

TATENHILL & RANGEMORE PARISH COUNCIL: GRANTS & FUNDING POLICY

Adopted: 28TH July 2015, reviewed September 2017 (**Review Date: August 2019**)

The Council originally adopted a Grants & Funding policy in August 2009 and amended it in July 2010. It was revised in July 2015 to reflect the Council being eligible to use the General Power of Competence.

The Parish Council reserves each year, a sum of money for disbursement on grants to organisations and activities which contribute constructively to the life of the Parish.

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 citizens or communities of the Parish
 - Citizens of the Parish requesting grant aid with a project/event, which will be for the benefit of a wider group.
 - A Parish based club/association/organisation serving specific sections of the community or the community as a whole.
 - Applications from commercial organisations will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.
 - National appeals will not normally be eligible to apply.
5. Applications for amounts up to £1000 may be made at anytime. Applications for amounts exceeding £1000 will require advance notice so that the Council may if they feel appropriate, make budget provision. Such applications are to be made by 30th October in any year, for payment in the following financial year. (see 20 below).
6. Applications will only be considered when made on a formal application form.
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 Tatenhill & Rangemore Parish.
8. The Council will give priority to the projects/organisations which progress one or more of it's 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 normally fund the whole of a project.
12. Applicants will be required to state the amount of grant sought from the Council.
13. Where projects cross financial years, the Council may make an ear marked reserve for an approved amount of grant. It will reserve the right to withdraw approval where a project does not look likely to go ahead within a reasonable time.
14. Where ear marked reserves have been allocated to specific organisations, prior to the adoption of this Policy, these will be honoured as long as the Organisation concerned remains operational.
15. Payment will not normally be made until a project has been completed. Payments will then only normally be made against a formal receipt or invoice. Stage payments may be approved for larger projects.
16. 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 help organisations get established or organisations which deliver a substantial part of the Council’s priorities. Even in these cases, the ability of the organisation to obtain core funding from other sources will be considered.
17. The Council may, where it appears to be a more cost effective or efficient use of resources, prefer to act in partnership with another organisation, or to provide support “in kind”, rather than provide grant assistance.
18. The Council will advertise its Grant and Financial Assistance Scheme widely to ensure an equitable distribution of resources.
19. The Council will require as a condition of grant, the organisations advertise the fact that grant aid has been provided by the Council.
20. The Council will set an annual Grants Budget. It may ring-fence specific grants within the budget, where it has made a decision in principle.
21. The Council will identify against each grant approval, the power under which it gives the grant if it does not hold the General Power of Competence at the time of making the decision.
22. Organisations are not restricted to the number of grant applications submitted to the Council for grant aid over a period of time, however the history of previous applications will be considered in the decision making process.
23. 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.
24. The giving of a grant one year does not set a precedent for another year.