

Grant Award Policy

MAYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Mayfield PC is able to offer financial assistance to community projects via grants from the annual precept under specific powers vested by a wide range of Acts of Parliament. In addition, s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows a local authority to spend a limited amount on activities for which it has no specific power through other legislation, but which the authority considers “will bring direct benefit to the area, or any part of it or all or some of its inhabitants”. The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 added the requirement that the benefit obtained should be commensurate with the expenditure incurred.

The Parish Council reserves each year a sum of money (no more than £4,000) for disbursement on grants to organisations and activities which contribute constructively to the life of the Parish and compliment the objectives set out in its Corporate Plan.

In addition, and as a one-off exercise, in 2022 grants of up to £2,000 will be available from the PC's accrued surplus to fulfil the same objectives.

1. An award of a grant must give direct benefit to all or some of the inhabitants of the Parish, and the size of grant should be commensurate with the benefit to be delivered.
2. The Parish Council as a body does not affiliate to any political party and legally cannot provide grant or support to any party-political activity.
3. The Parish Council does not affiliate to any religious group, however applications will be considered where there is a clear community benefit.
4. Request for grant aid will only be considered from the following categories of applicant:
 - A charity based inside or outside the Parish, the activities of which are of direct benefit to residents or communities of the Parish.
 - A not for profit organisation, based within or outside the Parish, which serves the needs of the residents or communities of the Parish
 - A Parish based club/association/organisation serving specific sections of the community or the community as a whole.
5. Applications for amounts up to £500 (more only in exceptional circumstances) may be made at any time of the year and will be considered by the PC at its meetings in April and October with funds awarded immediately.
6. Applications will only be considered when made on a formal application form submitted to the Clerk.
7. Applicants will need to demonstrate how their activities or the particular project for which financial support is being sought will benefit the residents of the Parish.
8. The Council will give priority to the projects/organisations which progress one or more of its corporate objectives.
9. The Council will require details of the structure and funding of the Organisation making the

application and where appropriate, copies of any relevant budgets/accounts and business plans.

10. The Council will require details of any project which is the subject of the application, including standards to be attained, costs, timescales and how the remainder of the funding will be provided.

11. The Council will not fund the whole of a project and will only consider an application which can demonstrate that more than 50% of the required funding has already been secured.

12. The Council will usually only consider requests for revenue or capital funding towards specific projects or activities, not on-going or core costs. The exceptions to this will be "pump-priming" to encourage new groups or projects. In these cases, the ability of the organisation to obtain core funding from other sources will be considered.

13. The Council will advertise its Grant and Financial Assistance Scheme on its website and more widely to ensure an equitable distribution of resources.

14. The Council will require as a condition of grant, that organisations advertise the fact that grant aid has been provided by the Council.

15. Organisations will be limited to one application in any given year.

16. Whilst organisations are not restricted to the number of grant applications submitted to the Council for grant aid over a period of time, the history of previous applications will be considered in the decision-making process, as will any accumulated reserves held by the applicant.

17. The giving of a grant one year does not set a precedent for another year.

18. If the project is not completed in a reasonable period of time or the organisation is discontinued, the Council reserves the right to reclaim any grant paid.

19. Successful applicants will be required to complete an End of Grant form which the PC will use to evaluate the impact of its grant-funding. They will also be expected to report on how the grant has benefitted the community of Mayfield at the Annual meeting of Mayfield Parish Council.