

Pitcombe Parish Council

Grants Policy

Background:

Under the Local Government Act 1972, s11 the Parish Council is empowered to do anything (whether or not involving the expenditure, borrowing or lending of money or the acquisition or disposal of property or rights) which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of its functions.

Therefore, the council can lawfully issue grants pertaining to its statutory powers.

Grants not covered by these powers can be applied for under the Local Government Act 1972, s137. This act empowers a local council to spend up to a prescribed amount in any one year. This 'free resource' must be for the benefit of the inhabitants of the area or part of them.

This figure is agreed annually by the Government using the Retail Price Index.

Objective:

To ensure that inhabitants of Pitcombe get value for money from the Parish Council.

Policy:

1. The policy will be kept up-to-date. To ensure this, the policy and the way it is operated will be reviewed each year by the Council.
2. Only organisations can apply for funding, not individuals.
3. All funding must be demonstrably for the benefit of the inhabitants of Pitcombe
4. There are two types of grants: Planned and Emergency.
 - 4.1. Planned Grants. The decision to issue a Planned Grant will be made by the parish council in April and the grant cheque will be raised in May. Applications for Planned Grants must be submitted to the Parish Clerk by 1st October.
 - 4.2. Emergency Grants. These can be applied for at any time throughout the year, but will be dependent on available funds.
5. All grant applications have to be accompanied by a fully completed application form and a financial statement (e.g. statement of accounts, income & expenditure).
6. A copy of this policy will be given to all applicants who apply for a grant.
7. Grant applicants will be informed when their application will be discussed by the Parish Council.
8. All grant recipients will be required to provide evidence of how the grant was spent. Recipients of grants in excess of £250 will need to provide a written report of how the grant money has been used within 12 months of receipt of the grant. It may take the form of an annual report or set of accounts which clearly identify the manner of spending. The written report must be deposited with the Clerk of the Council and

hence becomes a document liable for inspection by the general public under provision of Section 228 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

9. Recipients of grants maybe asked to acknowledge Council support on stationary and promotional material.
10. Grants will not be considered for projects that have already been completed
11. Extended Grants i.e. grants that run over a period of more than one year will not normally be considered. However, in exceptional circumstances the Council may consider such an application which should be supported by a business plan or a service plan in respect of the period for which the grant is being sought.
12. Grants over a value of £1000 may be made in scheduled payments during the financial year.
13. The council wishes to promote equal opportunities and will consider all applications regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, marital status, disability or age, in line with the parish council equal opportunities policy (available online or by request at the council office). If you have an equal opportunities policy, you should include a copy with your application.

Adopted	11/07/2017
Readopted	