

Non-compliance with any of these conditions may result in the grant being withdrawn and funding reimbursed, and future grant applications being refused.

<i>Adopted:</i>	<i>25 August 2015</i>
<i>Last reviewed:</i>	<i>27 January 2022</i>
<i>Minute no:</i>	<i>1235(b)</i>
<i>Updated</i>	<i>January 2024</i>
<i>Next review date:</i>	<i>January 2025</i>