

Affpuddle & Turnerspuddle Parish Council Policy on Grants under Section 137 and 133 of the Local Government Act 1972

This Policy sets out the Parish Council's position and procedure with regard to the award of S137 & S133 grants adopted 10th January 2018 and Revised 12th June 2019.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 section 137 and section 133, Affpuddle & Turnerspuddle Parish Council sets aside a sum of money each year which can be applied for by local organisations for projects which will be of benefit to residents within the parish of Affpuddle & Turnerspuddle.

This document sets out the Parish Council's policy and procedure for grants and donations under Section 137 and Section 133 of the above Act with its aim of ensuring that all of its award-making activity is open, transparent, fair and supports local organisations.

The Parish Council's awards are open to established voluntary or community groups, as well as new or informal groups of parishioners who are or intend by the date of application to become formally constituted.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

To be eligible for the award of a grant under Section 137 and S133 an organisation must:

- be established for charitable, benevolent, social, cultural, recreational or philanthropic purposes;
- have a constitution, or set of rules, which define its aims, objectives and operational procedures;
- be able to provide a copy of its latest annual accounts and be able to demonstrate that the accounts are checked and signed by a person independent of the group;
- have a bank account operated by a minimum of at least two joint signatories and held in the name of the organisation.

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED?

- the project should be something which makes the local community a better place in which to live, work or visit;
- it should benefit people who live in the parish;
- there must be clear evidence that local people support the project and are involved in carrying it out;
- each group may only make one application per financial year.

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT ELIGIBLE

- support for individuals or private business projects;
- projects which are the prime statutory responsibility of other government bodies;
- projects which improve or benefit privately owned land or property; 2
- projects which have already been completed or will have been completed by the time the grant is made.

CONDITIONS OF SUPPORT

The Parish Council may make the award of any grant subject to all or some of the following conditions. Required conditions will be at the discretion of the Parish Council and take into account an organisation's individual circumstances:

- An application must be able to demonstrate that funding is not available from either retained reserves or any other external source of grant funding.
- In order to fully understand your project or activity, parish councillors may wish to visit your project or activity, prior to it commencing. They may also wish to conduct a site visit once your funded project is underway.
- As a minimum, you will write to confirm receipt of the cheque for audit purposes.
- Funding must only be used for the purpose agreed with the Parish Council and if the monies are not spent on the items agreed, they must be returned.
- Funding must be spent within the financial year awarded and cannot be added wholly or partly to your reserves.
- If your project costs are more than you anticipated on your application, any shortfall must be met by you.
- The Parish Council would ask that you acknowledge its support in your publications, publicity and annual reports.
- Successful applicants will be requested to report back to the Parish Council on the outcome of the grant and details of the expenditure.
- If an application is made from an organisation which has legal agreements in place with the Parish Council, these agreements may by their nature, affect the award of any grant.

HOW WILL DECISIONS BE MADE?

All applications will be judged after the closing date. Decisions will be made by The Parish Council, with its decision being final. Unfortunately, the Parish Council may not be able to fund all projects as there may be more applications than there is money available. However, all applications will be considered carefully. Due account will be taken of the extent to which funding has been sought or secured from other sources or the applicant's own fund-raising activities.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications should be made in writing by completing the standard application form. A copy can be obtained from the Parish Clerk or downloaded from the community website under the Parish Council tab.

Timetable for the Grant process:

- Applications to be submitted by 30th September
- Grand awards considered at October Parish Council Meeting
- Payments to be made October Parish Council Meeting