

Grant / Donation Awarding Policy

Purpose

Hinton Waldrist Parish Council (“The Council”) is committed to giving financial support to local initiatives but has a responsibility to distribute grants/donations in a fair and equitable manner to reflect the value of the organisations, services, or activities to the residents of Hinton Waldrist.

Introduction to Policy

A grant is any payment made by the Council to an organisation to be used by that organisation for a specific purpose. A donation is any payment made to that organisation for general purposes that will benefit the Parish, or residents of the Parish, and that organisation is not directly controlled or administered by the Council.

Section 137

Section 137 of the Local Government Act enables local councils to spend a limited amount of money for purposes for which they have no other statutory duty. The amount a council can spend is limited to a fixed sum per elector set by Government for any financial year multiplied by the number of persons on the Electoral Register.

Budgeting within the Council's Precept

The Council sets aside funds for the purpose when setting its annual precept. Whilst regular requests may often be anticipated, the Council will also reserve funds for unexpected grant/donation requests.

Grant/Donation Application Process

Grant/donation requests are to be made to the Parish Clerk and will usually be considered by the Council at Full Council meetings. The Council will consider each request individually, and the Council will consider each request on its own merits.

The Council will make the decision on which grants/donations to award. The Parish Clerk will contact all applicants following the Council's decision.

The Council will award grants/donations, at its discretion, to organisations that can demonstrate that such grants/donations will benefit all or some residents of the Parish by:

- providing a service;
- enhancing the quality of life;
- improving recreation and / or sports;
- improving the environment;

- promoting the Parish in a positive way.

Conditions of Funding

1. The organisation must be either a local non-profit voluntary organisation UK charity registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.
2. The Council will not consider any applications that are from private organisations operated as a business to make a profit or surplus.
3. The Council will not make grants/donations to individuals.
4. The Council will not make grants/donations retrospectively.
5. The Council will not make grants/donations to fund political activities
6. The organisation must have a UK bank account in the name of the non-profit or charity. Grants/donations from the Council can only be paid into this account.
7. The grant or donation amount awarded will be considered and decided at the discretion of the Council. Requests for grants or donations in excess of £2000 are unusual although they can be considered in exceptional circumstances.
8. The Council will not make ongoing commitments to award grants/donations or subsidies in future years. An organisation will be required to make a fresh application each year.

9. 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/donations to local or national organisations under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 137.

The policy and procedures are based on the principles of fairness, responsiveness to local need, generosity, and accountability. This policy was adopted by Hinton Waldrist Parish Council at its meeting on the 4/09/25.